



From darkness into daylight

She's lived on the streets since she was eleven. She's been raped and beaten and infected with HIV. And yet there remains something soft, almost innocent, about Marsha Galloway.

"I'm from the streets and I'm not ashamed of it," she says defiantly, but tears form in the corners of her eyes when she relates her early history, a life that has presented more than its share of challenges.

"I was born in Columbus, but my mother gave me to my grandmother in Huntington," she said. "My grandmother lived at the foot of the cross. My grandfather was an abusive alcoholic. I learned how to drink and fight from him. I learned how to pray from her."

Not only was her grandfather an abusive alcoholic. He also was a child molester. "When I was eleven years old, I had a miscarriage. The baby belonged to my grandfather."

Marsha didn't understand what was happening to her that long ago day in a physical education class. She remembers that when she had to climb a rope, her hands got sweaty and she let go, hitting the mat below and causing her to miscarry.

"I had a sharp pain and I kept hurting. When the teacher came to check on me, she called an ambulance and they rushed me to Cabell-Huntington Hospital. They brought in people who asked questions. I told them what happened.



Marsha Galloway

By the time we went to court, the story had been changed and they sent me home. I stayed about two months and after that I was on the run."

Marsha didn't know what she was running to, but she sure knew what she was running from. And she did what she had to do to survive. "From the beginning, I didn't go to school. I'd stay home or I'd hang out in the park with the squirrels. Then I started getting in trouble with the law. They said I was out of control and promiscuous," she said.

"I started prostituting when I was eleven," she said. "I lived on the street and slept behind the flood walls until they caught me."

She was sent to the Salem Industrial School for Girls. "I loved it. I got three free meals, had a bed to sleep in. I learned to do woodwork and I got to go to school. I didn't want to leave. When I got out, they made me go back to my grandma's. After two hours, I was gone again."

She spent another year in Salem. When she got out this time, she hooked up with some rough people. "They taught me how to hide – to dye my hair and use fake IDs. But you can never hide who you are and where you came from."

Those hard characters were her friends and the streets were her home until two years ago when life threw her yet another curve.

Another woman who worked the streets called and gave her a telephone number. It was the middle of winter, snow was falling. So Marsha called the man in Philadelphia and he told her to come on up.

She had been there a week when the man started beating and raping her. "I've always managed to attract abusive men," she said. "There was another girl there he had beaten real bad."

She got away and returned to Huntington where she decided to call the police. "I figured I'd committed a felony by going across state lines for prostitution, but I needed to get that girl out of there,"

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Transitions

Published quarterly by Covenant House, 1109 Quarrier Street, Charleston, WV 25301. Beth Spence, editor.

Covenant House is an independent, non-profit organization. It is not affiliated with Covenant House in New York.

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From the desk of the co-directors

In gratitude for friends who are good for nothing

This newsletter with its annual report tends to be dry and bare bones. We'll try to lighten it with a story we heard recently....

Little Billy was wreaking havoc in the house. He was tearing it up completely, as only a trained four year old could do. And this particular day, he was pushing the limits. His mother heard a strange, mostly quiet noise in the kitchen, always cause for suspicion and concern. Upon her arrival, she saw him mixing a box of Cheerios with a bottle of honey on the kitchen floor.

No sooner had she cleaned up the mess, when she heard the toilet being repeatedly flushed above her. Taking the stairs two at a time, she rescued the teddy bear from its bath in the toilet. While pulling the remainder of the teddy bear out of the toilet, she heard a strange cry in the kitchen. Running back downstairs, she removed what was left of Oscar the family cat from the microwave.

Absolutely overwhelmed by only the first hour of her young son's day, she took Billy in her arms and said, "Billy, why don't you be good?" "OK Mommy, I'll be good...for gummy bears, honey buns and M & Ms." "No, no Billy", the mother replied, "you have it all wrong. You need to be like your Daddy, and be good for nothing."

This newsletter is a tribute to an extraordinary number of people who are good for nothing. Quietly, they do what they do, simply because they live what they believe. Genuinely good people do not want to see children suffer, nor people go hungry. They are good, not because they receive some honor, or are promised a bigger paycheck and promotion, but they are good for absolutely nothing. Many give because they are grateful for their lives with its blessings. They care deeply. And, they have been generous to Covenant House, not only with money, but also with their time.

As Anna Quindlen recently wrote, "All of us want to do well. But if we do not do good too, doing well will never be enough". We are grateful for all of you who do good and are good for nothing.

Pat and Barbara

Hold these dates!

Sixty Minutes II commentator Jimmy Tingle will offer his unique brand of comedy in a benefit for Covenant House this fall. He'll be here either Sept. 30 or Oct. 1 – so hold those dates.

Jimmy, who also is a first cousin of Covenant House Co-director Barbara Ferraro, gave a first-class performance several years ago. Please plan to come and enjoy Jimmy's humorous insights while helping Covenant House.

Darkness to daylight . . .

she said. "I told the police what I had done. They located the girl from my brief description. They went in and got her out. She was beat real bad."

It was at this time Marsha learned she had been infected with HIV. In addition, she had to testify against the man who had nearly killed the woman in Philadelphia, a prospect that shook her to the core of her being.

"I was terrified. The telephone, the doorbell scared me to death. I'd run upstairs and lock the door and hide. I used to have bad nightmares. I was paranoid," she said.

Then someone at an abuse center in Huntington gave her Julie Britton's name. "Julie's helped me more than anyone else. Julie got me set up with doctors and took me to my appointments. She helped me get an apartment. I wouldn't have come as far as I've come if it weren't for Julie.

Marsha eventually moved into one of Covenant House's residences for people with HIV. "When I was first here, I had post traumatic stress syndrome. All the stuff I'd suppressed, all those years came to the surface when I was raped. The first year I was here, I wouldn't even leave the house. Julie was the only one I trusted. She'd come

get me and take me to the store or to the doctor."

To her surprise, Marsha was not destroyed by the HIV diagnosis. In fact, it provided some blessings. "HIV made me realize it was okay to cry, to feel. It's even okay to forgive. It made me realize how short life is and how God gives us chances to change and we don't

I want to thank you for all your help and wherever life's road may lead you, believe that you made a difference in people's lives. You helped them to make the right decision for their lives.

You gave me a ride, that gave me a dream, that is teaching me every day to become a better person, a product of education.

That ride helped me to change my life, that ride made me want to live and gave me the courage to learn. I have self-confidence where there wasn't any. I have a dream, before I didn't care.

*Thank you,
Marsha*

choose to take them until it's too late.

"Now I'm more confident in myself and I'm trying to build my self-esteem. I can show the way I really feel and I trust some people. I'm learning every day it's a beautiful world out here and I thank God for it. God has a way of helping you when you're not expecting it. I don't look at HIV as a death sentence. I look at it as something God sent to

make me a better person.

"I only went to school to seventh grade. I didn't learn to read and write until about four or five years ago. It's hard for me to say what I feel. I pour out my feelings in my writing. I don't know how to talk. I get tongue-tied and mad. I write what I feel. That's my way of releasing what's deep-down inside."

With Julie's help, Marsha began taking adult education classes and has a stack of certificates to show her progress.

"I can learn," she said with pride. "It's hard for me to retain, but I've finally accomplished something and I've got all the papers to prove it.

"I'm searching. I've gone down a no-end street, and now I'm searching, trying. Street people. We're not part of society. For us to become part of society, it's like walking from the darkness into daylight."

In memoriam

George Gossard, supporter of Covenant House, former Council and Covenant House board representative.

Don Marsh, former editor of The Charleston Gazette, champion of the underdog, supporter of Covenant House.

Bill Paul, personal friend, longtime supporter of Covenant House and father of Joan Paul McDonald, president of the Manna Meal Board.

Thelma Craighill, sister of Sue Price.

Bill Stone, husband of Ruth and father of Ken Stone, former Covenant House Board President.

Ronnie, a friend of Covenant House.

Henry Clarke, father of Ann Patterson, Food Pantry volunteer.

Our thoughts are with their family and friends.

Covenant House, Inc.
1999 Annual Report
Without A Vision the People Will Perish

Revenue

Individual Contributions	\$67,177
Churches/Congregations	57,706
Organizations/Corporations	28,540
Grants:Foundations/Corporations	134,471
Government Grants	141,652
Counseling	2,712
Interest Income	16,997
Sales/Fundraiser	23,642
Resident Fees	6,000
Misc.	3,683
Cash Total	482,580
In-Kind	93,644
TOTAL	576,224

Actual Cash Expenses

Drop-In Center/Operations	73,944
Emergency Assistance	68,607
Food Pantry	15,018
Clothing Closet	10,539
AIDS Residential/Resources	130,474
Challenge West Virginia	167,941
Single Mothers' Program	4,329
Cash Total	470,852
In-Kind*	93,644
TOTAL	564,496
Surplus for 1999	
Program Restricted Funds:	11,728

GRANTS

City of Charleston
Daywood Foundation
Deutsch Foundation
Disciples of Christ/West Virginia
Edward T. & Elizabeth Gardner Foundation
Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia
Gazette Charities
Herscher Foundation
HOPWA
HUD/Continuum of Care Grant
Marjorie Johnson Charitable Fund
Kanawha Medical Society
Kanawha Valley Golf Club
Kleeman Family Foundation
Lamb Foundation
Lowenstein Fund
Brooks & Jane McCabe Fund
One Valley Bank Foundation
Orders Construction
John & Lucille Pianfetti Fund
Presbyteria of West Virginia
Judah Pushkin Foundation
Charleston Rotary Club
Rural Challenge/Annenburg
State Budget Digest
State of West Virginia
A. S. Thomas Memorial Fund
United Way
West Virginia Baptist Convention
Wright Family Fund

*In-kind reflects:

- (1) Federal money for Rents/Utilities:
\$3026 and Food: \$1069
- (2) \$34,538 in Food donations to the
Food Pantry
- (3) \$55,011 in supplies from
Congregations/Businesses and Individuals

**All contributions reflect those received
by 12/31/99**

1999 Statistics

Total Contacts All Programs	26,633
Contacts for EA Program:	
Women	6,955
People of Color	9,924
Emergency Assistance	3,114
Food Order Recipients	1,766
Laundry	2,339
Showers	1,581
Clothing Orders	1,108

In compiling lists such as the ones on these pages, we are sure we have failed to list someone whose contribution we greatly appreciated. Please be assured any omission is not intentional. If you know someone whose name should be included, please let us know.

1999 COVENANT HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

Julie Adams	Harriet Foster	Arlene Pike
Bill Adamson	Delores Foye	Charles Pomputius
Melinda Adamson	Chris Fly	Linda Powers
Jean Allender	Cheryl Garrett	Wendy Powers
Amelia Anderson	Robert Gilliams	Sue Price
Liz Archer	George Gloucester	John Radcliff
George Auer	Lucille Gore	Gwen Ramey
Judy Auer	Rebecca Graham	Marge Revercomb
Missy Auston	Robert Graham	Eron Richardson
Regan Bailey	Brenda Green	Mark Ruby
Scott Barnette	Michael Greene	Jack Runion
Andrew Beardsley	Molly Greene	Patti Salisbury
George Belling	James Guthrie	Janet Schoen
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Sue Chase	Frances Jones	Kathryn Stone
Hilary Chiz	Diana Kelly	David Sudbeck
Nancy Cipoletti	Sylvia Kelly	Michael & Ashley Switzer
Margaret Cook	Ken Kleeman	Morgan, Ryan, Mary
Virginia Cooper	Al Krantz	Grace & Rebekah Ann
Joan Cuningham	Mary Jo Krantz	Michael Tassos
Alfonzo Dalton	Vallah Lambrech	Gail Twigger-Shaw
K. L. Darlington	Phyllis Larimer	Arthur Tyson
Wade Darnell	Alysia Lawrence	Thelma Tyson
David Darr	Clara Lawson	Rebecca Van Der Meer
Sybil Davisson	Char Litteral	Pauline Vickers
Betty Dawson	Dewayne Lowther	Sara Walker
Ruth Debolt	Jack Maddy	Richard Ware
Van Dempsey	Stan Maynard	Carol Warren
Jane Denning	Betty McMullen	Connie Weaver
Nancy Dunst	Mack Miles	Louise Weber
Kitty Eddy	Elizabeth Miller	Kenneth White
Barbara Eychaner	Helen Morton	Rachel White
Jim Eychaner	Sandy Murphy	Betty Williams
Eric Eyre	Ross Noble	Joseph Wilson
Sarah Faber	Becky Ofiesh	Brad Witt
JoAnn Farmer	Ann Patterson	Rev. Bob Wood
Janice Fink	Bud Patterson	Amanda Young
Susan Fink	Frankie Patton-Rutherford	Harold Young
Roger Forman	Doug Payne	Willa Young

1999 IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES

Alpha Delta Kappa, Alpha Chapter	Our Lady of Angels, Worcester, MA
Aquarian Universalist Spiritualist Church	Overbrook Elementary School, Classes K-6
Bank One	Charleston Quota Club
The Colleagues	Sacred Heart Grade School
Design Works	Sissonville High School, US History I Class
French Creek Farms	Terra Salis United Food Organization
Gazette Charities	Wal-Mart
Gryphon House	Wellington's of Scarlet Oaks
Laser Charge of West Virginia	
Dr. Dianna Lenick, DDS	
N-Style Outlet	
NVisions, Architects	

SUPPORTING CONGREGATIONS In-Kind and Financial

Appalachian Metropolitan Community
Asbury United Methodist
Baha'i Faith
Baptist Temple
Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic
B'nai Jacob Synagogue
Boyd Memorial Christian
Bream Memorial Presbyterian
Calvary Baptist
Christ Church United Methodist
First Baptist
First Christian
First Presbyterian
Good Shepherd Episcopal
Kanawha United Presbyterian
Morris Memorial United Methodist
Religious Society of Friends
Ruffner Memorial Presbyterian
Sacred Heart Roman Catholic
St. George Orthodox
St. John's Episcopal
St. John Greek Orthodox
St. Marks United Methodist
St. Matthew's Episcopal
St. Stephen United Methodist
Temple Israel
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Village Chapel Presbyterian
Westside United Methodist
Westminster Presbyterian

Did you know . . .

✧ **Sheri O'Dell** once again wrote our end of the year letter asking for support for Covenant House. We are grateful for her professional support. The end of the year contributions amounted to \$70,745.26.

✧ **The Kanawha Valley Golf Club** holds a benefit golf tournament each year. Covenant House was one of three charities to benefit from their generous donations.

✧ We welcome **Susan Ledsome**, co-coordinator of the AIDS program.

✧ The **youth of St. Matthews** collected food for the pantry which totaled more than \$700.

✧ Every class at **Overbrook Elementary School** "adopted" a family for the holidays. We are grateful for their generosity.

✧ **Jamie Casto**, a student at West Virginia State College, has chosen Covenant House for his many hours of in-service training. We have been glad to have Jamie with us.

✧ The national HUD office presented a **Best Practice Award** to the HOPWA program of West Virginia. The program is administered through the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity. It includes Covenant House, Caritas House in Morgantown and Community Networks in Martinsburg.

✧ **Covenant House's** two HUD-funded houses for people living with AIDS were inspected by officials who gave us a score of 97.9. According to the official, it was the best they have seen statewide.

✧ **Julie Britton**, one of the coordinators of the AIDS Program, has worked with 105 persons living with AIDS. Twenty-three of those people are women.

✧ **West Virginia Health Right, Inc.**, moved into its new building on December 4. Health Right has come a long way under the direction of Pat White. During the late 1970s and early 1980s, doctors volunteered at lunch at Manna Meal. Health Right was named, incorporated and operated through Covenant House until it moved to the old McMillan Hospital at Smith and Broad Street and finally to its present site on Washington Street. We are proud of our association with Health Right and offer our congratulations to everyone involved with this fine organization.

✧ As part of the **welfare reform** package for West Virginia, secondary education does not count as meeting the requirements for receiving a welfare check (TANF). It should! This needs to be challenged.

Special Gifts

Teresa Ofiesh in honor of her friend
Julie Wisecup's 50th Birthday
Nick & Natalie Winowich honoring
themarriage of Margie Mottesherd
& T. D. Kauffelt
Bobbie Adams in memory of
her mother, Margaret H. Adams
Rachael Worby in honor of friends and family
during the holiday season
Bernice Hosey in memory of Bill Harpold
Olive Crummett in memory of
her husband, Doug
Lillian & Charles Ferraro in honor of the
marriage of Irene Porro
& Leonard Strachan
Otis Laury, Merry Christmas to:
Gaston Caperton, Rachael Worby,
Governor & Mrs. Underwood,
Candy Galyean & the Frischkorns
Carla, Savannah, Henry & Craig Slaughter:
Merry Christmas to Missy Luce
Happy 49th birthday to Ed Hamrick
Jo Rutkowski in memory of Anna & Edward
Rutkowski and Michael Buonsanto
Andy V. Gallagher, Merry Christmas to his
parents, Nan & B. A. Gallagher
Becky & Joel Maddy in honor of
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Maddy
Connie Hamilton to thank Becky Ofiesh
Frances L. Pauley in honor of
Catherine Williams
Kati & Guy Lyon in memory of Frank Annand
Becky Ofiesh in memory of George Damus
Lyn Bailey Gumowski in memory
of Iva Bailey Foster
David G. Sudbeck in honor of
Joy Kleeman's birthday
Lavinia Embleton Carney in memory of
Thomas A. Nelson
Lillian & Charles Ferraro in memory of
Kathleen M. Walsh
Fran Simone in memory of Dr. Ed Gibbs

In honor of Jack Maddy's 75th Birthday:

Shirley M. Keller
Dr. R. C. Arnold
Truman & Clarice Dalton
James & Patricia Moore
James & Kathryn Stone
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Jacobs
Mrs. Stephen B. Preston

Anna Lois Wilkes
Charles & Mary Lee Wilson
Richard & June Beardsley
Arlen & Margaret Bishop
Jack H. Samples
William L. & Katherine Price
Margaret M. Davies
Gerri & Keller Hall
Mrs. Warren Shirkey
Emily Warden
Robert & Judith Simmons

In memory of Bill Paul:

Steve Small
Lillian & Charles Ferraro

In memory of Anne & Sylvan Seidman:

Stephen & Barbara Seidman
Dolores Rogers

In memory of Thelma C. Craighill:

Geoffrey & Belle Haddad
United Methodist Women, Christ Church

In memory of Don Marsh:

Tom & Vaughn Miller
Marie L. Prezioso
Martha Wehrle
The Charleston Gazette
Andy V. Gallagher
Gaston Caperton & Rachael Worby
F. A. & Dorothy Thomas

In memory of William Stone:

Linda Kessinger
Ric McDowell
Susan & Thomas Campbell
Mabel & Bert Hood
Willard & Virginia Daniels
Joyce & David Bannister
Betsy & Norman Morgan
Howard & Carol Seufer
Sharon Young & Elizabeth Basham
Claudia Turner
Jane C. Coulson
Frank & Nancy LePage
Jean Ray

In honor of Katie Abraham:

Jacqueline & Robert Lilly
Brad & Regina Crites
Steven & Loraine Summer
Terrace & Andrew Nason
Ashton Guthrie

In memory of Henry Clarke:

Virginia Ruth Douglas
Sue & Jim Chase

COVENANT



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Charleston, WV 25301

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Covenant House Programs

Drop-In Center

Provides a safe space with showers, laundry facilities, access to a free telephone, mailing address and crisis intervention.

David Bennett 344-8433

Emergency Assistance

Helps those in extremely difficult circumstances with rents, utilities, travel and medicine.

David Bennett 344-8433

Food Pantry

Food distribution center located at First Presbyterian Church. Volunteer coordinators: Virginia Cooper, Jack Runion, Jack Maddy, Ross Noble

David Bennett 344-8433

Clothing Closet

Clothing distribution center operated out of St. Marks United Methodist Church. 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Coordinator: Judy Snyder 343-3744

Challenge WV

A statewide organization committed to maintaining and improving small community schools and reforming state education policy so that every child has the opportunity to receive the best possible education.

Beth Spence 756-9191
Linda Martin 744-5916

AIDS Residential and Resource Program

Maintains residences for people with AIDS who are homeless and provides support services and emergency services. Supports and offers performances of "Gone Tomorrow," an educational play aimed at a teenage audience.

Julie Britton, Susan Ledsome 344-0530

Counseling Program

Offers family, individual or pastoral counseling by a certified licensed counselor. Fees are on a sliding scale.

Barbara Ferraro 344-8053