

WINTER 2024

DIRECTIONS MINISTRY

Quarterly Newsletter

Directions for the spirit, soul and body of abused women.



How to Empower Abuse Victims

Addressing and supporting women who are victims of abuse is a crucial step toward building a society that values the well-being and safety of all its members. Domestic violence, emotional abuse, and other forms of mistreatment can have profound and lasting effects.

As a ministry and a mission, Directions Ministry aims to stand in the gap, providing the necessary support and healing in tangible ways by connecting victims with the appropriate agencies and services and sponsoring events that shower the community with love and compassion.

Following are additional practical ways to empower women who have experienced abuse:

Listen Without Judgment: Create a safe space for survivors to share their experiences. Actively listen without judgment, providing empathy and understanding.

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DirectionsMinistry.org

Need help?

Call 877-999-9935

 **DirectionsMinistryChicago**



Come Explore with Us

Join us on a fun-filled trip to Bloomington, Minnesota, next year. Directions Ministry is headed to the Mall of America on June 19 - 22, 2024.

Mall of America has over 520 tax-free shops and 50 restaurants with various activities from Nickelodeon Universe, SEA LIFE at Mall of America, FlyOver America, Crayola Experience, the Escape Game, and more. Beyond the Mall of America are activities and attractions in the surrounding "Twin Cities," plus Prince's Paisley Park estate is just 20 minutes away.

Cost: \$495/person and includes roundtrip-coach from Chicago, hotel breakfast, and site tours. Contact 877-999-9935 or email directionsministry@gmail.com.

How to Empower Abuse Victims cont.

Believe and Validate: By expressing belief and validating their experiences, you help restore a sense of agency and control that may have been eroded.

Safety Planning: Work together on a safety plan. Identify safe spaces, emergency contacts, and strategies for reducing risk.

Respect Autonomy: Understand that leaving an abusive situation may not always be immediately feasible, and survivors may need time to make choices that prioritize their safety and well-being.

Educate Yourself: Take the time to educate yourself about the dynamics of abuse, the resources available, and the impact it can have on survivors.



A Message from the President

Directions Ministry is dedicated to bringing hope, love, peace, and joy to survivors of domestic violence. In September, we partnered with churches and agencies for a Grab & Go event giving away free items, an eight-day tent revival that included evangelism, free materials, clothing, food, games, and the sharing of resources to assist those in need. Cars and buses were available to help transport people and provide face painting, live animals, and clothes for the children. This event was a testament to their care for others, regardless of age and skin color.

Also, Directions Ministry was invited to a Domestic Violence Panel Discussion on Saturday, October 7th, held at the West Pullman Library. This event included several agencies, advocacy and representatives who provided resources to assist not only women but men as well. Additionally, the board members organized an end-of-year fellowship to which participants that Directions Ministry had worked with over the years, including Advisory and Volunteers, were invited. The fellowship took place at Francello, an Italian restaurant, and the atmosphere was joyous with delicious food and beautiful weather. As we look forward to a prosperous New Year in 2024, Directions Ministry continues to strive to reach out to broken hearts with love and support.

Grab & Go! Event

On Saturday, August 5, Directions Ministry and Labourers For Christ (LFC) Ministries held a Grab & Go! event at the LFC worship center in Chicago.

Donations of shoes, clothing, household items, furniture, and more were available free to the community.

If you are interested in volunteering or partnering with us to sponsor community events, Email: DirectionsMinistry@gmail.com, Facebook: [DirectionsMinistryChicago](https://www.facebook.com/DirectionsMinistryChicago), Phone: 877-999-9935.



Events & Fellowships

Weekly prayer conference call on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Call 267-808-9495, access code: 103628406

Christmas Celebration

Directions Ministry held its end-of-the-year Christmas Fellowship on Saturday, December 9th. The fellowship included Bible Trivia, delicious food created by Dr. Catherine Jackson, a charcuterie board, various fruits, vegetables, and more. We had a blast of a time, with many guests looking forward to amazing events for 2024.

Notes from Volunteers and Supporters:

"I really appreciate all the topics and discussions presented week after week from a multitude of speakers. Every message is informative and relevant. I thank my sister, Mrs. Linda Harris, president of this awesome ministry. Your passion gives listeners a profound comfort level to ask questions or comment without judgment. Thanks, Directions Ministries!"

Bernard Reed

"I thank God for Directions Ministry and the Prayer Conference Calls. There have been many speakers and Bible classes sharing much-needed information."

Estella Baker

"Directions Ministry means a gift of salvation to me. Directions Ministry has given me that mirror seeking and knowing God for myself."

Lorraine Hartley

"As a serving volunteer, I feel a joy in serving others whom God called servant."

Vernita Higgins, volunteer

"Directions Ministry is a blessing to me. It's a very resourceful ministry, and I'm learning a great deal of information which is helping me in my day-to-day life. The array of different topics every week (on our Prayer Conference Calls) helps me to gain knowledge and challenges me to move forward to do something different. The speakers present information I can easily understand with scripture to back it up. Also, that aligns with God's word. The ministry leadership and participants are compassionate and welcome me with open arms! I'm grateful for this ministry! It's a blessing to see this ministry reaching people from every walk of life."

Earlene Beard, volunteer



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