

NEW LIFE NEWS

"FOR WITH GOD NOTHING WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE." LUKE 1:37



CELEBRATING WOMEN'S LIFE HOUSE GRADUATIONS

It has been a while since we have celebrated a graduation, and in March we celebrated two! Congratulations to Dianna and Wendi for completing all four phases of the Women's Life House program.

Dianna was our first graduation of March and of 2025. Dianna's story is one that helps reflect the uniqueness of each individual we serve at our Life Houses. Unlike many we serve, Dianna did not enter the program because of the negative impact of drugs or alcohol in her life. Instead, life just sort of happened. Dianna shared, "I found myself sleeping in my car after my kids had kicked me out and taken all my stuff. If it wasn't for Carla and the Women's Life House, I probably wouldn't be here today."

Wendi was our second graduation. You may remember Wendi, as she shared her testimony during our 2024 Annual Benefit Auction. Wendi came to the Women's Life House after being incarcerated and modifying out. "I had gotten off the path from struggles in life and needed help getting myself back together and into a good routine again," Wendi explained. "The Women's Life House helped change my life dramatically. It has helped me build back relationships and be in good standing with work, family, and my spirituality. I'm in a better place and have a better mindset now."

We are proud of both of these ladies for their hard work and commitment to the Women's Life House program. It is never an easy journey, but they stuck it out and have made great progress towards living a healthier lifestyle. But their journeys don't stop with graduation, and they both have exciting changes happening in their lives.

After graduation, Dianna's main goal is getting comfortable in her new apartment and getting it fully furnished. As for Wendi, she will be working for the Women's Life House as one of our Live-In House Managers as well as working to build her credit and continuing to attend church to grow spiritually.

Congratulations Dianna and Wendi! Please continue to pray for these ladies as they embark on their next journeys and continue to apply everything they have learned while at the Women's Life House.

MARCH MISSION TEAM: CSF FROM IUS



Each year it seems like we are welcoming mission teams earlier and earlier, and this year we were blessed to welcome a mission team in mid-March!

The first team we hosted for 2025 was Christian Student Fellowship (CSF) from IU Southeast. This group was comprised of 15 college students and 2 adult leaders who were serving alongside us for the second year in a row during their spring break. Huntington, Indiana is definitely

not your typical spring break destination but there was a big push from the students, especially the seniors who served last year, to come back and serve at New Life Ministries again.

While here, CSF replaced the bunkbeds in the Men's Life House and Women's Life House homes, served lunch and dinner every night at the New Life Community Meal Ministry, completed yard work at the Life Houses, added plastic around the windows of the Life Center, led nightly Bible studies at the Men's Life House and Women's Life House, as well as completed a few projects and assisted with worship service at New Life Fellowship.

Mission teams often experience a great deal of ministry in a short amount of time and leave with experiences and testimonies that will last a lifetime. When speaking with Shelia Gustafson, one of the CSF leaders, about some of the highlights of their week, she shared "I have enjoyed seeing students getting out of their comfort zones and relying on the Lord." She went on to explain how many students stepped up to take on leadership roles with projects, lead Bible studies, or even share their testimonies.



The best part about serving on a mission trip is that the work does not stop once you leave. Things continue to be busy at New Life Ministries, but often teams end up taking back skills, visions, and much more for their own communities back home. Shelia, of CSF, explained that when they get back to IU Southeast, she hopes the students realize that there are many people on their campus that need to also hear the Gospel. "They shared the Gospel with people at the Meal Ministry, why not take that to campus," Shelia said.



Before leaving, we asked Shelia if she had any final thoughts she wanted to share about their time with us. She wanted to share a message to individuals, churches, families, and future teams. "Come here and do a mission trip," Shelia said, "it is well organized, and Phil (Associate Pastor of New Life Fellowship) does a great job. All your needs are met with food and housing, and serving can be fun too. Don't be afraid to come and serve."

Thank you CSF of IUS for your hours of ministry! We hope you were encouraged and pray that you continue to be a light in your own community.