



FaithFamily News

June 2012

Alumni Spotlight

Charla Hammond



FaithWorks Student
(Fall '03)



Intern at City of Abilene
(Winter '03)



Internship Provider
for Isaac (Spring '07)



Mentor to Susan
(Summer '11)



Full-time Worker:
Neighborhood
Services (2006-2012)



Scholarship
Recipient from
Abilene Women's
Club (Spring '11)



FaithWorks Board
Member
(2011-2012)

By Charla Hammond

I remember the first time I visited FaithWorks in 2003. I was so scared and full of shame and guilt. I didn't love myself and thought no one ever could or would again. When I met Joyce Dalzell I told her my story and shared my pain as tears streamed down my face. I had lost my children and had suffered abuse. I was recovering from a drug addiction. She welcomed me in and gave me a hug. She told me everything was going to be okay.

It had been so long since I had felt hope, but in going through the program at Faithworks I quickly became aware of my new God-given family. Not only were we working together . . . (Continued Inside)



Making Our Best Even Better

We are dedicating this summer to reaching out to every former FaithWorks student with an invitation to help make the FaithWorks program the best it can be. Lunch time conversations began last week with 13 former students around the Monday lunch table. The second group met this past Tuesday and we are quickly filling up the weekly gatherings scheduled for June. The first two weeks have been incredible! We love seeing former students and catching up with their lives.

If you have not signed up for a Monday lunch, please check your calendar for June 18th and 25th. Give us a call at 437-2272 or email Darell Martin at Darellm@faithworksofabilene.org.

Your conversation and the information that you have to share help us make a really great program even better. Your commitment and the time you so graciously share during that lunch hour will help future FaithWorks students gain the confidence and skills for gainful employment. And for that – for you – we are so very grateful.

Looking forward to seeing you this summer!

(Continued from Cover)

. . . to seek our perfect career, we were also bonding and building healthy relationships. We celebrated holidays together, had picnics together and prayed together. Oh, how good it felt to have a family again.

I interned at the City of Abilene Housing Authority as a Housing Inspector. It took two years after graduation before an opening posted. I have been employed with the City of Abilene for 6 1/2 years. I have mentored many students at Faithworks and I volunteered in the community. I have been on several boards such as CUAD, I-CAN and Faithworks. I have been a parent liaison for CPS and have assisted with families in regaining reunification with their children

Faithworks provided a safe place for me to heal, a place where I didn't have to be ashamed of myself. I no longer had to hide anything and I could be openly honest about everything. I gained the confidence to give life another chance. Not just to try to live and work, but to give it all I had. A flame had been rekindled in my heart and I remembered who I was and how strong I had always been. I felt smart again and felt that I could do anything I set my mind to.

Today, I have my children back. Some are grown and on their own and some I have the blessing of raising in my home. I will be relocating to Midland, Texas to start my new job with Betenbough Homes as Quality Inspector/Project Manager/Superintendent of quality custom built homes.

This isn't an end to my connection and support of Faithworks. I will always support Faithworks in every way possible because I will never forget what it felt like to need someone to believe in me. Without Faithworks, the staff and all the many volunteers that have made this such a success, I would not be where I am today. Thank you to all of you who believed in me and helped me get back on my feet again.

I love you!

Charla Hammond

**GIVE
ELECTRONICALLY
TO FAITHWORKS!**

Give online at
www.faithworksofabilene.org



-or-



Text "FWAbilene"
to 67463 to donate with your
smartphone

**ATTENTION FORMER
STUDENTS:
YOU'RE INVITED TO**



**ATTENTION FORMER
STUDENTS:**

**TNT
Thurs,
June 28**

We'd love
to see you at 6:30 p.m.
Bring your friends, family, and
favorite side dish.
Childcare will be provided.

**THE CLOTHING
SHOPPE**

Needed Item for June:
Professional Handheld
Fabric Steamer



-or-

Donations to
pay for one

The mission of FaithWorks of Abilene is to help the underemployed, through personal, career, academic, and spiritual development, acquire the skills and confidence necessary for gainful employment.

Thank You to all our "FaithWorks Friends!"

Albert Acosta	Pat Cranfill	Dana Hood	Annette Martin	Edward Robinson
Trisha Acosta	Darlene Crumpler	Pam Horn	Adam Matthews	Shena Sandle
Lisa Adkins	Tim Evans	Jodie Houston	Wilson McCoy	Lisa Scavella
Suzanne Allmon	Georganna Evans	Chelsea Istre	Holly McFarland	Lori Anne Shaw
Joe Almanza	Larry Farr	Don Jackson	Brenda McVey	Terri Simons
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Tiffany Anderson	Tracy Fleet	Ralph Kantor	Anna Murillo	Sharon Small
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Cheryl Barber	Kathy Garison	Peggy Kraft	Suzetta Nutt	Jerry Taylor
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Karen Bland	Andrea Gette	David Lang	Gail Parham	Jolene Thomson
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Linda Coleman	Crissy Holt	Wanda Lunn	Trish Renfro	Vivian Zuniga
Larry Condra	Steve Holt, Sr.	Tammy Marcelain	Ray Renfro	

"FaithWorks Friends" spend one lunch period per week getting to know a FaithWorks student



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FaithWorks
of abilene



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