



Fall/Winter 2021

Golden Girl Gazette-Herald

Golden Girl Group Home

A Message From Our Executive Director...

I've always been a little obsessed about anything Disney. I love the parks, the movies, pixie dust and, of course, the Disney Magic. At Disney World, I loved watching the face of a young girl spotting a Disney Princess on Main Street, USA. The girl would impulsively run to hug the princess, whispering I love you, as her parents attempted to photograph it all. Disney even has a name for this experience. It's called A Magical Moment.

At Golden Girl, we believe that each one of our girls is a princess. As a child of God, they are of royal birth. In our Respect Program, the first phase is Respect Yourself, the color purple, the color of royalty. Most of our girls come to us defeated, scared, feeling unwanted and certainly not worthy enough to be called a Princess. They are so very wrong.

Most of the Disney Princesses suffered difficult childhoods. Cinderella's father died when she was a child. Her evil stepmother mistreated and neglected her. Many of our girls have lost one or both parents to drugs, incarceration or death and have been mistreated and neglected. Snow White cared for seven small men (one even named Grumpy). Our girls have often had to act as the adult in their homes, caring for their younger siblings, while missing the experience of being a child themselves. Rapunzel was kept in a tower, isolated from the world by a manipulative mother figure. For some of our girls, their towers were dilapidated trailers, isolated so others wouldn't see the welts, bruises and burns on their bodies.

The Little Mermaid found her man but couldn't talk to him, watched him almost marry an evil witch in disguise and then saw her dad die (not permanently). She was 16 years old. Can you imagine the trauma? ALL of our girls have experienced some level of trauma.

We believe that each of our princesses deserve the opportunity to receive an excellent education and vocational/on the job training. This is the reason we built the Golden Minds Center for Learning and Development and the Golden Treasures Resale Shop. One of our girls, Taylor, was hired to work in our Shop. Taylor has experienced homelessness and terrible trauma, but now, for the first time in her life, she feels confident about her future. At our ribbon cutting ceremony, several people were asked to speak, including Taylor. She declined, feeling unsure of herself. After the ribbon cutting, Taylor told me that she wished she had spoken. I asked her if she still wanted to. She nodded and I told her I could give her something even better, being on TV. I quickly located a reporter and told him he had the rare opportunity to interview one of our girls, an employee at our Shop. During the interview, Taylor proudly wore her Golden Treasures apron. She spoke of her desire to one day open her own business, that she felt loved and accepted at Golden Girl, adding, "it feels like family." As I watched this, I thought, "now there is a princess!"

After the interview, I told Taylor that she was amazing (she is)! Everything she said was perfect (it was) and I knew she would have success in life (she will). Taylor looked at me briefly, saw that I was sincere, then threw her arms around me, hugging me and whispered, "I love you, Renee." Then I realized it. Right there on Main Street, Ceredo, USA, I had hugged a princess experiencing the joy of A Magical Moment.



Golden Minds CENTER

FOR LEARNING
AND
DEVELOPMENT



Grand Opening Success!

The ribbon cutting and grand opening of the Golden Minds Center for Learning & Development took place on Friday, October 15th. Many of our wonderful donors and partners were in attendance.

The Learning Center will provide supplemental education and workforce development training for our girls. If you've given to this life-changing project, we want to say thank you so much!

Golden
Treasures
CONSIGNMENT
RESALE | DONATE

**Shop or Donate
During Store
Hours:
Monday-Friday
10-5
Saturday 11-4
Closed Sunday**

Open for Business!

The Golden Treasures Resale Shop is now open for business! Located at 725 Main Street, Ceredo, WV, the shop will provide work experience and supplemental income for our girls attending college. **Donate** or **consign** your gently used women's clothing, jewelry, handbags, furniture and home decor. Your donations will be part of a "golden" purpose, helping to provide opportunities like education, development, entrepreneurial training and recreation for our girls.

Call 681-254-5226 for details!



First Come, First Served!

Looking for a way to reduce your WV tax liability? Donate a minimum of \$500 and receive up to 50% in Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP) tax credits. NIP credits are limited, so hurry before they run out! Contact Nikki Thomas for more information at 304-939-5726.



That's right! Our new Learning Center boasts a beautifully decorated Tea Room. When not in use by our girls, this room can be "rented" by the community for a donation. Have your next bridal shower, baby shower, meeting or other event in this gorgeous room. Contact Tanya Basham for details at 304-634-1881.

Be an Angel This Christmas!

Donate and/or shop to make a teenage girl's Christmas wishes come true!

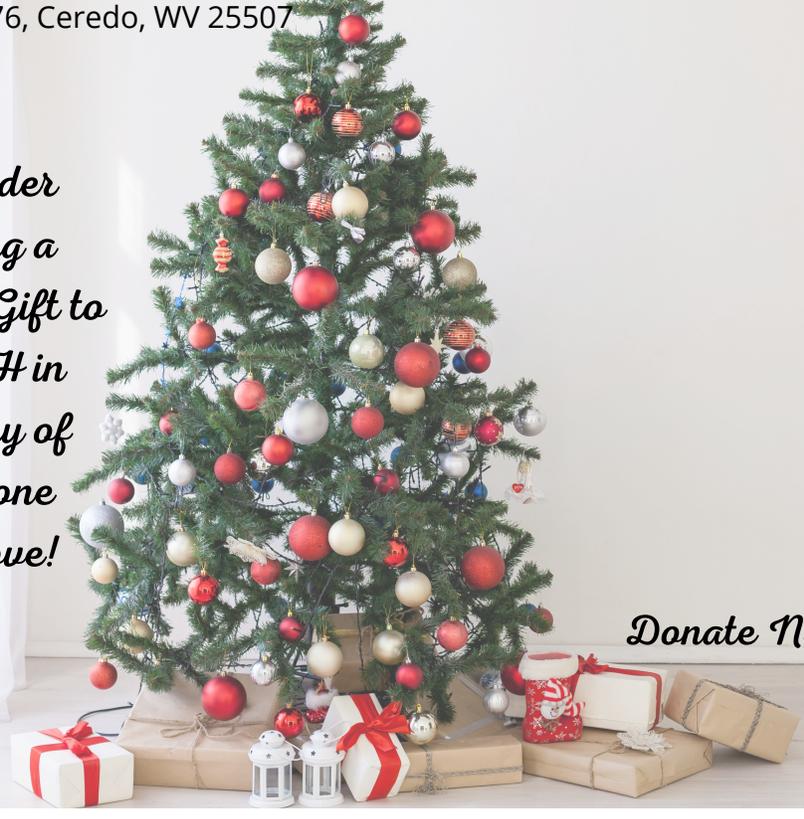


Call Jeannie at 304-544-6445 to find out how you can be a Christmas Angel!!

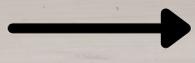
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someone
you love!*



Donate Now With This Code



THE CRABB FAMILY

Sat, Feb 26, 2022 @ 7:00 pm



On Sale @ [itickets.com](https://www.itickets.com)

**Christ Temple Church
2400 Johnstown Rd,
Huntington, WV**



For More Information Contact Nikki Thomas 304-939-5726