

## June 2026 E-Newsletter

### Celebrating 10 Years of The Morris Foundation Family Services Center

**T**HE MORRIS FOUNDATION FAMILY SERVICES CENTER OPENED ITS DOORS ON JUNE 6, 2016, providing a colorful, welcoming place of transition for families experiencing homelessness. The facility was built to create a safe, family-centered environment for parents and children in crisis as they find their balance and make progress towards a better future.

“The previous location for our family program – and at the time it was just single moms and children – it was located at 2401 Cypress Street,” explains Toby Owen, CEO of Presbyterian Night

*“So many people have been involved,” says Owen, “there’s just too many to name. It really did make a tremendous difference for the Shelter....”*

Shelter. “That was right in the middle of everything happening

for single adults in the homeless community. So, it was a very difficult environment for kids, for sure, to be around. On top of that, the facility at the time was just not meeting the needs of our families. We wanted to build a facility that would be a really good transitional home.”

Thanks to the generosity of so many donors at varying levels, a brand-new building was constructed several blocks away, providing space for 40 families, along with case management and other supportive services. The facility boasts a large playground area for kids, protected by a metal privacy fence for safety and security. There are common family rooms for activities and TV viewing, a colorful dining room, lots of books and reading corners. Plus, there are tons of activities for the children, provided by both staff and a host of volunteers.



***A ribbon cutting celebrated the new Women and Children’s center, later named The Morris Foundation Family Services Center, on June 6, 2016.***

Scan the QR Code to see the video  
“Celebrating a Decade of The Morris Foundation Family Services Center”:



*Continues on page 2*

## Celebrating 10 Years....

*continued from p.1*

Originally called the Women and Children's Center, the facility was renamed The Morris Foundation Family Services Center in 2019 when the program expanded to serve single fathers with children and two-parent families. In many communities, fathers must seek shelter apart from their families, often staying unhoused or entering a nearby men's shelter. Our commitment to serving families of all kinds makes this program stand out among local resources.

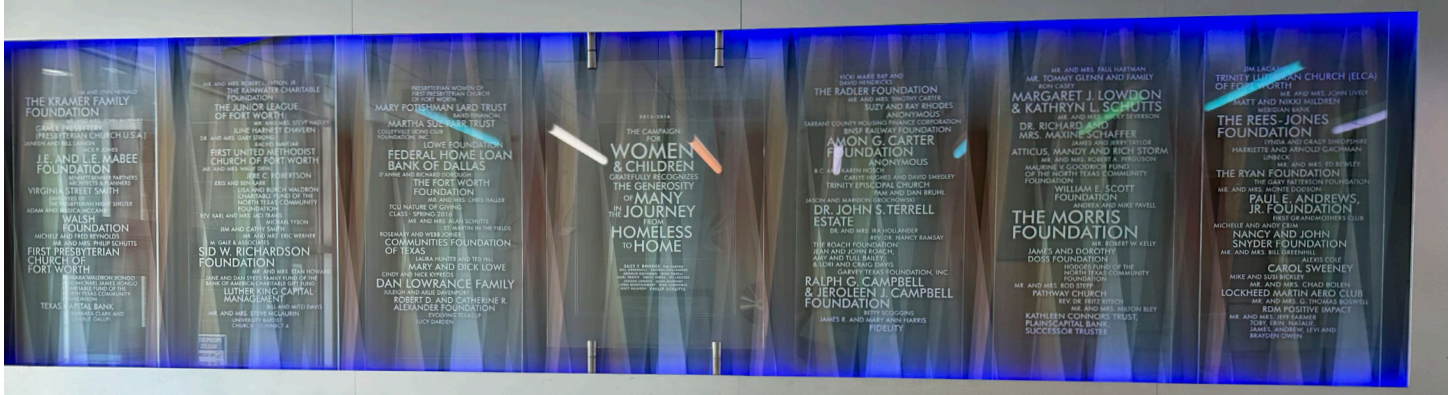
"I felt it was life-changing," says Sierra, who, along with her husband Christopher and newborn son, Ocean, have been Shelter guests as they regain their footing following some legal issues that put them in a bind. Being able to remain a family unit - especially with a newborn - was an important factor for them. "I wanted to be family orientated [sic]," she says, "us sticking together and just being one, you know."

Over the past ten years, our Family Services Center has helped change the trajectory of thousands of lives through family support and child advocacy. We are happy to celebrate this occasion and the families who have regained their stability through the program. It would not have happened without the incredible financial support from foundations and individual donors.

"So many people have been involved," says Owen, "there's just too many to name. It really did make a tremendous difference for the Shelter and allow us to do so many things after this project. But this was number one. It really put us on the path to transforming the organization, and I will be forever grateful of what we were able to do."



**The Morris Foundation Family Services Center accommodates 40 families who are on the path to exiting homelessness.**



**A Donor Wall greets visitors when they enter The Morris Foundation Family Services Center, highlighting a deep involvement and support from the community.**



**Children have a safe and spacious playground for lots of fun activities.**



**Colorful birds graced the windows and entrance to the center on its opening day.**

# "Where the Lovelight Gleams"

## Planning Underway for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Home for the Holidays Gala!

As summer begins to heat up, we are already planning for the **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Home for the Holidays Gala**, presented by Texas Capital, held again at the Fort Worth Club on **Friday, December 4, 2026**. This year's Co-Chairs, Molly Snyder and Jenna Flores, along with the Gala Committee invite you to join us "Where the Lovelight Gleams."

With a dress code of "glitter and glam," the evening will include a cocktail reception, full gourmet dinner with wine service, both silent and live auctions, as well as fun raffles and games. And, of course, we will have a meaningful moment to focus on the mission and impact of Presbyterian Night Shelter. Stay for the After Party in the Top of the Town and dance the night away to the music of The Pictures Band.

A limited number of sponsorship opportunities are still available. If you are interested in hosting a table, please contact Bertha Orona, Senior Director of Donor Engagement at [borona@journeyhome.org](mailto:borona@journeyhome.org) or by calling 817.632.7477.



32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Home for the Holidays Gala  
Co-Chairs (L-R)  
Jenna Flores and Molly Snyder

## Bottled Water Donations



With temperatures on the rise and a long hot summer ahead, our guests and neighbors rely on Presbyterian Night Shelter and True Worth Place to help them keep cool and hydrated. Your donations of bottled water are put to excellent use as we make them available at all of our shelters.

We also rely on other in-kind donations of sheets, blankets, hygiene items, men's and women's underwear, and more. You can order online by visiting our Amazon Wishlist. Or, if you prefer to order water from somewhere else, like Sam's Club, it can be delivered to 2400 Cypress Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. Thank you for caring for our neighbors!

Order from our Amazon Wish-  
list by scanning the QR Code:



# UpSpire Turns Ten!

It started as a crazy idea: just a skeleton crew of two workers picking up litter along Lancaster Avenue. But that idea soon grew into something bigger — an opportunity that lowered the barriers to employment for individuals who are exiting homelessness. Soon, more staff were added, the scope of services expanded to include not just litter abatement, but janitorial, landscaping, and more. Named Clean Slate, it was the social enterprise of Presbyterian Night Shelter, with headquarters set up in True Worth Place.



Today, UpSpire is stronger than ever, housed in its own building, a fleet of 36 trucks and 4 staffing vans, and providing over 250 employees with full-time jobs, healthcare, and other benefits. The enterprise has expanded to include a warehouse, as well as a staffing arm to provide employees for such businesses as Texas Health, Waste Management, and the Humane Society. UpSpire employees are seen on the streets of Fort Worth every morning as teams cover the city to pick up litter.

“When I reflect on UpSpire reaching this incredible milestone of ten years, I am overwhelmed with both gratitude and pride,” says Daryl R. Davis, II, Vice President of Workforce and Career Development. “Yet, as proud as I am of what we’ve accomplished, I believe our greatest work still lies ahead. With the continued growth of our workforce solutions enterprises, the expansion of WOODWORKS by UpSpire, and the opening of the Greater

Good Collective this summer, we’re only just beginning. If the last ten years have been extraordinary, I can’t wait to see what the next ten years will bring.”

Congratulations, UpSpire, on ten strong years of changing lives!

To learn more about UpSpire, visit [UpSpire.org](http://UpSpire.org).



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