

# The HEART of TEXAS

A newsletter of Dallas LIFE

DALLAS LIFE



SEVENTY YEARS  
OF HOMELESS RECOVERY

FALL 2024

## Giving thanks for YOU

**INSIDE:** Prani shares  
how your support  
changed her life!



**DON'T MISS...**

**2** Join our Thanksgiving Campaign!

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For more information: (214) 421-1380 [dallaslife.org](http://dallaslife.org)

# As Leaves Begin to FALL



## A Message from REV. BOB SWEENEY

It seems to me that more than just leaves are beginning to fall. I see the gap between the middle class and the poor widening. Fewer people have enough to survive... while others rise to incredible wealth and their giving sometimes falls off.

**So many of you reach out in generosity each month, yet I long to draw more folks into the wonderful work we are doing together.** My goal is to get the message out to the masses about the importance of providing hope, healing and God's love to people in need.

As you pray for us, please be mindful that in an election year many choose to redirect their giving toward their favorite candidate. Churches are seeing a 6%

decrease in giving nationwide. Grocery prices are up 16% since January 1, 2024. This all leads to worry and fewer dollars to give to charity.

**Your generosity encourages me that there is always a remnant of God's people who express their joy and depth of love for Him with their giving.**

As you watch leaves fall this season, remember your love for Him is evident in how you care, how you pray and how you support right here at Dallas LIFE.

Rev. Bob Sweeney  
Executive Director

## YOU'RE MAKING GOALS AND DREAMS POSSIBLE...

At Dallas LIFE, hopes and dreams come to life – thanks to friends like you! Because of your prayers and support, men, women, families and seniors in our recovery program look forward to brighter futures.



*"I've learned to put God first in my life, and I've overcome my addiction. My family trusts me again, so I'm going home."*

*"Now, I know God loves me. I feel whole and confident in Him and I'm going to help others."*



Thank you for believing that everyone deserves the opportunity to build a better, more fulfilling life!

To find out more about how you're helping transform lives, visit [dallaslife.org](http://dallaslife.org).

Join Our

# 2024 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

## 94,500 Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season

This Thanksgiving, countless guests will gather at our tables. Many are alone... longing to overcome homelessness and poverty... wishing they could reunite with their families.

**For just \$2.50, YOU can provide a meal** to nourish their bodies and lift their spirits. Your gift welcomes someone who is hurting to our table and surrounds them with life-changing care:

  
Safe, welcoming shelter

  
Warm clothing, coats & shoes

  
Classes & job training

  
God's unconditional love

**Please help our neighbors in need this holiday season!** Send your 2024 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at [dallaslife.org](http://dallaslife.org).

  

Scan to see how you can help this fall!

# “I WAS LOST, BUT NOW I’M FOUND.”

Prani was victimized when she was a little girl, leaving her with deep emotional wounds. “I was verbally and physically abused and it changed the direction of my life,” she says.

She developed an anxiety disorder that grew worse as the years went on, but she never sought treatment. After 20 years of working as a successful hairstylist, Prani’s social anxiety became so severe that she couldn’t work anymore. “I was nervous and afraid and stayed in the house all the time so I wouldn’t have to be around other people,” she says. “I was a mess, but I was in denial about my mental state.”

She lived off her savings, but before long, the money was gone. Prani was facing homelessness when her family finally convinced her to seek help. She’d given her life to the Lord many years before, so she began researching faith-based programs. When she found Dallas LIFE, she knew we were the answer.

Prani entered our Overcomers Program, where she found safe shelter, nutritious meals and the mental health care she needed. “Through medication and counseling, my anxiety has gotten so much better,” she says. “I’ve overcome my fear of being around people. Now, I enjoy being with others.”

With her emotions stabilized, she was able to focus on strengthening her walk with the Lord. “Now, I study the Word and praise God daily,” she says. “I couldn’t have changed my life without Him.”



“I live and breathe my faith every day.”

We guided Prani in applying for disability, and when she’s saved enough of her income, we’ll help her find an affordable place to live. Then she plans to go back to work part-time as a licensed master barber and share her faith at every turn. “I want to help other people come to Christ,” she says.

**This fall, Prani gives thanks for YOU and your incredible generosity. Your prayers and support have helped change her life.** “I was lost, but Dallas LIFE showed me how to change my life. Now, I’m found.”



## **RECOVERY IS FOR EVERYONE... Every Person, Every Family, Every Community**

The road to recovery is a long and difficult one, filled with obstacles and pain. But millions of Americans have successfully made the journey from dependence and despair to freedom and hope.

Each September, during National Recovery Month, tens of thousands of recovery programs around the country shine a spotlight on those who’ve transformed their lives, celebrating their bravery and giving hope to those still trapped in addiction.

This September, we’re celebrating the courageous individuals, seniors and veterans who’ve walked the hard road of recovery here at Dallas LIFE and transformed their lives through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

**We invite YOU to join us in the celebration!**

To see the faces and read the stories of men and women who’ve found healing and hope in the Lord here at Dallas LIFE, visit [dallaslife.org/newsletter](https://dallaslife.org/newsletter).

# A Time for Giving

## NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

Join other compassionate Texans in caring for those in need on **North Texas Giving Day**, September 19!

For 15 years, this **online giving event** has been bringing people together to support nonprofits that are doing vital work in our community. Will you consider supporting Dallas LIFE? Your gift will help us bring healing, hope and purpose to the lost and needy in North Texas.

To donate, go to [📄 donate.dallaslife.org](https://www.dallaslife.org).



**Our 9th Annual Turkey Fry is right around the corner!** A time to bless our guests and neighbors by serving fried turkeys and other traditional Thanksgiving dishes.



This year, we're holding a **Benefit Concert** to help cover the cost of the Turkey Fry. Or you can purchase a turkey to serve at your own family's holiday celebration. All proceeds from your ticket and turkey purchases will help us serve a delicious meal, giving our guests a reason to give thanks.

- The concert will be held November 24 at **Ervey Theatre**.
- The Turkey Fry will be held in Dallas LIFE's parking lot November 25 from **8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

To become a sponsor, purchase a turkey or volunteer go to [📄 dallaslife.org](https://www.dallaslife.org). For more information and to purchase concert tickets, go to [📄 dallaslife.org/turkeyfry](https://www.dallaslife.org/turkeyfry).

Thank you!

