



2025 Newsletter

THRIVING IN GOD'S WORK

This year has been one of celebration, changed lives and meaningful connections at The Journey Home (TJH). We are celebrating a significant milestone—five years of helping people rebuild their lives grounded in Christ's love. So far, twenty-eight families have participated in our program, trading brokenness for a foundation of hope. As we reflect on what God has done, our Board and Staff are prayerfully seeking His will and His plans for the next five years and beyond.

Hopeless, hurting and homeless. These words describe most of the people who apply to The Journey Home. They arrive with little in the way of earthly possessions, but for those with a deep desire to move forward and a willingness to work, our program offers a path to profound change. Our board, staff and volunteers invest time and pour God's love into their hearts. Your generosity truly impacts their lives as they see tangible evidence of your commitment to them through your prayers, your gifts and your involvement. You truly make a difference in bringing hope, healing and a home to those in need.

Those of you who attended the Annual Banquet in August joined us for an exciting evening. We shared updates and heard touching stories directly from the guests of TJH. It was a time of marking milestones and deepening our connection with our supportive community. The event served as a powerful reminder of the incredible impact your generosity is having on lives that are being truly transformed.

As God transforms the lives of our guests, they show their children the difference between merely surviving and truly thriving, paving the way for a flourishing future for the next generation.



MISSION & VISION

The Journey Home provides Christ-centered transitional housing and supporting programs that bring hope and healing to individuals and families on the journey to stable housing. We envision lives transformed for the glory of God, thriving in community for generations to come.

"The support and love that we are surrounded by daily has shifted something in us from merely surviving, to living and growing as we build ourselves and grow closer to God." - TJH Guest

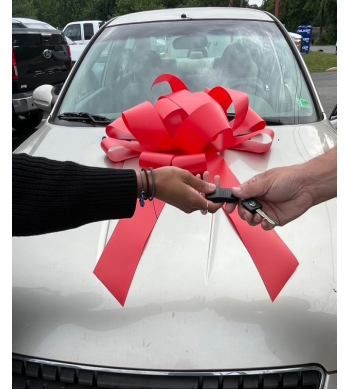
CHALLENGES WE FACE

The Journey Home guests face major challenges beyond housing, including securing basic needs, reliable transportation for work, childcare, living-wage jobs, and affordable housing after the program. These obstacles often feel insurmountable causing guests to feel a sense of helplessness and hopelessness.

TJH works closely with community partners, such as **Louisa County Resource Council**, **Giving Words** and **RuraLove**, to help, but resources for transportation and housing remain critically limited. The current economy makes options tough. The average two-bedroom rental in Louisa, VA, costs **\$1,250 - \$1,700 per month**, and with only 18% of county housing being renter-occupied, availability is scarce. On top of that, a used car payment averages **\$529 monthly**, a huge expense for someone getting back on their feet.

How You Can Help:

- **Landlords:** Please consider partnering with TJH to provide affordable housing options.
- **Donors:** If you have a used car, please donate it to our partner organization, Giving Words, to provide essential transportation. (givingwordsva.org)



*May the Lord cause you to flourish, both you and your children.
Psalm 115:14*

FINDING PEACE AT THE JOURNEY HOME

With the amazing resources, support and love, I was ready to pick up the broken pieces. The classes, requirements and prayers surrounding me were exactly what I needed to believe in myself and follow my spiritual path. I work full time, attend classes provided by TJH and take not only one day at a time, but one moment at a time. I am very grateful for Debby, Karen, Logan, Jen and Cindy for being by my side. I want to also thank everyone who supports The Journey Home to keep it running. It is more than needed for a family like mine to know there is a safe place to grow and rebuild. My son and I can feel normalcy, peace and protection here. - TJH Guest

STRATEGIC PLANNING

At its first 2025 meeting, The Journey Home Board discussed a critical question: **Are we closely following our God-given mission and what God is calling us to do?**

After five years of supporting guests and completing a debt-free campaign, the Board turned its attention to the future. With prayerful consideration, the board decided a formal strategic plan was necessary before launching any new endeavors. We felt God was calling us to look deeply at all aspects of TJH to ensure we are following His will.

A subcommittee began by clarifying our foundational beliefs and principles. This resulted in a refinement of our mission and vision to focus on supporting guests to become flourishing community members living under God. We want guests to thrive, not just survive.

The subcommittee is currently working with staff to assess programs and will make recommendations on next steps. The Board continues exploring options for expanding our Next Step Program. We ask the community's support as we search for affordable housing or property.

As we honor God's future plans, we ask that you include the strategic plan in your prayers.



TJH Board

TJH FINANCIAL UPDATE

We are very thankful for God's financial provision for The Journey Home over the past twelve years. After tremendous initial costs to start the program and construct our facilities, we diligently worked to keep expenses low and pay off construction loans. Donors generously responded to our 2024 capital campaign to help us reach this amazing milestone.

God faithfully provides the yearly funds we need to operate. **TJH is funded exclusively by the generosity of individual donors, churches, businesses, foundations, and other non-profit organizations; we receive no state or federal funds.**

Our annual fundraising goal for 2025 to cover our operating budget is \$210,000. Expenses include staffing, building repairs and maintenance, household supplies & food, utilities, property and liability insurance, and administration costs. This goal includes \$23,000 the board intends to save for strategic purposes, such as building repair and future expansion of affordable housing through our Next Step Program.

Income statistics show that 85-90% of our income is provided by donations and grants, while 10-15% comes from monthly program fees paid by our guests. Program fees are 30% of their gross income based on HUD definitions for affordable housing. These fees are variable depending on the number of guests in the program and their employment situations. Roughly 25% of our donations from individuals and churches recur monthly or quarterly. Because donation timing is not consistent throughout the year, these recurring donations are extremely helpful to pay for monthly bills.

2025 Annual Banquet



YEAR-END GIVING

The need for TJH is great. In 2024, we had 81 inquiries and in 2025, we've already had over 100 people reach out to us for help. Each number represents a family or individual seeking not just a roof, but a path to healing and independence grounded in faith.

This overwhelming need is why we humbly ask you to consider TJH for your end-of-year donation. Your investment is deeply appreciated and has an impact that lasts—not just for now, but for eternity. By partnering with us, you are actively joining God's work by transforming brokenness into stability. Thank you for making our ministry possible; your partnership is a great and profound blessing.

Ways to Donate

- Send a check by mail - P.O. Box 482, Mineral, VA 23117
- Online Donation Page - www.journeyhomemineral.org
- Zelle payment app - see our donate webpage for details
- Qualified Charitable Distributions, Donor Advised Funds and Stock Transfers

MOVING BEYOND SURVIVING: A GUEST'S STORY OF THRIVING

During my time at The Journey Home, I learned so much that prepared me for where I am today. The budgeting classes taught me how to manage my finances, and because of those tools, I am now almost debt free. The counseling sessions helped me face and release the things I had been carrying from my past. The parenting classes taught me how to handle challenges with my children in a healthier way. The fellowship and community showed me the importance of building and maintaining relationships. And with the help of our house supervisor, Logan, my son and I even learned how to take care of a garden. Those lessons planted seeds in my life that are still growing today. - TJH Guest



We are thrilled to share this guest has moved into her own place, gained full custody of her oldest son, and obtained a full-time job as the Assistant Director of a substance abuse recovery program.



There are so many ways your church or organization can support The Journey Home. Contact us if you see something that interests you!

Consider hosting one of these events to help us today!

Yard Sale, Bake Sale, Banquet Benefit or Fundraising Dinner, Silent Auction, 5k Run/Walk, Car Wash, Vendor Event, Cornhole Tournament, Diaper Drive, Household Drive (collecting toilet paper, paper towels, trash bags, toiletries, tissues)

PARTNER WITH US TO POWER OUR PROGRAMS

The work we do at The Journey Home is only possible through the generosity and commitment of our community. We offer more than just a roof; we provide time, resources, and support needed to secure stable employment, build savings, learn life skills and find permanent housing. Your support, in any form, creates tangible change right here in Louisa County.

You can directly impact a guest's journey in powerful ways:

1. **Donate:** Regular financial contributions ensure we can cover utility costs, provide personalized budgeting, life coaching and parenting classes and offer specialized community programs.
2. **Get your church or organization involved:** It takes a village. Community support from your church or organization can help in ways listed to the left.
3. **Spread the word:** Follow us on social media and share our stories. Community awareness helps us reach more people who need our services and more partners who can help fund them.

Join us in building a lasting foundation for a better future. Together, we make a difference.



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www.journeyhomemineral.org



The Journey Home is a 501(c)3 organization that welcomes your tax deductible gift.

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