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WISH LIST

**Check us out on Facebook to
read reviews just like these!**

*Awesome! I'm thankful so, so much
for what they gave me on my road to
recovery. CS*

*This place is life-changing. The
love and support has shown and still
continues to show me a life I never
dreamed possible. 137 days sober.
Very grateful for being at Glory House.
DJC*

 [facebook.com/gloryhouse](https://www.facebook.com/gloryhouse)

The Glory House

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DAVE JOHNSON RETIRES; NICOLE DVORAK NAMED INTERIM PRESIDENT

The Glory House Board of Directors has named Nicole Dvorak the Interim President of Glory House. Dvorak has been part of the Glory House staff since 1999, and also serves as the Compliance Officer and Manager of Human Resources. She states, "Glory House to so many including myself is really Glory Home. A home offers warmth, safety and a sense of belonging. I am honored to have this long connection to the agency."

Dave Johnson retired at the end of September, after serving as President for most of the past 30 years. The Board of Directors honored him with a retirement reception at the Country Club of Sioux Falls on September 23th.

INTERIM PRESIDENT DVORAK EXPRESSES GRATITUDE

"Life is dynamic and never static" is a phrase my sociology professor often said to her students, and this is certainly evident at Glory House! While I agree with most of this phrase, there is a component of static that is present at Glory House and this is the constant passion of the staff as they live out our mission, "Helping People Claim Their Lives with Christian Compassion, Resources, and Support."

I am inspired daily by acts of kindness either from a client or staff member. The people I work with are unique. They see people. They touch souls. They brighten spirits.

A few months ago I was visiting with a client and he said how surprised he was that staff would work together to reach solutions for him, from getting his medications to helping learn the transit system to the wonderful meals! I wasn't surprised. Because this is what our great staff do 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

As the holiday seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas are quickly approaching, I reflect on the bountiful blessings our Glory House community is gifted with, and there are 53 amazing folks I want to honor: **Alan, Alexis, Allan, Allison Andrew, Angela, Anna, Barb, Bonnie, Brandi, Brianna, Camio, Chasity, Chaze, Chris, Christian, Crystal, Debra, Dena, Destiny, Elly, Hailey, Jackson, Jaeyden, James, Jason, Jessica, Jim, Jodi, John, Judy, Kari, Kelly, Ken, Kristen, Kristy, Mandi, Mark, Melibu, Melissa, Ontibile, Reed, Roger, Sarah, Sebit, Shannon, Shyanne, Stephanie, Steve, Tammy, Tashina, TR, and Victor.**

Along with the staff, I extend my deep gratitude to the Glory House Board of Directors. Their vision, dedication, and support is amazing.

I wish all of you a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas--and if Santa has been watching, wow the gifts for the staff will be off the charts.

Nicki Dvorak, Interim President

Helping people claim their lives with Christian compassion, resources, and support.

Board of Directors

Eric Gulden, Chairman
 Ryan Howlett, Vice Chairman
 Kent Alberty, Treasurer
 Ryan Kolbeck, Past Chairman
 Chad Belitz, Secretary
 Nicole Dvorak, Interim President,
 Compliance & Human Resource Director

Board Members

Jim Schmidt
 Hal Perry
 Mike Johnson
 Todd Nelsen
 Sheila Reding
 Dana Fisher
 Terryl Cadwell
 Angel Runnels
 Liz Meyer

WOMEN'S RECOVERY STORIES RECEIVE POSITIVE RESPONSE

Here is how three of our Sands Freedom Center clients have responded to the new series of recovery stories shared at a local coffeehouse on Sunday evenings. *I love the stories. They always bring me hope, courage and strength. Being able to depend on Women's Recovery is a blessing!* (DB)

The Women's Recovery group is beneficial in so many ways. It is amazing to be empowered by other women. It helps us to connect to each other in the house, as well as with the staff. It provides us with sponsor opportunity and tons of hope. I have not been to one meeting that has not brought me to tears. It is so motivating. (AJ)

When we need something to boost our spirits or find hope, "Women in Recovery" is always there. (KD)

Several Glory House staff have shared their personal story, as well as recovering women from the community. If you or someone you know has a story that deserves to be shared, please call or e-mail Shannon at 988-9133 or sbarnes@glory-house.org

FIRST-TIME SUCCESS STORY-- FROM GLORY HOUSE TO NEW HOUSE

"The real estate market in Sioux Falls is just crazy busy and competitive," wrote Thomas* in a recent e-mail to Glory House staff, describing his six-month search for a place to live. First, he looked for a place to rent. Felon-friendly housing is not easy to find, and the places who do accept tenants with his background have a long waiting list. After being turned down 383 times from March through mid-September--Thomas kept track--he started looking into buying a small house.

His status as a disabled veteran helped Thomas to qualify for a loan. But scarcity was the next roadblock. He would find a house he liked, call the realtor, and hear over and over, "Sorry, it is already sold," often purchased for 20-25% over the asking price. "I could have cried about it and done something stupid, but I just kept going," he reflected.

Finally an offer was accepted by a builder who was eager to sell a new home that was actually bigger than he needs, so he will rent out the basement to a friend who is also disabled. Thomas credits the bank, the realtor and Glory House staff members for helping to make this dream come true. "I believe God had a hand in this too," he writes. Besides working fulltime and being a fulltime student, Thomas attends church on Sundays and Bible Study on Mondays. In his free time, he enjoys crossword puzzles from the newspaper. Thomas concludes, "This might be a good story to share about never giving up and working hard; and how it resulted in a wonderful outcome. It may not always end up as wonderful but being this determined and hardworking will certainly put one in a much better place to accomplish a goal."

To our knowledge, this is the first time one of our clients has gone from prison to Glory House to the purchase of a new home. Congratulations, Thomas--your persistence and faith are indeed an inspiration for us all!

*Pseudonym

CONGRATULATIONS, ZAC!

Zac Ripperda--who volunteered at Glory House in various ways throughout his growing up years--graduated from US Marines Basic Training in San Diego last month. Congratulations, Zac!

GLORY HOUSE - OUR VISION

With Divine Guidance, every client is met with compassion and respect, accepted wherever they are, and offered opportunities to grow.

GLORY HOUSE TAKES HALLOWEEN VERY SERIOUSLY!

Glory House takes Halloween very seriously! We love to show our clients how to have some sober fun by going all out for the holidays. Staff had a door decorating contest with Tashina being the first place winner. Staff also had a costume contest with Al (Angela) and Peg (Chasity) being the first place winners. Some of the Glory House case managers created a Zombie Escape Room for the clients and their friends/family to enjoy on Halloween weekend. The fastest group to find the serum to cure the zombie apocalypse won a grand prize!



TWO GLORY HOUSE CASE MANAGERS HAVE MISSIONS BEYOND GLORY HOUSE



Case Manager Stephanie Anderson has made 3 trips to Juarez Mexico in the past 2 years. Her church, The Ransom has brought groups of volunteers to Spanish-speaking places for the past 12 years. Besides building a house, Stephanie and the other volunteers were able to share meals, pray and get to know the family who would soon have a new home. She recalls, “We would write prayers on the beams before installing the insulation and drywall!”



Since she did not know anyone besides the group leader, Stephanie felt overwhelmed on her first trip across the southern border. But by the end of the week it had been a moving experience, bringing everyone closer to God and to each other. “It was very emotional to see how happy the family was with their new home,” she reflects. She has been able to hear a few updates via Facebook and through the staff of Casas por Cristos (Houses for Christ), the organization helping with arrangements.

Stephanie has gone back to Juarez twice with another friend, to volunteer again. She will likely go again, too!

BARB LUETH, VOLUNTEER AT CAMP JUDSON

Barb Lueth has volunteered at Camp Judson even longer than the two decades that she has worked at Glory House. For one week every summer she serves as the Adult and Family Camp coordinator at this American Baptist camp located near Keystone in the beautiful Black Hills. Alongside the study leader and other staff, Barb helps with numerous practical details to keep youth and adults safe, healthy and occupied--even leading a “Mystery Trip” for the adventurous types.



Barb has also served on the camp’s board of directors since “before the turn of the century.” She enjoys seeing everyone’s love for the Lord and their love for Camp Judson. “It’s a joy to see the power of a spirit-filled week that lasts long after the campers return home,” she reflects. “It enhances the lives of children, grandparents, and everyone in between.” Barb may be our only staff member who once had Glory House founder Roger Fredrikson as her pastor. “He had a heart for people--would do anything for anyone,” she recalls.

TWO COUNSELORS SHARE REFLECTIONS ON THEIR CALLING FOR RECOVERY WORK

It was the loss of my younger sister to a methadone overdose in 2007 that led to my interest in substance abuse treatment, and eventually, to a counseling position at the Glory House. Tracey was 42 and the mother of five children--including five-year-old twin boys--when she died among the decorations on Christmas Day. This was the final, awful indignity for my sister who, like most of the family, had struggled with alcohol dependency for many years.

In spite of witnessing the multi-generational impact of alcoholism on my family for many years, I still didn't understand chemical dependency at the time of her death-- so I decided to go back to school. Undergraduate addiction courses were followed by a Master's from the University of South Dakota--where I dedicated my Capstone project to my sister's memory. Although I've since lost other family members (and close friends) to complications of addiction, everything I do today is with Tracey in mind.

Like our clients, her life should not be measured by the fatal decision she made on Christmas Eve; she too deserved the chance of a longer, better life. --Mark Wilder, counselor

I had been looking for a place where I could feel my time was spent doing something worthwhile. I really enjoyed my interview at the Glory House, impressed with the attitudes and the atmosphere. It seemed like what I was looking for. When I got an email about the opportunity to be a Counselor, I was happy that there might be a place for me at this organization that had given me such a positive impression.

When I sat down with a number of my new coworkers, after visiting with them I had to say, "That seems like too much job for one person." Most had been doing their "too much" job for at least a decade. I tried to stay out of the way at the front desks of the men's and women's units and watched as staff orchestrated chaos like circus ringmasters. I admired the patience of my supervisor as she showed me the computer parts of my job. I sat in on group sessions and listened to our clients recount their struggles while counselors imparted strategies for overcoming their challenges. I watched tired clients come back after overtime shifts at demanding jobs. I ate really good meals put together with leftovers. I met staff who may have been having a bad day, but I didn't meet anyone with a bad attitude.

I am a Sioux Falls native who has worked at other non-profits through the years. I have been a member of civic and charitable organizations in our community and have attended countless fundraisers. I will say that the Glory House is worthy of everything you give, be that money or donations or time. This place is giving people a second chance. Many will take that opportunity and build a meaningful life. For each one who recovers from addiction and stays out of prison, our community benefits. The Glory House does good work. I'm happy to be working here. --Reed Boysen, counselor

Here is a list of items that Glory House needs...

- Bicycles & bike locks
- Winter Coats (size XL - XXXXL)
- Gloves & hats
- Socks, Underwear & Bras (must be new)
- Non-slip black shoes
- Any Large Size Clothing (XL-XXXXL)
- Hygiene Products (shampoo, soap, women's hygiene products)
- Work boots & Steel-Toed Boots
- Carpentry Tools
- Backpacks
- Walmart Gift Cards for purchasing workwear

For the rewards closet...

- Candy
- Pop
- Notebooks
- Movie Tickets
- Plastic Hangers
- \$5 & \$10 gift cards
- Wallets (men's & women's)
- Calendar Planners
- Art Supplies

Glory House Apartments...

- Brooms & Dustpans
- Floor Mops
- Towels
- Toilet Bowl Brushes & Plungers
- Small Trash Containers

The Glory House

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thanksgiving
gather
thankful family
blessed grateful
together
blessings
november

HOLIDAY GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Glory House enjoys making the holiday season a special one for our clients. Nothing warms our hearts more than hearing our clients say *"this is the BEST Christmas I have ever had!"* We are seeking donations to help make our Christmas celebration special for the 80+ clients at our Christmas party! We ensure that each client gets a wrapped gift and plenty of other gifts to open for door prizes and winning games at the party.

Suggested donations would be \$10 restaurant/store gift cards, men's winter gloves, yearly planners and men/women's socks. All donations should be unused and unwrapped.

Please drop off any donations at Sands Freedom Center by December 6, 2021.

We will also accept cash donations for purchasing these items, food and game supplies for the party (Paypal: kcleveringa@glory-house.org) (Venmo: [gloryhousesf](https://venmo.com/gloryhousesf))

Also check out our Amazon Wish List: <https://a.co/bilk5TK>

"GIVING TUESDAY" AND DECEMBER DONATIONS TO BE MATCHED THIS YEAR!

NOVEMBER 30 IS "GIVING TUESDAY" WHEN ALL DONATIONS GIVEN AT THIS SITE www.facebook.com/glory-house WILL BE MATCHED BY FACEBOOK!

All financial donations for Healing and Recovery received by Glory House during December will be matched by a generous donor up to \$2500.

If you give \$100, Glory House will receive \$200!

Please use the envelope enclosed with this newsletter, or donate through Venmo ([gloryhousesf](https://venmo.com/gloryhousesf)), Paypal (kcleveringa@glory-house.org), or the "Donate" tab on the Glory House website.



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Glory House

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