MONTHLY REPORT--MAY 2017 TBN/WRBJ-TV ~ JACKSON/MAGEE, MISSISSIPPI ONE GREAT PLACE JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39209

PUBLIC AFFAIRS



TBN/WRBJ-TV 34 has been busy this month connecting with Jackson and central Mississippi faith-based communities involved in outreach on multiple levels to address a broad range of spiritual, physical, and economic needs. Among these committed groups of believers is We Will Go ministries, founded by Amy Lancaster and her family several years ago with few assets but a willingness to listen to God. They are now one of the most successful and active ministries in Jackson.

This month they hosted WRBJ-TV staff and others at an open house luncheon at their headquarters which is housed in a large former YMCA building. The street ministry is based on the radical evangelistic idea of relocating a comfortable suburban family to live in the poorest and most blighted area of the capital city. They have clearly discerned God's call to a desperately needed mission field here in the city of Jackson, MS!

We Will Go offers tutoring, mentoring, and recreational opportunities for all in need. The ministry also operates a nonprofit community coffeehouse and craft shop which is patronized by people across the city. It functions as a model for what the Lord can do in any circumstance when His people commit to total obedience on sheer faith.



Other invitations to TBN/WRBJ-TV staff this month included the Wesley Biblical Seminary's annual appreciation banquet at the Hilton Jackson. Recognized were local and international students who have gone forth to teach about Jesus and bring light into some very dark places around the world.

Students and faculty from Japan, Uganda, Nigeria, Haiti, Kenya, and across the U.S. carry the message of salvation far and wide to places where Trinity Broadcasting Network has prepared the way for the these ministers to bear fruit.



The seminary's President, Dr. John Neihof, has guested on *Joy in Our Town* and recently launched a free master's degree program for students from deprived nations who could not otherwise afford to train professionally for God's service.



## JOY IN OUR TOWN



Among the most inspiring program topics we have produced locally are interviews with veteran members of the U.S. armed forces and those engaged in their support and recovery. An outstanding example is retired Sgt. C.J. Stewart, who is the founder of Camp Down Range. The Camp is based on a basic training model used by military units with many of the same physical competency obstacles but without combat training. Important lessons are taught to teenaged youth in character, spiritual fitness, understanding responsibility, and facing difficulties.

Men and women, both formerly active military and civilian, also come to participate in advanced obstacle courses and seminars designed to foster teamwork, openness to God, and to strengthen families through faith in Christ. Another ministry is Turning Point Mission Center of the Lighthouse Outreach Church. This is a west Jackson inner-city faith congregation pastored by husband and wife team Michael and Arnette Owens. Their enthusiastic worship and activity center reaches the forgotten ones among the streets and backroads of Jackson, with special attention to the elderly and families in crisis!





The Mississippi S.I.D.S./S.U.I.D.S Alliance (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome/Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Syndrome) continues its determined work of education to prevent infant deaths. They encourage research to prevent the heartbreaking loss of tiny babies who suddenly and quietly cease breathing. This is particularly close to us at WRBJ-TV as one of our staff members has been through this with her family and knows the suffering involved from loss of a child or grandchild.

Samantha Kalahar, the Alliance's outreach director, lost her own baby to S.I.D.S. and her professional and understanding approach to preventing needless deaths comes across well in her *Joy in Our Town* interview.



Another ministry recently featured was 200 Million Flowers. The ministry involves churches and individual families that foster, love, and adopt parentless children. Estimates of over 200 million orphans worldwide are hardly exaggerated, and this loving ministry has created new futures for babies and children from overseas and the U.S. who have been successfully adopted in Mississippi.

## SUCCESS OF TBN NATIONAL PROGRAMMING



I had the great opportunity to join a group of pastors ministering to prisoners in the Mobile, AL county jail. My job that Saturday was to videotape footage for *Joy in Our Town* and *My Story*. I also wanted to share with the prison management that TBN could be broadcast into their facility at no cost.

Chaplain Alan Singleton then surprised me with a request that I join the Pastor Patrick Williams inside the cell to minister to the men. At first I hesitated, but then I felt the Holy Spirit kick me as he put the following scripture in my mind;

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

So I went behind bars with the Pastor Williams. I was amazed how the men responded to us when we told them about Jesus and his forgiveness. The pastor had spent a large part of his life in prison and was able to tell these men first hand that Jesus is the only way to change their situation. I shared with them that none of us has done anything so terrible that we cannot be forgiven!

I do not know what crimes these men committed, but when we spoke the word of God they never took their eyes off of us. They were at the bottom and understood that Jesus was the only way out! These men heard, maybe for the first time, that everyone deserves a second chance. We ended our time in prayer proclaiming that Jesus forgives all sins and no one is out of his reach!

Trinity Broadcasting Networks Second Chance ministry is changing lives! It gives incarcerated men and woman around the county the opportunity to learn that Jesus will forgive anyone who comes to him and repents their sins!

## MAJOR ISSUES IN THE MID-MISSISSIPPI AREA



Sex trafficking is not a pleasant phrase and the reality is far worse than we can imagine. Mississippi's location makes it a prime recruitment point for vulnerable children. Wherever interstate travelers, long haul transport, runaway teens, and economically depressed towns exist there are predators who look for young children to exploit.

Susie Harvill, founder of Advocates for Freedom, is attempting to change this. Safe shelters to which a child or youth may escape, educating people to look out for children who seem depressed or in odd situations, and vigilant business owners catering to travelers may all make a difference for a captured child. Mrs. Harvill, who is upbeat, positive, and cheerful in her *Joy in Our Town* interview, despite the horrors she has witnessed, is determined that no child in Mississippi should be victimized.

Jesus warned anyone who would harm a child, but we all need to be vigilant in protecting the most vulnerable in our world!