



Dear devoted friends, family, and supporters:

We pray that all of you are well. We want you to know that House of Pearls is still functioning almost normally during these trying times we are seeing now.

The Pearls are so protected on this beautiful farm that God has blessed us with. We are asked frequently how the Pearls are holding up, and we are happy to say that because of how our program is run, and the fact that the residents aren't allowed TV or Internet, they are protected from the excessive media and the worry that being surrounded by constant updates brings. Our focus is on the Lord, not on current events and other distractions caused by social media, TV, and Internet.

If only we were all so fortunate!

Where do you turn in these times of hardships and turmoil? We pray you turn to the Lord first! Seek Him in all you do as we teach our Pearls to do. 1 Peter 5:7 tells us we are to cast all our anxiety on Him! He cares for us!

Because of COVID-19 we, like so many others, have had to clear our scheduled events and fundraisers. Closing the Pearls Boutique has been distressing for us, although it is only temporary. **The donations made and sold at our Boutique are our largest monetary support.** But we will continue to trust the Lord for He is faithful and House of Pearls is His Ministry.

We are following all safety procedures and continue to house our residents at no cost to them or their families. **But during this time, we have had to cancel all visitors and volunteers in order to keep the Pearls healthy.** Unfortunately, this has affected the women who are daily applying to our program for a bed. We are looking into ways to open the admission process back up soon. With the stimulus checks being distributed, our fear is that we will see a number of people in our communities relapse and, unfortunately, pass away from overdose. That is the reality of addiction. House of Pearls understands the issues getting these checks will cause, and we will very soon begin taking new residents.



One way HOP is trying to give back during this time is by making quality masks for other non-profits and to individuals for a donation of their choice. We are so thankful that God

brought this opportunity to us during this time and **we want to thank Rhonda Griffin and her ministry A Cause for Tea for not only teaching the Pearls how to make the masks, but also providing the materials needed.**

A few updates to let you know that we are seeing much success from our ladies:

- We are happy to say that in the last year we are seeing graduates complete a one-year program, and some have been hired here at our ministry.
- We have seen two women, who were previously considering divorce, reunited with their husbands and their children. Homes have been restored and children placed back with their moms and dads.
- Another of our graduates was hired at an amazing business, has gotten herself a car, and moved into her own apartment. All of that was made possible through the relationship she made with one of our licensed therapists while being at HOP.
- One of our graduates and her husband have started a bible study in their home to help other couples have stronger marriages!

Our Pearls are being shown love and respect from the local community and the churches who have ministered to them in many ways. So, we thank you all for your continued support!



If you are able to give to us during this time, please know that we appreciate every donation. You can send a check, make a donation online on our web site HouseofPearls.org, or find us on Facebook. Please know each dollar is used to provide meals and housing, and for transportation to appointments with doctors, dentists, and to work after a resident has completed six months in the program.

We currently have 14 on our waiting list and only three open beds! These beds will be filled as soon as we are able to safely house more women.

Together, we can make a difference in the lives of the precious women God has given us to minister to. Together we can make disciples who go and make disciples.

Thank you,

Delois Carpenter
Executive Director, House of Pearls
(704) 324-0028

Boutique News

Presently, the Pearls Boutique and the Pearls store, coming soon to Monroe, are closed to visitors, due to covid-19.

The Pearls Boutique and Resale Shop provides material needs and work experience for the residents of House of Pearls. Residents of the house receive items they need (clothes, shoes, coats, household item, etc.) from the donations, free of charge. The sell of remaining donations funds the services and programs provided by the house.

There are three primary purposes for the stores:

- To generate funds for the house.
- To teach the Pearls life skills, accountability, responsibility, retail skills, manners, goal setting, and so on.
- To provide a service to the community by providing quality items at exceptional prices.

The stores are not consignment stores but specialize in consignment-quality items. When thinking about what you can donate to the resale shop, consider if you would actually buy that same item in its current state:

- Is clothing clean, stain free, pick free, with no tears or fading?
- If you have toys and electronics, are they clean, working, gently used, and have all the parts and pieces?
- Is the piece of furniture sturdy and in good shape?
- Do you have vintage pieces that would be collectible in any condition?

Furniture with good structure can be shabby chic. Some buyers may be looking for quality pieces that they can restore and reupholster.

When the governor and county give the all clear, we will reopen the Boutique and begin setting up the Pearls store. For updates on the store reopening and what's in the store, visit Pearls Boutique and Resale Shop on Facebook.

We know you will have lots to donate, but we need to keep in mind that the virus can stay on some surfaces for days. We want to be sure that everyone stays well — customers, volunteers, and members of the house. Having said that, we appreciate donations of toilet paper, paper towels, and household cleaning solutions for housekeeping and sanitation at both stores.

Pearls Boutique and Resale Shop 6601 E Marshville Blvd Marshville, NC 704-327-4096	Pearls Union Square Corner of Dickerson and Hwy. 74 Monroe, NC
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Hours:
Tuesday – Friday 10 – 5
Saturday 10 – 3

Volunteers

The biggest need in both stores is volunteers. Not only do we depend on the generosity of the community for donations, we desperately need you for staffing. The more volunteers we have, the shorter your shift can be. Volunteers can work daily, weekly, or monthly, on a regular schedule set up with Cindy Huffman, the store manager.

Presently, volunteer training takes place at the Marshville store. If the Monroe store is more convenient for you, you can be there in a matter of a day or two after your Marshville training.

While we are all staying at home, many of us are clearing out unwanted items and have items we've been saving up to donate before the virus hit. We expect an influx of these items when we open and need all the help we can get. We



are praying for some type of storage unit to put donations into as a form of quarantine before they are handled by our volunteers.

Volunteers are needed Tuesday through Friday from 10am to 5pm and on Saturday from 10am to 3pm.

Help Us Set Up the New Pearls Store

We are in need of a few fixtures and other store items to get the new store up and running as soon as possible. Opening a store is costly, and we are hoping for donations and contributions. Cindy, the store manager, will post specific needs on the Pearls Boutique & Resale Shop Facebook page soon.

Here is our current list, including estimated cost in case you would like to give a monetary donation to fund the purchase of the item.

Glass counter for register and/or jewelry	\$800
Round racks/bookcases	\$810
Shelving units	\$80
Wireless door bell for back door	\$20
Clothes steamer	\$230
Storage unit, shed, or enclosed trailer for quarantined donations	

An on-site holding space for donations is vital for us to store donations until they are safe to work with. We thank you in advance for all you do for us.