



PEACE at HOME
FAMILY SHELTER

THE CHAMPION

The official newsletter for supporters of
Peace at Home Family Shelter

FALL 2025



Peace at Home Staff at the 2025 Courage Awards Luncheon

2025 COURAGE AWARDS

On October 2nd, we welcomed 350 members of our community to the 13th Annual Courage Awards Luncheon presented by C&C Services.

This year, Peace at Home had the distinct pleasure of recognizing **Dr. Ana Bridges** as the 2025 Courage Awardee. Dr. Bridges is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychological Science at the University of Arkansas, Director of the doctoral program in clinical psychology, and director of the Driving Research to Enhance Access to Mental Health (DREAM) lab.

Dr. Bridges' focus on understanding and reducing mental health disparities in vulnerable, underserved populations has made a significant impact on the lives of survivors here in Northwest Arkansas.

Together, we raised \$77,000 to provide safe shelter and support to families fleeing abuse! To everyone who was able to sponsor, attend, donate, or volunteer at this special event—thank you for making this possible!

Special thanks to Catering Unlimited for the delicious meal and to Chris Lastra for photographing this event.

ALL-NEW “LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT” TEES & SWEATSHIRTS!

Just in time for fall, we now have
cozy new tees and sweatshirts
available in retro design!

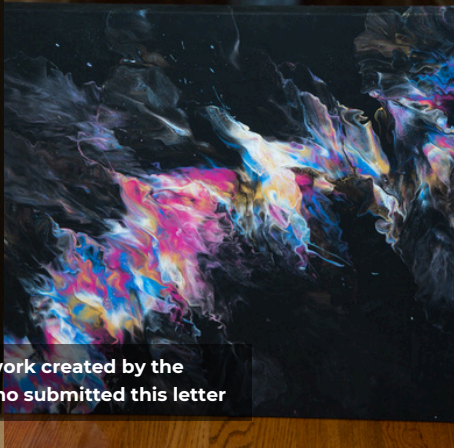
Support Peace at Home programs
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Pictured: photographs of the artwork created by the previous Peace at Home Client who submitted this letter



LETTER FROM A SURVIVOR

"I came to the Peace at Home shelter around the time COVID hit. With the common challenges of community living intensifying with the pandemic, my advocate helped connect me to counseling services.

The counseling services were a huge help to me. They also offered me adult coloring pages and colored pencils to explore as a tool for healing. My discovery of my love and talent for art began with those printed coloring pages.

Coloring sparked my curiosity into other forms of art and different art techniques. I researched other artforms through YouTube videos. Over time my love of art has grown and I've been able to create and sell my own adult coloring book as well as my artwork. I hope one day to have my own art exhibit.

While in the shelter, I was able to apply for mainstream benefits and referrals to an agency that helped me find my first legit job after many hard years of human trafficking. Peace at Home's housing program supported me in finding my first apartment and with this newly built support system, I was able to live independently.

I enjoy the peaceful life I have built for myself. I tell everyone I know about Peace at Home. **If I didn't go to Peace at Home, I don't know where I would be now.**"

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet Sandra, our Families with Pets Advocate!

Sandra oversees our lovely Candy Clark Pet Sanctuary, but as an Advocate, she also provides support, safety planning, and animal-friendly resources to survivors with pets. She also helps families find housing!

When asked what Peace at Home's mission means to her, Sandra had this to say: "As a social worker, one of the most important core values we practice by is empowerment. Victims and survivors of domestic violence have experienced so much trauma, so our job and responsibility is meet our clients where they are at, and to empower them by giving them the necessary tools and skills to thrive as they meet goals. I am proud to work at a shelter that values self-determination so fully."



Peace at Home Family Shelter
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