



September 30, 2018

Dear Friend of Freedom House: It is hard to believe that an entire year has gone by since we opened the doors of the Sweet Magnolia safe and sober house to women seeking freedom from the bondage of addiction.

What an amazing year it has been! During the past 12 months 20 women have been guests at Sweet Magnolia. Some guests for as long as six months, and some for three or four months before voluntarily moving out on their own. In nearly all cases our guests came to us directly from the Bonner, Boundary or Kootenai County jails or on release from detention facilities in Boise. Some came to us with little more than the clothes on their backs, and three of our women came to us in early pregnancy and made the life-decision for their unborn child.

Most of our women have succeeded in maintaining their sobriety and are doing well. Unfortunately, several of our women were either unwilling or unable to comply with our most fundamental program requirements and have been returned to custody. However, through our Bible studies and Life's Healing Choices program, **All** of our guests have heard the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and have had the opportunity to accept the freedom that only faith in Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit can provide. Five of our women have been baptized.

Your financial contribution to Freedom House along with many others has allowed our board to avoid spending excessive time and resources on fundraising activities and focus on the tasks of building a strong team of volunteers providing for the material as well as the spiritual needs of our women. Our team provides case management support; assisting with employment, connecting with the medical system, as well as other support systems in the community. Finally, the contributions we receive allow us to offer a first-month scholarship to women who come to us with no financial resources of their own.

We, on the Freedom House team have been privileged to directly serve these women and to see our God do what only He can do in the lives of broken and sometimes desperate people. However, none of what has taken place at Sweet Magnolia would have been possible without the prayers of so many in the faith community and your generous support.

On behalf of the Freedom House team I thank you for your past and continued support and thank God you chose to make a difference in the lives of the women of Sweet Magnolia! I would welcome the opportunity to meet personally with you and share more about Freedom House and our future plans.

Your brother in Christ,

Fred Petteruto, President, Freedom House Inc.