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## Shiloh Story – Aldermans' Perspective

Over the years, God led Lee and me (Carol) to do many things, which we now see as preparation to become the house managers for Shiloh. Lee was led to get a Ph.D. in education and a Masters degree in psychology. We were foster parents for several years, we were involved with a Christian camp for underprivileged kids for four years, Lee worked as a case worker for a year, he also did volunteer work at a group home for troubled youth, and Carol worked at a school for adjudicated youth. Through our experiences, we could see that people in life crises can't really get what they truly need through government services. They need God and His forgiveness, restoration, hope, and love.

In early 2005, we felt that God was tugging on our lives and leading us to do something for Him. We had our eyes open looking for God's plan. Around that same time, we heard that the Millers' house was about to become vacant. Lee and I discussed that it would be a great house to have to care for people in need. Then one morning, a friend came up to Lee (knowing nothing about where our thoughts were) and said that Dr. Miller's house ought to be used to help kids in need. That got our attention. Shortly after that, Lee mentioned to Dr. Miller that we thought his house would be a great place to run a ministry. Dr. Miller told Lee that it had always been his intention that someday his house would be used by a ministry. That got our attention even more.

During that next year, we continued to pray for God's will and direction. It was becoming clearer in our minds just what the ministry should be. God showed us that we should minister to hurting young moms and their kids.

Then in March 2006, I was attending a meeting at church. I was sitting next to Cindy Rhudy, whom I had never really talked to before. At that moment, a strange thing happened, I felt extremely compelled to tell her about the ministry idea. I started to tell her, but then I thought that it wasn't the right time, so I stopped. Cindy got really serious and told me to finish what I had started to say. I told her about our vision. She started to cry and she got very excited.

She went on to tell me that she had felt called by God to open a maternity home/women's crisis home. In fact, the board at Family Life Services (for which she is the director) had been discussing making this a part of their ministry. Cindy's problem was that she did not want to run the home. She had really struggled with this. She said that she had praying for God to reveal who would run the home whether it was her or someone else. Some of the women that she had prayed with were sitting at our table. She excitedly told them what had just happened. It created quite the scene. It isn't everyday that you see God show up in such a remarkable way.

Much more has happened and continues to happen. We are now living in the Shiloh home. Family Life Services has moved into the office part of the house and is open and functioning from within Shiloh. We are preparing the upstairs rooms and plan to begin the residential part of the ministry in February. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

*"being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."*

*Philippians 1:6*

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