

The Voice of Hope

A quarterly publication of Home of Hope, Inc. December 2016

*Making a difference in
the lives of men and
women with
developmental
disabilities since 1968*



"Because everyone deserves a home, a sense of belonging, and a sense of purpose in their life."

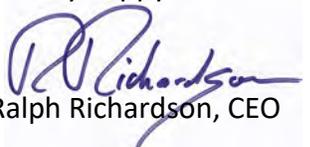


Gary and Cheryl Ford speak about the gifts scattered across their living room floor with the same excitement that will be shared

by 21 different men and women in Home of Hope's programs on Christmas morning. Their own son, **Chris**, has autism and has lived at Home of Hope for three years now. Gary and Cheryl visit and talk to Chris on a regular basis. They are aware that he is an adult, which is specifically why they sought out Home of Hope, a place that would provide the opportunity for Chris to have what he considers his own home, work at his own job, and develop his own friends and interests. On the other hand, they also understand that everyone also needs a sense of family, especially around the holidays. When they realized that some of the men and women at Home of Hope didn't have family in their lives, it broke their hearts. What others might have seen as simply a sad re-

ality, they saw as an opportunity to help. Two Christmases ago, along with a few friends and family members, they "adopted" eight men and women in Home of Hope's programs for Christmas, providing wrapped gifts that would bring magic to the lives of those they were able to provide for. Last year, that number grew to 15. This year, it stands at 21. Each year, **Kim Hogan**, one of Home of Hope's exceptional staff members, develops a list of individuals whose Christmas would be

brightened by gifts beyond what Home of Hope can provide. Gary and Cheryl receive no names, just enough information about each person for their "Secret Santas" to shop, wrap, and ship the gifts to their home for them to deliver to Home of Hope. The Fords and their friends won't be there to see the smiles on Christmas morning, but their generosity will be felt by 21 very happy men and women.


Ralph Richardson, CEO



Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HomeofHopeOK, visit our website at www.homeofhope.com, or just call us at (918) 256-7825, ext. 152 to schedule a visit to our main campus.



If you would be willing to save Home of Hope money simply by agreeing to receive our newsletter electronically, please either e-mail jodi.manning@homeofhope.com or contact Jodi by phone at (918) 256-7825, ext. 135.

Donate online at www.homeofhope.com

FINANCIAL CORNER: YOUR GENTLY USED DONATIONS CAN CHANGE LIVES!

Home of Hope has been working as hard as we can to develop every opportunity for independence from state and federal funding. Our thrift stores serve not only as places of work for the men and women in our programs, but also as important streams of revenue for programs that government funding will quite simply never fully fund. But our stores are only as good as the supply of clothing, household items, and furniture that we receive as donations. This holiday season, please look through your closets and garages. Your donations can be brought to any of our stores in Vinita, Claremore, Pryor, or Miami during business hours or to our donation center at 1300 Industrial Ave. in Vinita.



Have you remembered Home of Hope in your will?

The
Home of
HOPE
For Men and Women with
Developmental Disabilities

P.O. Box 903
960 W. Hope Road
Vinita, OK 74301
918-256-7825

Promoting Choices, Independence,
and a Meaningful Way of Life

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Home of Hope is looking for volunteers to refinish furniture for sale in our stores. If you enjoy taking basic pieces of wooden furniture and using a little paint and creativity to turn them into “vintage” items that will sell well in our thrift stores, we need your help. If you can take a furniture item or two at a time, work on them at your own pace in your home, garage, or workshop, please contact Tim Dumas at (918) 244-5308 or email tim.dumas@homeofhope.com. We would love to have your help.



For everything you do to help Home of Hope in its mission to empower adults with developmental and other disabilities, thank you.

Happy Holidays from all of us at Home of Hope!