

cribnotes

FROM A CAR TO 3 BEDROOMS

Callie has courage, that's for sure. She has spent the last six years raising four beautiful, sweet children, but it's been a turbulent road.

A loving relationship turned abusive. When Callie realized it wasn't going to get better, she knew she needed to get herself and her kids out of danger.

Their home was no longer safe. Without anywhere to go, Callie made the impossible choice to move her children out of their apartment.

Four children, all under the age of six, spent their summer nights sleeping in the back seat of their car. Callie hung blankets over the windows for privacy and hardly slept as she spent all night worrying about her children. A few nights when the humidity was unbearable, they spent the night in a 24-hour laundromat.

For weeks, they lived in uncertainty, bouncing between shelters and the car, trying to find somewhere safe. One night as she watched her children sleeping in the backseat, she wondered if she would ever be able to get her family back on solid ground. They were so far from the path she had hoped for, the path she had planned for her children. All she wanted was a safe place for them to call home.

With no family in the state, Callie called the Nursery hoping for some sort of help. The love and support she received was more than she expected. Her children

began staying at the Nursery, a warm and welcoming place, and it became the closest thing they had to a home. With a roof over their heads, they received the support and love they desperately needed to help stabilize them during such a traumatic time.

Her babies had a safe and reliable place to spend their days and nights. This gave Callie the chance to start rebuilding. She spent her time securing healthcare, applying for housing, and seeking support for her children to cope with the violence and trauma they had experienced.

With the Nursery by her side, offering guidance and encouragement and advocating on her behalf when needed, Callie's hard work paid off. She found a modest home that would become their own little haven, a place where she and her children could finally feel safe and secure.

Callie's eldest child exclaimed, "Mommy got us a house, so now I can go to school!"

Nursery team member Angelina commented "You never forget something like that – every day those words remind me of the power we can have in uplifting families together."

All four children are enrolled in early education programs and Callie's oldest just started kindergarten. Callie never lost her sense of humor or her eagerness to keep her kids' spirits high. She leads her family with joy and their love for each other is unmistakable.

Callie's family is blossoming.

She hopes they won't remember the sleepless nights, fear, or uncertainty, but Callie won't ever forget the compassion, or the realization that once connected to the Nursery, there were so many people in her corner, fighting for her family to succeed.





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Thanks to everyone who helped create amazing memories at the 19th annual Harvesting Hope event this September. We gathered together to sip, savor, and celebrate while supporting a cause near and dear to our hearts – The Nursery.

Together, we raised our glasses to make a positive difference for children and families in our shared community. We even enjoyed some 80s nostalgia to celebrate the Nursery's 40th anniversary!

Cheers to everyone who attended, made a gift, or sponsored the event!



CARING FOR CHILDREN
40 YEARS
STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

YOU CAN MAKE HOLIDAY MAGIC REAL!

Share the magic of the season

Holiday Helper makes gift giving possible for families who access the Nursery during the winter season of giving.

Donating gift cards is a wonderful way to make it possible for families to give children presents this holiday season.

You can make sure a child experiences the magic of the season and spread joy to families who may not otherwise be able to give gifts this winter.



To give children gifts this season, go to Crisisnursery.org/HolidayHelper



Holiday cards are on pause this year as we determine the best way to help you wish your family and friends a joyous holiday season.

Don't worry! You can still make a gift in honor of a loved one and we'll send them a holiday-themed card letting them know a gift has been made in their honor.

Honor gifts can be made at CrisisNursery.org/donate

DECEMBER AT LAKEWINDS FOOD CO-OP

Round up your total for the Nursery!

The Nursery is thrilled to be the recipient of Lakewinds Food Co-op December Round Up. When you shop at Lakewinds this December you can round up your purchase total to benefit the Nursery.

Find your closest store at Lakewinds.coop





MULTIPLY YOUR GIFT!

Give to the Max this November 1-16, and your gift will be doubled!

How? It's simple: Just make a gift between November 1-16 and the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation will double your donation, matching all gifts, dollar for dollar, up to \$20,000.



MAKING A GIFT IS EASY!

Visit www.crisisnursery.org/GTMD between November 1-16.

TRIPLE YOUR DONATION!

Many employers offer matching gifts to help their employees make a difference in their communities.

Visit www.crisisnursery.org/donate to see if your company will also match your gift.

CRAFT CORNER FINDING CALM DURING A BUSY SEASON

Calming Glitter Jars

Many kids staying at the Nursery have experienced trauma or chronic stress, which can result in feelings like anger, confusion or sadness.

Practicing mindfulness in lots of different ways helps reduce stress and regain a sense of calm. Glitter jars are an effective and fun way calm your mind and body. Try making your own mindfulness glitter jar!

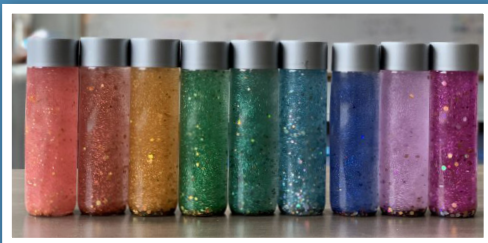


Photo from kumarahyoga.com

Shake, watch, and relax

Instructions:

- Add 1/2 inch of glitter to a clean dry water bottle
- Fill 1/3 of the bottle with corn syrup or glycerin
- Fill remaining 2/3 of bottle with warm water
- Add 2 drops of dish soap to help disperse the glitter
- Add a couple drops of food coloring
- Seal the top with permanent glue and enjoy!