

The Living Vine

Fruit of the Vine

Winter 2009

535 East 54th Street * Savannah, Georgia * 31405 (912) 352-9998 <http://thelivingvine.org>

Shanna's Story

My name is Shanna and I am 16 years old. Before coming to The Vine, my life was in a downward spiral. At home, I had it pretty easy. Because my dad moved away years ago, my mom was always at work. This allowed me to get away with a lot of nonsense and trouble. I was drinking all the time and smoking as often as I could. The alcohol was starting to become a major problem in my life. I was constantly skipping school, hanging out with my friends and looking for the next party. Of course, this meant that I was lying to my mom and doing whatever it took to have, what I thought was, "a good time." I was never at home, not even late at night when my mom assumed I was asleep in my room.

It is not hard to imagine the toll that lifestyle was taking on my schoolwork. I was about to repeat the ninth grade for the third time because I was denied all of my credits for never being in class. My teachers had pretty much given up on me; the few times a month that I would actually show up, I slept through the classes because I was exhausted from being out all night the night before. I even had a court order for truancy. Then I got expelled for hacking into the schools attendance records and changing my unexcused absences to medically excused – it was my only way to avoid getting in trouble with the court system again.

My mom and I fought constantly about all the trouble I was in. The last thing I wanted to tell her was that I was pregnant with the bad boy's baby. Therefore, I decided to hide it from her for the first two and a half months. During my time of secrecy, I completely shut down. I cut ties with a lot of my so-called "friends" because my "news" seemed to be spreading like wild fire. Not surprisingly, I stayed home from school and cried all day. I was all alone frantic with no clue about what I was

going to do. Eventually the courts caught up with me. Within days of telling my mom that I was pregnant, we found out I had to be back in court within a week's time. I knew what was going to be the outcome - I was about to be incarcerated again. Luckily, my mom had remembered my doctor recommending The Living Vine and she asked the judicial system if there was any way I could come live in Savannah instead of going back to juvenile detention. Thank God that they said yes.

Honestly, I wasn't thrilled to be coming to the Vine, but I knew it would be what was best for my unborn baby. I moved in on October 6 and it has been an amazing experience so far. My whole outlook on life has completely changed. I can now clearly see how poorly I was doing before and I don't ever want to go back to that. I really think I've grown tremendously since I've been here, especially in my relationship with God. We are currently going through a Beth Moore study called Breaking Free and I am learning a lot. God has opened my eyes to see just how fortunate I am and how awesome He is.

I have also been able to focus on what I need to do for my baby. I've learned to cook, clean, sew, knit as well as a whole lot about parenting and nutrition. My teacher and tutor are helping me to achieve my goal of completing my GED while I am here. I am planning to sign up for online college classes in Graphic Design when I get home.

The Living Vine has helped me a lot and I am really grateful to have come here. Although it was hard to make the adjustments at first, it has all been worth it, and I wouldn't trade these past few months for anything. It is scary to think where I could be right now without the Vine. Thank you for supporting this ministry and helping me turn my life around.

Blessingdales

Thrift Store

An Outreach of The Living Vine

Savannah

2118 Bona Bella Ave. Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
Bacon Park Plaza 10am-5pm

On the corner of Saturday
Skidaway & Bona Bella 10am-3pm

912.355.4339

Garden City

Winter Hours

309 East Main Street Tues-Fri
Traffic Circle Shopping Center 10am-5pm

Take 516 to Exit 8 Saturday
Next to All Size Outlet 10am-3pm
and Payless

912.966.2242

Pooler

106-C S. Chestnut St. M, T, W, Fr
9:30am-5pm

Between Hwy 80 East
& West Saturday
Near City Hall 10am-3pm

912.330.0220

Downtown Savannah

134 Houston St M-F 9am-5pm
On Greene Square Saturday 9am-3pm

912.236.2034



*Volunteers and gently used
donations are greatly
appreciated.*

The Living Vine, Inc.

Corporate Sponsorship

The Living Vine is offering corporations and businesses the opportunity to support this local ministry through four levels of giving. All corporate sponsors will be listed on our webpage and in our newsletter unless otherwise requested. This is a great way to let our supporters know of your support for women in crisis.

Platinum **\$3,000**

Gold **\$2,000**

Silver **\$1,000**

Bronze **\$500**

Platinum and Gold level sponsors will have a link to their website posted on thelivingvine.org and their web address will be listed in our newsletter.

All donations are tax deductible.

***Take an active role in caring for
women in crisis.***

A PERSONAL INVITATION TO YOU...

Those of us who have been blessed to serve our Lord in the ministry of The Living Vine are asking you to pray about coming along side us. **The areas of opportunity are as diverse as Christ's body!**

We are currently seeking an Army of **women** who would be willing to give one day a week in one of our Blessingdale's Thrift Stores. If you choose to recruit members of your Bible Study, Sunday School Class or WMU, it could also be a great time of fellowship as you labor together!

We are also seeking **men** who can be available to help pick up our Blessings that are more abundant than women should carry.

There is also an opportunity to be one of 300 **individuals, churches or small groups** who will commit to \$1000.00 per year which means \$83.33 per month (or \$500 per year which means \$41.67 a month) to help us broaden our base of financial support. It takes each of us with God's grace to make The Vine a continuing ministry in this community.

Please contact **Paula Waterhouse** at the Vine at 352-9998 for details or if you would like for her to come and speak with your group personally.

The Living Vine's Wish List: March 2009



Special Needs List:

Missionary housing in Ardsley Park
Construction costs for remodeling house
Building mortgage paid off
300 supporters @ \$1000 yr.
New van for resident transport
Laptop Computers, Living Room Furniture
New tile for Kitchen, School Desks
Carpet replacement throughout the home

House Needs:

New Kitchen & Bathroom Cabinet Doors
(2) DVD & VCR player w/ TV Guardian
10-Lasko 42" Wind Curve Tower Fans
Twin Size Plastic zippered mattress covers
Mini blinds for the house
Toilet Paper, Paper towels, Kleenex
Vacuum cleaner with attachments
Duct Tape, Liquid Laundry Detergent
Drawstring trash bags, yard bags
Low energy light bulbs, Air filters
Ballasts, 4' Fluorescent Bulbs (need 25-30)
Gift Cards: Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Lowe's
Gift Certificates: Oil Changes & Tire Rotations
Volunteer-monthly inspection of vehicles
The Truth Project
Touched by an Angel (Seasons 3 & 4) DVD set
The Cosby Show (Seasons 2 & beyond) DVD

Cleaning Supplies:

Zep Neutral Floor Cleaner, Mop head
Bleach, Dish soap

Kitchen Needs:

Fresh fruits & vegetables
All the staples including canned goods
Cream of Chicken Soup
Baking Needs-Sugar, Flour, Honey, Chocolate
Chips, Powdered Sugar, Cocoa
Cereals, Oatmeal, Granola Bars
Brown Rice, Whole Grain Pasta
Sandwich Bread, Tortilla Shells
Hot Chocolate, Hot Cider, Fruit juices
Popcorn, Chips, Nuts, Snacks, Pickles
Salad Dressings, Macaroni and Cheese
Large Glass Casserole Dish
Kitchen towels & wash rags (dark purple)
6 quart Kitchen Aid Mixer, Rubber Scrapers
Gift Cards: Kroger and Sam's

School Needs:

12-School Desks (w/out chairs attached)
The Complete Evelyn Wood Reading
Dynamics System
Tablets of Graphing Paper
Mechanical Pencils and 0.7 lead
Spiral Notebooks (1 or 3-Subject)
Money for more advanced Science texts
Student & Teacher Edition textbooks
Index cards, tab dividers, Scissors, Calculators
Large maps of the world and US
Large Poster timelines
Geography, History & Science computer games
Printer Ink: HP 56 black, Epson TO481 Black
Dry Erase Markers & board cleaner
Glue Sticks, Scrapbook Supplies
Bible Promise Books
Nanny 911 & Super Nanny Episodes
Gift Cards to fast food restaurants
Gift Certificates: Lifeway, Seeds of Faith,
Wal-Mart, Office Max

Office Needs:

Stamps, 4" black 3-ring binders

Gardening/Yard Supplies:

Riding Lawn Mower & push mowers
Weed eaters, Pressure Washer
Tools: Sledge hammer, shovel, rakes
Wheel barrow, Tiller
30 weight oil for lawnmowers (& volunteer to change oil)
Grape Vine, Pecan Tree
Fruit Trees: Apple, Banana & Peach
Fencing for the garden

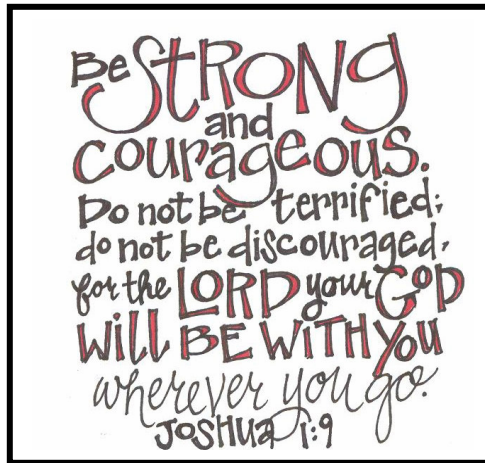
Blessingdales:

Truck to use for donation pick ups
Gift Cards: Wal-mart, Office Max, Home Depot
Sturdy Ladders, Shelves, Small Cabinets
Round racks for clothing, Sturdy Bookshelves
Plastic & paper bags, old newspapers
Security bars for store windows downtown
Trash bags, paper towels, toilet paper
Gently used donations
We need guys to help with pickups!
We need women's groups to adopt a day at a store!
Please call Miranda @ 352.9998 if you are available to help.

The Living Vine has great gift options! We have beautifully framed calligraphy scriptures perfect for special occasions.

These prints are available at any of our store locations.

Large: \$18.00 Small: \$7.00



A special thank you to our corporate sponsors:

Platinum Level:

Southbridge Realty:

www.southbridgesav.com

Quality Repairs

Gold Level:

SE PrintTech, Inc.:

WeLoveToPrint.com

Silver Level:

Harry & Beckie Butler

Bronze Level:

Bryan Bank & Trust
To become a corporate sponsor, see details inside!

If your business, civic or church group is interested in having a speaker come from The Living Vine to inform them of our ministry and needs, please call Paula Waterhouse at 352.9998.



Come see our divine designs jewelry at any of our four store locations.

The Living Vine
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Savannah, Georgia 31405

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1332
SAVANNAH, GA

Immediate Needs List:

Freezer & Refrigerators: 3 each
Someone to lay Carpet for a 26' x 26' room
Gift Certificates to Home Depot

