

IN HER OWN WORDS

Flashback: Seven years ago, about to embark on single parenthood. It was an alien notion to consider. Guess I got over it. Prolonged marital misery brought to a new level each day paled in comparison to being a parent gone solo.

Fortunately, I stepped into this uncharted territory with a great deal of preparation and support. Back then, I already knew Lorraine few years prior through Alpha Pregnancy Center when I was 7 months along with my son. I was aware of her community contacts linked to helping single moms and women looking to 180 degrees their lives.

I met with Lorraine at the Samaritan Inn (now closed) to discuss my potential housing options, not realizing I had just found my home for the next two years.

It was a tumultuous yet peaceful period of my life. Being at the Inn, I didn't have housing expense to stress over. Other plusses included assistance through car ministry, counseling and an empowered sense of control over my life. It was also a wealth of resource that could address any situation a resident would experience.

For me, it was a divorce, helping my then 6 year old son deal with our uprooted lives and personality conflicts that could arise when you have too many people living under one roof. Moments could go from light-hearted and comical to hard-core serious.

Nonetheless, I left Samaritan Inn with enough tools to see me on course towards an independent life. Setbacks come and go but that's the natural path taken for something better.

For struggles that are stubborn to cease, Samaritan Ministries continues its outreach efforts to those in need through countless donations (food, toiletries, etc), contacts, encouragement and prayer. It has not been determined as of when another transitional home will open up. The progress of that vision goes as far as the door for women in crisis who choose to walk through it.

Heather Hoffman

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