

DEC. 2022

THE RED CORD

ISAIAH 61:1



'TIS THE SEASON FOR...

FILL IN THE BLANK: 'TIS THE SEASON FOR _____. YOU PROBABLY THINK OF GIFTS, PARTIES, FEASTS AND FAMILIES.

UNFORTUNATELY, THAT BLANK COULD BE COMPLETED WITH, 'TIS THE SEASON FOR A RISE IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACTIVITY.

WHY IS THAT? A FEW OBVIOUS REASONS:

- **WHEREVER THERE ARE CROWDS, LIKE AT PARADES, PARTIES AND AIRPORTS, THERE ARE INCREASED DANGERS AND MORE PREDATORS LURKING.**
- **WITH THE JOY OF THE SEASON, ALSO COMES STRESS. THIS STRESS MAY BE TAKEN OUT ON VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN VARIOUS FORMS OF ABUSE. WHEN FAMILIES UNRAVEL, OFTEN TRAFFICKERS ARE AWARE AND NEARBY.**
- **DURING THE HOLIDAYS, FACILITIES THAT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE IN NEED, LIKE FOOD AND CLOTHING LOCATIONS AND EMERGENCY SHELTERS ARE OFTEN SHORT ON STAFF, HAVE DECREASED HOURS OR LOW ON RESOURCES.**

GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING

FORTUNATELY, 'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING! SUPPORTERS DIRECTLY HELPED TRAFFICKING VICTIMS IN SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA. IN 2022, THE RED CORD PROVIDED RESOURCES TO SEVERAL VICTIMS FRESH OUT OF THE TRAFFICKING WORLD. THE CONNECTIONS WERE PROVIDED THROUGH LAW ENFORCEMENT. HERE ARE A FEW MORE WAYS YOUR GIFTS KEEP ON GIVING THIS SEASON AND YEAR-ROUND. YOU HELP:

- **PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL FOR EDUCATORS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND SCHOOLS. EVERY YEAR, THE RED CORD PRINTS AN ABUNDANCE OF ITEMS INCLUDING TRAINING MATERIAL, EVENT SIGNAGE AND PROMOTIONAL PIECES. THE RED CORD ALSO PURCHASES MERCHANDISE USED FOR GIVE AWAYS AND FOR SALE INCLUDING CLOTHING, STICKERS, BRACELETS, ETC.**

(CONT.)

Support Oklahoma human trafficking shelters. Ashley Chapman, The Red Cord Vice President said, “The Red Cord is one of very few NGO’s that support other vetted, credible service providers in our state. Since we understand the inestimable value trauma-informed care is for survivors, we reach out and assist the handful of shelters that meet those criteria.”



• **Assist survivors in need.** Whenever a survivor reaches out with a practical need, The Red Cord wants to always assist in the form of buying food for the holidays, keeping their utilities on, or to provide diapers and formula for a month. This is not only a Biblical responsibility The Red Cord accepts, but a reasonable one as well. Psalm 82:3 says, “Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.” Ashley explained, “We NEVER want a survivor to feel that they have no one to turn to for help. Traffickers prey on this specific vulnerability, and we will not stand by as they do.”

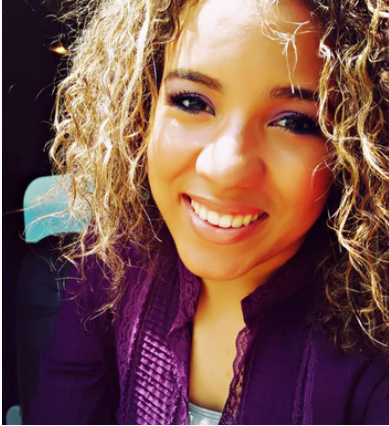


• **Provide travel for training.** The Red Cord trainers travel all over the state of Oklahoma to offer free trainings to anyone who asks. All trainers are volunteers and are unpaid board members. They use their personal vehicles to travel. Ashley said, “Whenever possible, we want to do our best to help our gracious volunteers with meals and gas expenses when they travel long distances for Red Cord events.”

• **Plan Community Events.** Ashley said, “One of our greatest joys is to get out and interact with our community. Throughout the year, we hold multiple community-oriented events specifically designed to educate large portions of SW Oklahoma. **By bringing our fellow Oklahomans together in unity for this cause, we are not only showing traffickers their days are numbered, but we are also telling victims they are not forgotten. There is hope!**”

December Blog

Ashley Chapman, Vice President, The Red Cord The Red Cord Christmas Wish List



Your giving this year had huge results! Your support provided for:

- **The Human Trafficking Awareness poster campaign.** It has now spread all the way into OKC.
- **Bringing in the Human Trafficking Training Center** for a three-day, state-wide law enforcement seminar. This his training has resulted in five known rescues! That's an immeasurable gift. Thank you.

These gifts are at the top of our list this year:

1. **Monthly Donors.** These regular donations help us tremendously when it comes to The Red Cord's growth and outreach initiatives. Not only do they support the work we do on the day-to-day, but they also help us plan for the future.

2. **A gift of \$2,500.00.** If we had this funding available, we could place a human trafficking manual in every school office in LPS and surrounding districts in 2023.

Donation Info:

<https://secure.processdonation.org/theredcord/Donation.aspx?donationrefid=F98CJ6689698E>

3. **Provide gifts for survivors.** What we have heard from survivors is they are grateful for anything that has no strings attached. It's the action that carries the biggest message. Handwritten notes are also something a lot survivors said meant the world to them.

4. **See you engaged in helping others.** It is a gift to us when we see you in action. Here are some ways you can provide immediate help:

Volunteer your time and resources at these locations:

- Lovesick Ministries – Lawton, OK
- M28 Ministries – Lawton, OK
- Pregnancy Resource Center of Lawton
- Charis Pregnancy Crisis Center – Duncan, OK

(cont.) Your monetary gifting or presents are needed here:

- The Demand Project – Tulsa, OK
- RISE, Youth Human Trafficking Shelter
- Parker Point Youth Shelter – Lawton, OK

**WE GIVE TO OTHERS BECAUSE
WE HAVE RECEIVED THE
GREATEST GIFT OF ALL--
JESUS CHRIST**

5. Join us in prayer regularly. Read the information on our website and use the prayer calendar with your family and church groups each month.
<https://theredcord.org/prayer/>

Of course, we give to others because we have already received the greatest gift of all – Jesus Christ. When he came into the world, he had a specific mission. May it be ours as well this season and into the coming year:

“The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.” Isaiah 61:1-3

Merry Christmas

My Christmas Wish List

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

**Defend the poor and
fatherless: do justice to
the afflicted and needy.**

—Psalm 82:3

DECEMBER EVENTS

**Sunday, Dec. 4, 5 pm – Booth at First Baptist Church, Duncan, OK Global
Impact Celebration.**

**Tuesday, Dec. 6 -- Community training, Lawton, 6:30 pm, Fort Sill Federal
Credit Union,
1614 NW 67th St., Lawton**

**Check the website for information about the Christmas drive for
shelters/human trafficking outreaches**