

Telford Prison Ministries, Inc.

Restorative Justice Newsletter of Northeast Texas

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Days with Dads (DwDs)

These pictures tell the story of the February 25, 2011 Days with Dads.

TPMI's mission is to minister to inmate families. DwDs is a way for kids to connect with their fathers. Dads enjoy this privilege only after having exemplary conduct records. Dads are able to interact with their children through physical contact, playing games and spending most of the day with family.

DwDs strengthen the family connections so necessary to reduce recidivism. It also provides quality encounters by children to insure hopes of a better future.

Two of the participating families are pictured.

Thanks to the extra work of Telford Unit Warden and staff, DwDs are possible. Thanks also to some of the workers below clockwise from bottom left: Edna Walker, Jana Storey, Pam Kumpe and Jill Whittington.



New Nursery Space

Pictured below is the new nursery at the Visitation Center thanks to the youth of First Baptist, New Boston.

Also new at the Visitation Center is a new see-saw and basketball goal courtesy of the youth at First Baptist Church, Texarkana.



Critical Needs:

1. Volunteers for the Visitation Center: To work a Saturday or Sunday, whole day or morning or afternoon, 4 times per year.
2. Funds for the new Overnight Stay facility. Presently \$78,840.69 is available.

To contribute to the new building, use the provided envelope

To volunteer, call Edna 903-276-2193

Glossary: "Visitation Center:" the building, like a big waiting room, at the entrance to the Telford Unit. "Overnight Stay Facility:" Presently four apartments at the "Samaritan House" in New Boston, Texas for weekend stays of families.

Email addresses needed!! Our online monthly Newsletter has begun. Please send your and friend's email addresses to kencox@valornet.com

**Financial Summary
Jan. 1st to March 31, 2011**

Operating Fund:	
Beginning	\$14,708.49
Donations	13,018.55
Expenditures	<u>-13,798.14</u>
Ending	\$ 13,928.90
Overnight Facility:	
Beginning	\$77,954.19
Donations	<u>886.50</u>
Ending	\$78,840.69
Operating Reserve:	
Beginning	\$19,873.20
Interest income	<u>8.15</u>
Ending	\$19,881.35

**Thank you
Bowie Baptist Association!!**

Edna Walker was invited to give a word of testimony at the Bowie Baptist Association Evangelism conference on Sunday, March 6th. An offering was taken to benefit the ministry and \$1,773 was received! The offering was divided equally between the Overnight Facility Fund and the Operating Fund. Thanks BBA for your generosity.

From Edna cont'd

rejoiced openly in their newly found faith. It was truly a divine appointment! I didn't understand everything that was being shared in Spanish but there was no mistaking that the Holy Spirit had touched these two ladies and had changed their lives for all eternity.

Blessings,

Edna Walker.

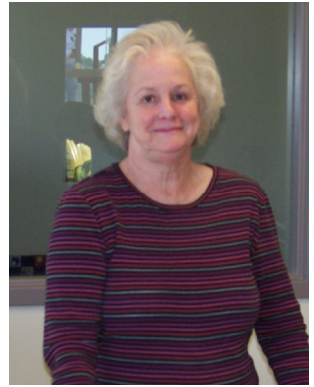
From Edna

God never ceases to amaze me by orchestrating circumstances and events for His purpose.

A couple of weeks ago we had a large volume of people through the Visitation Center.

Almost everyone waiting had to wait at least two hours for their visit. Three families never got to go in for a visit that day after waiting until 4:15 p.m. in hope of getting at least a 30 minute visit. Tempers were flaring and I was so thankful for the Visitation Center so the people at least have a comfortable place to wait. I was able to encourage a couple of ladies who were waiting by sharing with them the many ways that God helped me through my son's incarceration. Both wept and prayed with me.

The real miracle happened when two Hispanic ladies who did not speak any English were waiting and a Hispanic group that ministers on the inside came through. This group always comes into the Visitation Center to pray, fellowship, and go over their services before going into the unit. They stop on their way out to pray with me and unwind before making their drive back to Dallas. The two ladies, a mother and daughter, were upset by the wait for their visit and I had been unable to do much to comfort them due to the language barrier. The group came and spoke with the daughter. They comforted her and then began to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with her. She began to weep and went and get her mother. To make a long story short, the next thing I knew we were circled up and praying for them to receive Christ. And they DID! Suddenly their concerns about waiting vanished and they (cont'd in column to the left)



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