



created
GAINESVILLE



2022

THE YEAR OF NEW BEGINNINGS

Dearest Support Family,

This year has truly been a year FULL of firsts! Our hearts are so full by the support of our community that has led to 2022 being our biggest year of growth since we launched in 2012. We have held the vision of what's taken place this year in our hearts prayerfully and expectantly, knowing that we serve a gracious and compassionate God and that our community is extraordinary. Here are just a few firsts I'd love to celebrate with you:

- Being asked to provide training for Alachua County School Board Guidance Counselors.
- Providing county wide youth prevention for Alachua County public high schools.
- Opening our first safe home (with more to come!)
- Welcoming our very first residents and filling every single bed.
- Onboarding and training our Residential Team to support our 24/7 new Residential Program
- Getting our first program vehicle for transporting survivors.
- Starting our first expansion project at Residential— adding more program spaces and 2 more safe beds.
- Developing a collaborative working relationship with two community crisis response teams made up of law enforcement, fire rescue, EMT, and mental health professionals.



We get told often by survivors that our programs are different and special, and that this opportunity is a once in a lifetime experience that they hope will continue to grow and be available to more women with similar life experiences and traumas associated with sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. The truest expression of this gratitude and belief in the value of Created Gainesville's programs comes when survivors refer other survivors saying, "If they can help me, then I think they could help you as well. Give them a chance. Give yourself this chance." In my role at Created Gainesville, I get the immense joy of watching small, intentional, repeated moments occur between our staff and survivors that are literally transforming and healing lives every single day. I would love to share 2 brief examples that have marked me this year and that I think give a glimpse into the empowerment and hope that are built within the context of trauma-informed community and safe spaces.

1. Our Created Care Coordinator, Dr. Lakisha Scott, not only oversees the care of survivors in our Created Care program, but she also oversees our jail program and responds to referral calls that come into our office seeking help. Every call is complex and has multiple layers. For one 18 year old survivor, Lakisha attempted multiple times to find her where first responders thought she would be. Once located, Lakisha made sure that this young woman had supplies, appointments with various medical professionals, and knew her options for long-term care. For weeks, Lakisha accompanied this survivor to appointments, checked in on her, and made sure that she knew she had people caring about her. Her attention to detail in this young woman's life is a reflection of our entire team's commitment to getting into the hard places with survivors and letting them know they are not alone.

2. One of our new Residents needed extensive dental work upon entering our program (which is extremely common). Our Residential Coordinator, Brooke Sammons, took the time to prepare her for dental surgery, including getting in the kitchen side-by-side with and teaching her how to make homemade mashed potatoes for the first time so she had something good to eat while healing. This may seem small, but these are the shared moments of learning, growing, and being cared for that empowers survivors to keep moving forward and to not give up. This same survivor recently had a close relative pass away and Brooke drove her out of state to grieve and process with her family. Brooke being there in this capacity is a reflection of what it looks like at Created Gainesville to meet every survivor where she's at and continuously show-up to support and find feasible and sustainable solutions.

Thank you, community, for these moments and many more like these, where you have equipped us organizationally to serve our community and survivors from near and far with excellence, research-based practice, extraordinary love, and consistency.

Warmly,

Alison Ungaro

Alison Ungaro
Created Gainesville's Founder/Executive Director



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WELCOMING HER HOME



In February of this year, we opened the doors to our very first safe home. After many years of prayer, tons of support, and generous giving from our community, we were able to welcome the first of our long-awaited residents. Since then, we have welcomed five more women with open arms and open hearts.

"I was so blessed to watch the residential program bloom in so many ways this year," describes Programs Director, Laura Snook. "I have the privilege of working closely with women in our programs and individuals who are referred to us. Our staff does not take lightly the amount of trust and courage it takes for women to reach out to us, and even more to take steps toward healing. These women have been able to accomplish so much not only because of their own determination, but also because of your support!

Laura continues: "I want to share a story from this year that I hope will allow you to celebrate with us what God is doing here. A resident in our safe home, Macy*, has been in programs since she was 16. She just celebrated her 26th birthday with us and has overcome every obstacle thrown her way. We are celebrating each of these victories with her:

- This is the longest she has stayed in a program and the longest she has ever been sober.
- She has grown comfortable being herself and has developed her own sense of humor (that we love!)
- She was accepted to volunteer in a hospital despite her criminal history. When informing her employer about her criminal history, she was met with love and acceptance and was seen just for who she is and not for her past.
- She was hired for a job she adores with an incredible employer, which is allowing her to save and prepare for her future.
- She was just accepted into a nursing program, which is what she is really passionate about.

** Name changed for privacy.*



- She has invested in her relationships with her family.
- She has developed new, healthy friendships.
- And so much more!

"The many ways in which our community supports Created allow us to support survivors in their different circumstances," continues Laura, "including connecting them with specialized legal advocacy and speaking in court, filling the gaps for bills like rent and utilities, supporting Macy in realizing her dream of becoming a nurse and covering any educational expenses to go along with it. Community support, whether it is by volunteering, praying, or giving financially, has allowed us to support nearly 200 women this year in ways like this."

Staff at the residential home also help in providing emotional support and organic mentorship by simply being present with survivors through the hard times, celebrating milestones like birthdays and sobriety dates, providing transportation to appointments and work, and more.





"We laugh together, we cry together, and we keep showing up whether we're jumping for joy or grieving with women," says Laura.

"To our community of supporters: we could not do this without you, and we are so grateful for your continued "yes" to Created! We are looking forward to everything God has in store for 2023 and can't wait to share all of His amazing work with you."



Pictured above: residents enjoy learning how to cook a nutritious meal alongside Board Member Dr. Michele Emery.

Pictured left, below: residents enjoy various outings in the community.

Donated tickets to events are just one of the ways that residents are able to experience therapeutic or enjoyable outings to heal and create new memories.



“

**I've grown so much but I know
God still has so much more.**

”

-Survivor attending Oasis



What is Oasis?

Oasis is a special gathering offered by Created Gainesville every week to survivors from Outreach, Created Care, and Residential Care. Women gather to share a delicious dinner, worship, Bible Study, and community with each other. Whether a woman has been on the healing journey for one day or seven years, all survivors are invited to join.

This weekly event is a favorite for survivors as they enjoy refreshing fellowship and community. Survivors have the opportunity to share life experiences with each other in a judgement-free zone. In the safety of this atmosphere, survivors can celebrate each victory and support each other through all of life's challenges. Together, they grow to become leaders within our community and beyond.

2022: A YEAR IN REVIEW

We connected with 126 women this year through our outreach efforts! Our arms of outreach allow us to reach women in all corners of the community — on the streets, in the jail, and at the strip club — which enables us to build relationships and show Christ's love.



36 women through street outreach



67 women in club outreach



31 women in jail class



14 survivors participated in our programs



230 bags given at strip club



48 group bible studies (Oasis)



37 awareness presentations



11 women advocated for by staff in court



65 referrals and counting (including 6 minors and 3 males)

An overwhelming percentage of all reported human trafficking cases involve victims under 18 years old. Through our partnerships with educators and caregivers in 2022, we were able to provide

OVER 6,000 YOUTH

with the tools and knowledge to keep themselves safe.

Youth presentations are given to 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students so that they can access life-saving information about how to stay safe and help others when it comes to sex trafficking and sexual exploitation.

WHAT'S NEW AT CREATED CARE?



A Created community participant, Amy*, experienced tragedy earlier this year when her trafficker husband took their 17-month-old son out of state and prevented her from seeing him. To reunite with her baby, she had to fight the unjust charges against her, file for divorce, work through mediation, take over all the bills that were suddenly hers alone to pay, maintain her mental health, apply for jobs that would supply a consistent income, and lean into support systems like never before. Sound daunting? This is the story of just one survivor in Created's care.

Survivors of sex trafficking are often faced with seemingly impossible circumstances surrounding their exit from the control of their traffickers. Faced with the uncertainty of how to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, income, or safety, many survivors we encounter describe the possibility of escaping their situations as impossible, had it not been for the help of Created.



** Name changed for privacy.*

With the help of Created, Amy was able to bring her son home in October after seven agonizing months away from him. Although the transition to single parenting is challenging, she is thriving and has used this experience to grow when she could have allowed it to destroy her.

Created's non-residential arm of care, Created Care, is a long-term, restorative care solution geared towards women who are seeking to reclaim their lives. Created seeks to empower by walking alongside women like Amy in their journey toward healing and restoration. Through holistic and individualized plans, women in Created Care are able to focus on the physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual healing needed to live an empowered and healthy life. Had it not been for the help of Created Care, Amy's story would have looked a lot different.



“
God had to break me down and soften me before he could do the work. In retrospect, I see His hand in the situation even though I didn't at the time.
”

-Survivor



“Created showed me love with no expectations, and now I want to do that for other women.”

-Survivor and Created Peer Leader

Amy isn't the only one who has benefitted from Created's services. Another participant, Mel*, experienced many breakthroughs this year as well. "You could certainly say that she has stepped into the dignity and beauty she was created with," Laura Snook, Programs Director, remarks. Mel started the year in management at a grocery store. She was an excellent manager and was able to develop her leadership skills and gain experience there. Unfortunately, the workplace quickly became an unhealthy environment for her. Created Care empowered Mel to practice setting boundaries — she made the difficult choice to leave in order to protect her wellness.

At the same time, she secured independent housing in a tiny home perfect for her and her puppy. This allowed her to leave an unhealthy roommate situation and not have to move back in with her ex. Unfortunately, there was a short period when she had this beautiful new home but had no income between jobs.

Mel could have easily fallen back into old, dangerous patterns of making money, but with the support of Created, she was able to recognize what was best for her recovery and chose to wait on the Lord's provision of a new job. God provided for her in amazing ways so that she was able to pay rent on time, and He even provided a new management job at a company she loves! Mel is truly free from her old life and now loves encouraging other women and ministering to others.

We rejoice in the stories of Amy and Mel, but what you don't see are the countless others who benefit from the help that Created programs provide. This year alone,

- 14 women have been in Created Care.
- 6 women have participated in our Residential Program.
- 18 women attended Oasis.
- 75% of the women in our programs pursued education and/or found sustainable work options in safe environments.

- 100% of the women participated in trauma therapy.
- 83% of the women consistently participated in community groups

We are so proud of the determination, hard work, and bravery each survivor takes on her path to healing. We recognize that without the help of our community and supporters, these life-saving and life-changing transformations simply could not take place.

As we head into 2023, we look forward to another year of growth, both in the lives of survivors we serve and also in our ability to reach and serve them well. From all of us at Created, we say "thank you" for your generosity. Together, we can make an impact in lives like Amy and Mel, and together we can reach and restore many, many more.



“ I wish I had known about this before. I needed this support and community. ”







MEET THE TEAM

BEHIND THE MISSION



ALISON UNGARO
Founder & Executive Director

Alison oversees and fosters the overall vision, mission, and culture at Created Gainesville. She seeks to build relationships with our community that support and benefit survivors served through Created Gainesville. She also works closely with our outreach and programs teams, providing training and support.

LAURA SNOOK
Programs Director

Laura oversees all programs, providing on-going support to our coordinators and advocates. She works closely with survivors at every stage of participation in our programs and oversees the development of therapeutic and empowering opportunities for all survivors referred to Created Gainesville.

JENNIFER RADDER
Administration & Operations Director

Jennifer oversees communication, systems, budgets, volunteer and staff recruitment and onboarding, and HR at Created Gainesville. She ensures that all survivors, volunteers, staff, and partners are handled with the utmost care and excellence at every point of connection with our organization.

LONNIE HOOKS III
Financial Coordinator

Lonnie oversees all financial management and record keeping as well as grant management. He aims to find new and creative ways to financially support the overall vision of Created Gainesville as he sees the tremendous potential within our community to expand our current reach and impact.



BRENDA CHAMBERLAIN
Grant & Community Engagement Specialist

Brenda works tirelessly to build valuable partnerships and collaborative relationships within our community and state. She seeks to find opportunities for Created Gainesville to support and be supported by local churches, businesses, families, and community leadership.

BROOKE SAMMONS
Residential Coordinator

Brooke provides oversight and development of survivor treatment and care plans while in Residential Care. She oversees case management, daily schedules, and opportunities that support each survivor's unique goals and needs. She also provides Residential Advocates with on-going support and training in order to provide the very best in comprehensive trauma-informed care.

DR. LAKISHA SCOTT
Created Care Coordinator

Lakisha oversees our Created Care Program, Jail Program, and weekly Oasis groups. She provides the utmost care in working with survivors and volunteers who participate in our programs. Lakisha offers a depth of knowledge, expertise, and insight into our programs as a whole, making quality of care her number one priority.

LISA ROBERTS
Marketing Coordinator

Lisa keeps our social media, website, and printed materials current, accurate, and engaging so whether a survivor of sex trafficking or an interested volunteer is looking for needed information to assist them, it can be found. Lisa has a way of telling the story of Created Gainesville that brings hope, dignity, and care into everything she creates.

Dear Created community,

As the newest Director of Created Gainesville, I have to say that God sure knew what he was doing when he brought me to Created.

A decade ago, as Alison was stepping out in faith to birth this organization, God was placing a desire in me to serve in an organization like Created Gainesville. At the time I was doing my own trauma healing and God knew I wasn't ready. As I look back today, I can see the "footprints in the sand" so to speak. I can see all of the ways that God has been preparing me for this opportunity. I can see all the times He steered me along the path, and I can see the times where He carried me through the valley. All the while never leaving me and always having my back. I am amazed at all of the details that God orchestrates because of His immense love for His children. I am forever grateful that He has made me for such a time as this.

I have been in this role since the end of July and have been blown away by the evidence of God's love on a daily basis. Love has shown up in the darkest of places and has changed the atmosphere. Love has shown up in the most desperate of situations and made a way where there was no way. Love has shown up in moments of determination to survive and injected hope back into survivors' lives. There is resilience here. There is strength here. There is so much hope here.

As the Administrative and Operations Director, I have the opportunity to see the big picture of everything that happens at Created. I have the privilege and honor of seeing the women we serve, the partners we work with, the community that supports us, churches who acknowledge and affirm us, the individuals and business partners who make donations of all kinds, the folks who sponsor Created in creative ways, and the volunteers who walk right beside us on the streets and in the strip clubs. I also have some really awesome "get to" moments when I am asked to step into a program role and get to know the survivors and how I can show them the Love of Christ. One example of this is when a call came in from a past participant who found herself starting over once again. She called because we had helped her in the past and on that day, she had only the clothes on her back and asked if she could come to the boutique to get a few things. After trying several ways to get here she called back to let me know she would not be able to make it without transportation assistance. So, I got her location and picked her up and brought her back to do some "shopping". It was a really humbling and beautiful experience to watch as she sorted through clothes and put together a much-needed set of clothing, accessories, and toiletries together just to make it through another day. We talked about her plans and what kind of loss she had experienced. Loss was not new to her and even though she was left without anything, she still had hope. As she shopped, she was beaming with joy and exclaimed how she felt like it was Christmas to her, and she called me an angel; a title I surely did not deserve. When we get these calls, we stop what we are working on and we give her our ultimate focus and attention. We do the very best we can to make sure she is seen, and known, prayed for, and loved beyond measure; without judgement, without hesitation, without expecting anything in return.

We have experienced explosive growth this year and we look forward to that momentum carrying us to the next level in 2023. We have plans to expand our youth prevention platform to reach more students in 2023 than ever before. We are looking forward to adding to our Created Care team so we can say "Yes" to many more survivors. We are opening up another bedroom to welcome 2 more women home. We are looking to partner with more local service providers. And, we are looking to increase our monthly donor partners and our giving campaigns to help us accomplish all of this!



Jennifer Radder

FINANCIAL PROVISION TO FUEL THE MISSION

In 2022, we have been able to expand our survivor programs in ways we once could only dream of! Support came in many different forms:

- New grant opportunities.
- Donations from businesses, churches, and individuals.
- Life Reclaimed generosity.
- Local and statewide support.

Created Gainesville is helping to bridge tragic gaps in care for survivors of sex trafficking in the state of Florida by providing both non-residential and residential care options.

However, our work is not done yet! Our 3 and 10-year vision plans include multiplying the number of safe beds at Created Gainesville so that when survivors are found or reach out for help, dangerously long wait times don't keep survivors from the hope, healing, and freedom that awaits.

In order to meet our goal for 2022 that supports next year's needed growth, we need to raise \$65,000 by the close of the year! Will you consider an end-of-year tax-deductible gift that would provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to so many?



Churches
\$52,229



Grants
\$318,542



Individual Donors
\$201,394



Events
\$129,386

Additional ways people have partnered with us this year.



- Lending expertise
- Donating supplies
- Donating skilled labor to construction projects
- Pro-bono medical services and legal counsel
- Sliding-scale rates for trauma counseling
- Donated space to operate our day-to-day operations
- Sharing our mission and needs with inner circles

FROM CREATED WITH LOVE

2022 has been a year of great growth — organizationally, individually, and spiritually — for us all. As we look back on all the trials and tribulations, victories, and joys of serving a vulnerable population together with our wonderful community, we can not forget to thank the ones who helped us make it this far.

To our incredible Board of Directors, **thank you** for your hard work, dedication, and unfailing support. We are thankful for your commitment to fulfilling our mission. To our donors, volunteers, and prayer warriors, your support means more than you know. **Thank you** for giving your time, talent, and treasures to Created.

Your support, whether it is by volunteering, praying, or giving financially, has allowed us to support nearly 200 survivors through our programs and outreach efforts as well as equip over 6,000 high school students with the tools they need to remain safe, speak out, and join the movement with Created Gainesville. We could not do this without you, and we are so grateful for your continued “Yes!” to Created. We are looking forward to everything God has in store for 2023 and can’t wait to share all of His amazing work with you.

The Created Team

**If you are interested
in giving financially
before the year is
over, you can do so
by:**



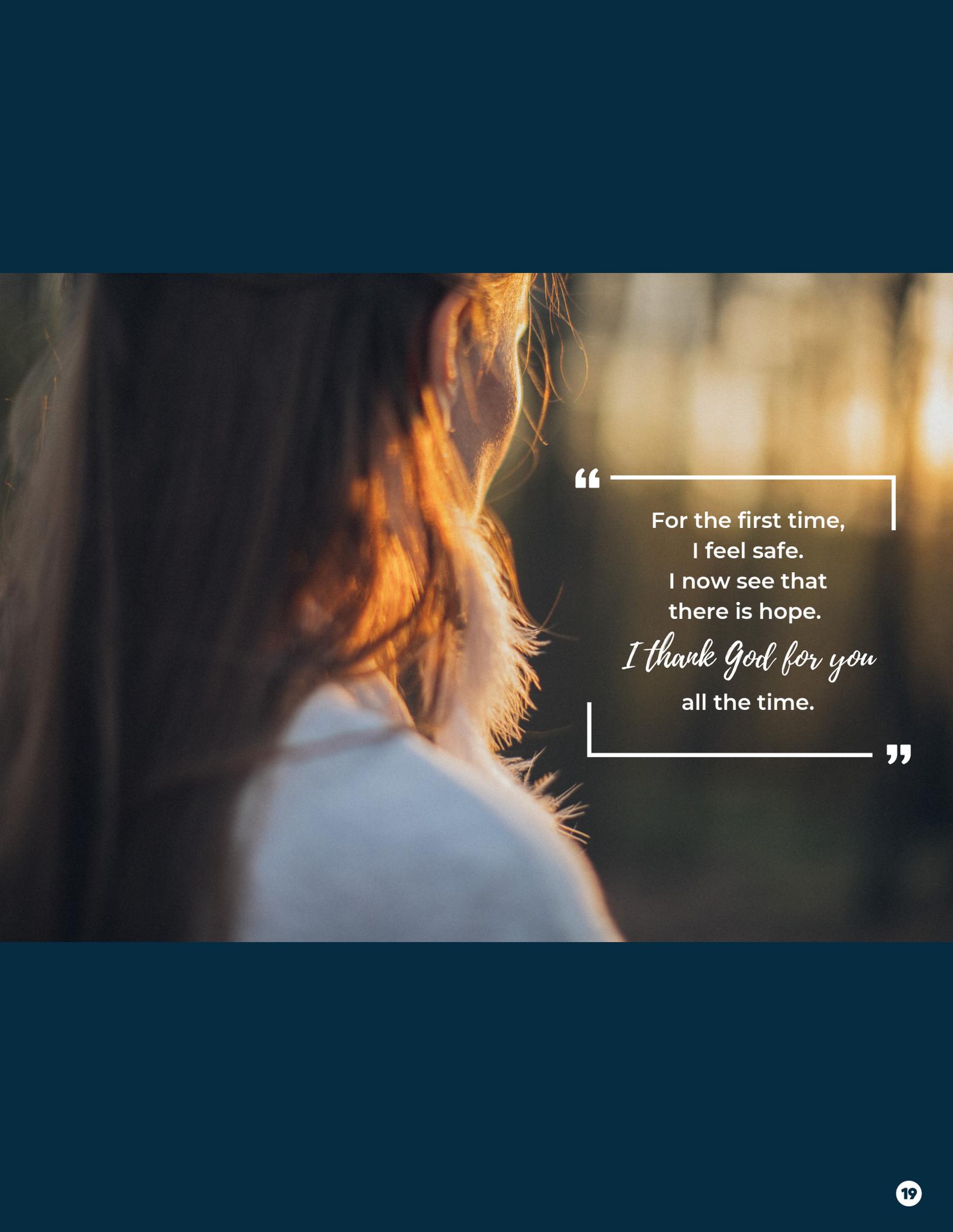
**GIVING
ONLINE**

www.createdgainesville.com

or

**MAILING A
CHECK TO**

**PO Box 6013
Gainesville, FL 32627**



“

For the first time,
I feel safe.
I now see that
there is hope.

I thank God for you
all the time.

”



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THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US ON OUR MISSION!