



# SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER 2017

*How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7*

The Mosaic Center, Inc.  
an affiliate of Christian  
Women's Job Corps  
601 N. First Street  
Lufkin, TX 75901

## The journey continues...

The Mosaic Center exists to be **"a hand up, not a hand out."** Our Core Program graduates receive job and life skills that provide just that: a hand up to a fresh start. These are a few of the many stories of restoration.



**Carol Ramsey, Program Director, and Melisa**

*"I never felt like part of Lufkin even though I have lived here for most of my life. Now I do. Serving a purpose means a lot to me. Serving God's purpose means everything to me."  
-Melisa*

After her leg was shattered in an accident, **Melisa, (Class 22)** became addicted to prescription pain killers. Two years of addiction later, she was at rock bottom and near death. She checked into Burke Center who referred her to The Dream Center, a residency program. While there, she attended classes at The Mosaic Center to gain the skills needed to return to the workforce. Previously, she served in the U. S. Air Force. "I did things I would never dream I could do," she says of her classes at The Mosaic Center. At graduation when describing her next step in life she said, "I want to combine my life experience with my work experience to obtain a position where I can help women in crisis." Today, Melisa is employed at the Family Crisis Center of Lufkin as a Crisis Worker. She works with people on a daily basis who are often fearful and hopeless as she was at one time; it is a perfect fit. "I can now deal with crisis calmly, quickly, and share hope. *This is not a job, it's a calling.*"

Besides stepping into God's calling at Family Crisis Center, Melisa says the biggest highlight since graduation has been reconciliation with her family and setting healthy relationship boundaries with others. She often uses skills and information that she learned at The Mosaic and recommends the program to many women. Looking forward, she wants to pursue a career at FCC. Her dream would be for Lufkin to have a long-term transitional home for women and to become involved there. She wants to tell the teachers and supporters of The Mosaic, "First and foremost, I love you. Thank you for serving. Each and every woman in the community has opportunity because of you. You see the best in people, and bring it out in them." We praise God for the example you are to all of us, Melisa!

Since her graduation in 2008, **Donna, (Class 7)** has become a licensed vocational nurse, married and relocated to Florida. She works for a wonderful Christian organization, Volunteers of America, at Gulf Coast Village Senior Living Community. Her daughter graduated from high school this year; so, Donna plans to begin her transition to residential nursing. *"I absolutely love Christian Women's Job Corp, The Mosaic Center, the staff and supporters for all they have done for me and all they do for others. I am a life that has been changed. May God bless your lives richly"*



**Cathy and Donna Busler at Angelina College**

Filled with anxiety and uncertainty, **Cathy, (Class 17)** came to The Mosaic Center. While originally interested in certified nurse aide class and English training, she enrolled in the 12 week Core Program. Through the guidance and love she experienced, she developed confidence and courage. She is now a student at Angelina College and will graduate with an associate degree in Business Management this fall. "They made

a big difference in my life. I don't think I would have done anything if I hadn't gone to The Mosaic Center," she said. She now turns to prayer when frustrated. She tells The Mosaic teachers and volunteers, "Thank you! *I can show you that it's been worth it because I have done something with my life.*"



**Alice with Ross Manager, Tiffany Alsbrooks**

**Alice, (Class 17)** came to The Mosaic seeking a career change. After her doctor told her she could no longer upholster furniture, she was crushed. "I didn't know how to move on. The Mosaic Center picked me back up and motivated me to get moving," she retells. After graduation, Alice began working at Ross where she has been for 3 years. The class, Money Management, had a significant impact on

her life. By using what she learned and applying it, her credit score has improved dramatically! She now teaches those skills to her children. "I can't say enough good things about The Mosaic. They give without asking anything in return. I really like that they give a hand up, not a hand out. *It's a family there.*"