



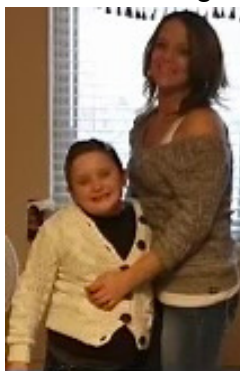
"IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS"

December 2023

PRAISING THE POWERFUL NAME OF JESUS

This has been an amazing year, watching our residents experience the mighty love of Jesus through their growing relationships with Him! This year, hundreds of hearts have turned toward Him, the hearts of our men, women, and kiddos. When a heart turns toward Him, miracles happen and eternity changes.

Giana was 8 and 10 years old when she came to Metro Hope to spend weekends with her mom, Mikki. Today, she is 17 years old and she courageously shared her story at Metro Hope's Gala in September.



"Both of my parents were addicted to meth and some of my earliest memories were when we were getting pulled over all the time by the police while they searched our car with the drug dogs because of the things that my biological father was doing. When I was 5, that was the first time I remember my dad going to jail. Shortly after that was when my grandma took me out of my mom's care for my own safety. I would cry daily for my mom and all I did was want my mom but I couldn't have her because of her addiction. When I was about 8, my dad was sentenced to 17 years in federal prison. It was one of the hardest things I had to deal with. Around the same time my dad was sentenced to prison, my mom went to Metro Hope with me for the first time. I remember doing fun things like going horseback riding, to the splash pad, the park and church. I also met other kids who had similar experiences as I had. Shortly after my mom graduated Metro Hope, she relapsed, and once again, I was left feeling like she chose drugs over me. This time I didn't know if I would see my mom in 3 days or in a month. My grandparents put me in track, cheerleading and karate just to distract me from everything that was going on in my life. In 2016 my mom and (her boyfriend) Oscar were arrested. The things they were doing were honestly outrageous and crazy and I would have never taken them as the type of people to do that, especially when my mom knew I needed her when my dad was in prison. On my 10th birthday, my mom was released from jail and my mom and Oscar went to Metro Hope. I was hurt and mad for a very long time. I remember when my mom got sober in 2016, and I would tell her that I hated her and I never wanted to be with her.

Our life now is a life I never thought that I would be able and willing to have. Not only because I have my mom back in my life, but Metro Hope saved my mom and our family in ways that I couldn't even explain. Faith in God kept our family going and makes our family stronger. I want to thank you grandma who took care of me and raised me like her own. Thank you to my amazing dad, Oscar, who filled a void in my heart and stepped up to be my dad when he didn't have to, to show me the love that I needed. And thank you to Metro Hope for giving me my family back and showing me that people can change. And because of my mom and Oscar's relationship with Jesus, they taught me to have a relationship with Jesus and I now know that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Giana is a Senior, accepted into nursing school, and loves Jesus!

*Oscar is an electrician and Mikki is the Director of our Women and Children's Programs. God is so good!

You can watch Giana share her story at metrohope.org, homepage, gala video, minute 40. Kleenex needed!



For the 6th year, our men and women packed Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes full of toys, toothbrushes, crayons and socks for boys and girls around the world. This is such an exciting event where the joy of giving is experienced! Each resident is asked to provide at least 1 item to pack in a shoebox, but many buy more than that. Letters are written by our residents to the children that will receive the gift. Their prayers over the children are so precious! Prayers of knowing Jesus, of peace and joy, and to know that they are loved. One man said this was the best Christmas he has had in many, many years! A common packed item was "love". Our men and women packed 50 boxes! What precious and grateful men and women The Lord creates at Metro Hope! ❤️



THERE IS STILL TIME TO BUY CONCERT TICKETS TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR WITH FERNANDO ORTEGA ON DEC 15! JACQUES AND ROBIN, ALONG WITH THEIR SON, WILL BE SHARING THEIR POWERFUL JESUS STORIES OF RESTORATION!

TICKETS WITH A 25% DISCOUNT AVAILABLE AT WWW.METROHOPE.ORG/EVENTS

SATURDAY, DEC 16, 9AM IS OUR FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT METRO HOPE, 2739 CEDAR AVE S. MPLS 55407

NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY



We serve such a powerful and loving God! At Metro Hope we see God restore families all the time, like Giana's. Jacques, Robin, and their son, Aries, will be sharing their Jesus stories at our Christmas Concert. Almost weekly we see mothers with active child protection cases reunited to their children. We see fathers stepping into their purpose with their children. *The staff and Board of Directors understand that the most important thing we can do is keep Jesus at the center of all we do.* Only He holds the power to change everything, for eternity.

1st Thessalonians 4:16 tells us, "For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God...". As this day seems to be closer than ever, we are so grateful for you, our donor family. Thank you for your gifts to Metro Hope that provide Bible teaching, character and discipleship training for the men, women, and children that The Lord is calling to Himself. As we all wait for His return, the graduates of Metro Hope are changing their families, their communities, their workplaces, and the world by boldly sharing the hope found in The One who has changed everything for them. Giana, Oscar and Mikki are ready for the trumpet sound of Jesus' coming, along with thousands of others from Metro Hope because of your eternal investment in their lives. 97 years of God's love and faithfulness to Metro Hope, building up His family for His Kingdom. To Him be all praise and glory!

Hallelujah, You're here! Merry Christmas and God bless you! *Cammy Oren, Board President*

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