

# THE VOICE

HOPE AND A FUTURE

## “I COULD’VE DIED ...”

**Emily and her son had nowhere to go.  
Your support gave them hope!**

Emily became pregnant right when the pandemic hit.

Forced to leave her adoptive dad’s house, she had no choice but to move in with her son’s dad. Though it seemed like the best option, the situation turned dangerous quickly.

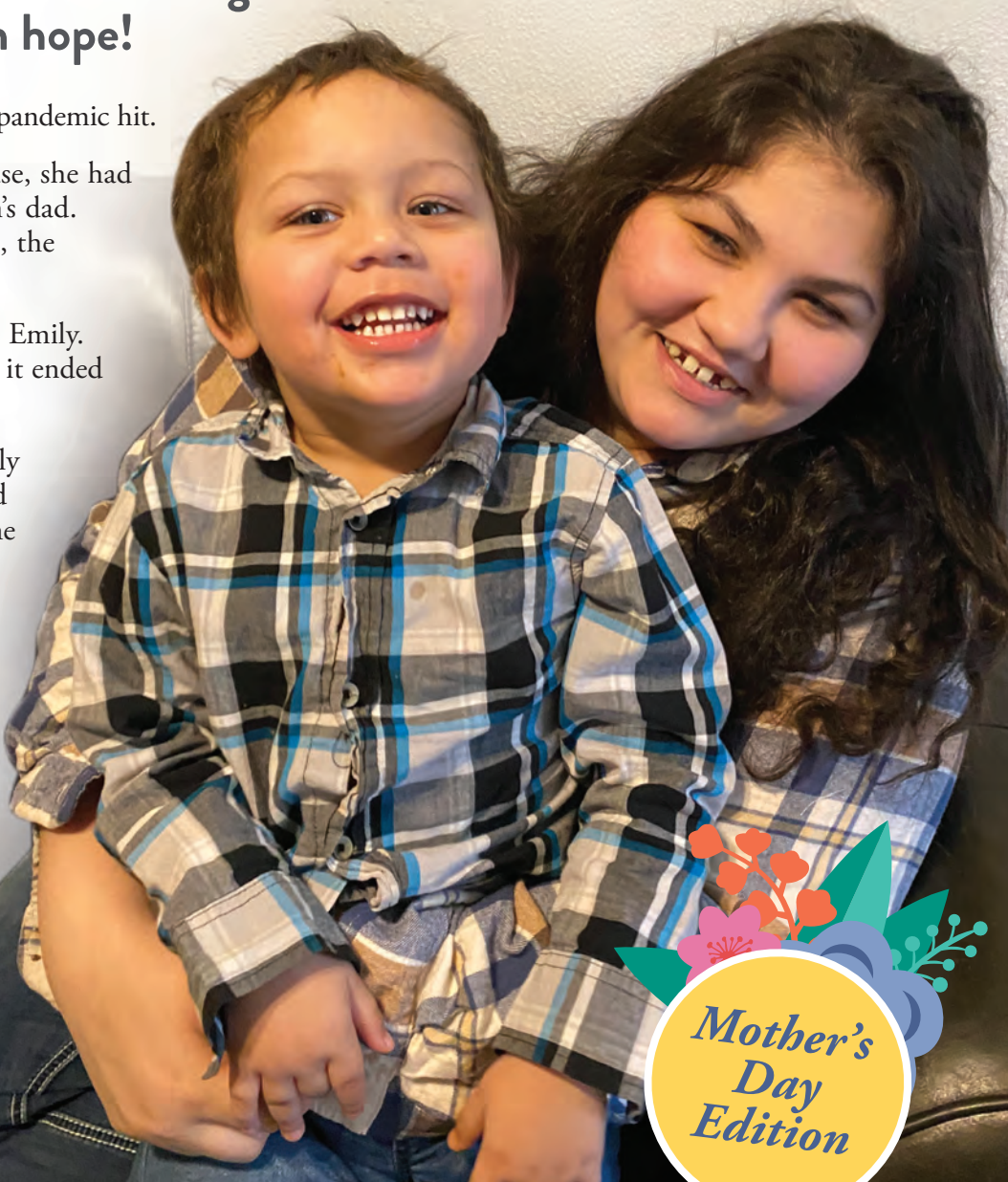
“His dad ended up being abusive,” says Emily. “I was trying to do the right thing, but it ended up very bad.”

After her son, Jeremiah, was born, Emily attempted to flee for safety. But the dad caught them. She became trapped in the house with him for another six months with no outside contact.

The situation became so dire that Emily knew she had to escape. Vulnerable and with nowhere to go, she left to put space between herself and her son’s dad. She was entirely alone.

Emily was determined to find a better life. But after securing a job and housing,

**READ MORE OF EMILY’S  
STORY INSIDE ►**



*Mother’s  
Day  
Edition*

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# Share hope and help with a woman



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## Finally free . . .

she couldn't find childcare. She had no choice but to resign from her job. Soon, Emily could no longer pay rent. "I was definitely scared," she says.

With no family or support around her, Emily didn't know who to turn to for help. And to make things more challenging, Jeremiah was experiencing behavioral issues due to being on the autism spectrum. Emily knew that without help, she and Jeremiah would end up on the streets.

### A PLACE TO BEGIN AGAIN

Out of options, Emily came to Haven of Rest. She hadn't felt security in so long and needed a safe place to get back on her feet and focus on being a good mother for Jeremiah. Harvest Home was that place.

Emily found spiritual encouragement, a creative outlet through Harvest Home's sewing class, and even extra support for her son. "People often think Jeremiah is being bad and don't understand that he's just overstimulated," says Emily. "He wasn't talking when we got here, but Haven has been really helpful, and now he's using words."

### MIRACULOUS PROTECTION

Having grown up in a Christian home, Emily isn't a stranger to God's love. But the terrifying circumstances she felt trapped in before coming to Harvest Home were enough to make His presence seem distant.

*"I would've been out  
on the street . . ."*

— Emily

"I stopped praying and was angry at God, asking Him, *Why would You let us go through this?*" says Emily. Looking back on it, she now knows God was present in those moments all along. "There are situations where I could've died. But Jeremiah and I were protected the whole time."

Safe from harm's way and surrounded by support, Emily is finally free to plan for the life that once felt impossible for her and Jeremiah. And it's thanks to your generosity.

"I would've been out on the street and lost my son," says Emily. "You're helping Harvest Home change lives in a really great way."

*Emily's past is a present reality for so many mothers. You can provide them with a safe haven so they don't end up on the streets. Mother's Day is a perfect time to save lives!*

## You give women and children a place to belong



**Your support opens the door to a fresh start for women who never thought they'd find hope again. Thank you for helping the most discouraged mothers feel seen and loved!**

*"Harvest Home makes you feel like family. Even when times feel hopeless, you have a feeling of love." — Chenille*

**Children and mothers who are facing homelessness often have no way to celebrate Christmas. But your giving makes the holidays special for our guests.**

*"My children had a nice Christmas because of you. I'm grateful for all the ways you are helping us, including housing, food, and clothing." — Julia*



**Your support today will give critical help and hope to hurting neighbors. Thank you for making Harvest Home a place for women and children to rebuild their lives!**



## GOD PROMISES TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW!



**REV. JEFF KAISER**  
CEO

I can't imagine what a mother trapped on the streets feels like. Vulnerable, terrified, and on guard are just a few emotions that come to mind.

A woman should never have to face the dangers of homelessness, let alone put her children in such unsafe conditions. Every mother and child should have access to safe, loving care in times of crisis.

Your support of Haven of Rest shows me you truly have a heart for the lost and hopeless in our community, especially women and children.

A place like Harvest Home — where mothers who've lost everything can come and find physical care, stability, spiritual encouragement, and compassionate support — is only possible because of you.

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*You're giving women the chance to build a beautiful life for themselves and their families.*

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And I cannot thank you enough.

As domestic violence and homelessness continue to be a danger for women in our city, I know I can count on you to keep Harvest Home's doors open to those who are in need. Lives will be changed through the power of God's grace and your giving!

*Jeff*







*Your compassionate gift today will*

## CHANGE SOMEONE'S LIFE

People facing the reality of homelessness so often are out of options, are out of resources, and have no one to turn to for help.

Whatever the cause, a struggling neighbor shouldn't have to survive out of their car — or worse, suffer on the streets.

For a mother like Emily, who is featured on page 1, your generosity literally saved her life. So many others, especially mothers and children, are facing the dangers of homelessness. **But you can turn their circumstances around.**

When you give, you'll provide practical help and hope and demonstrate God's unfailing love to hurting neighbors. More than that, you'll give genuine hope — something many of them haven't felt in a long time.

Thank you for standing with people facing homelessness, hunger, and addiction!

*when you give, please be sure to include your reply form.*



**GIVE LIFE-CHANGING CARE TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN!**

YES, JEFF! Here's my gift to provide hope and life-changing care for a neighbor in urgent need:

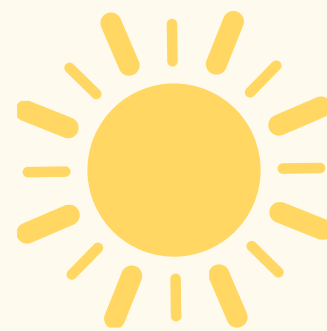
☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ to provide life-transforming care for as many people as possible!

Caring Friend  
123 Street Address  
City, State ZIP

**HAVEN of REST MINISTRIES**  
P.O. Box 547  
Akron, OH 44309-0547  
330-535-1563  
havenofrest.org

*Every gift provides genuine hope!*

Please make your check payable to Haven of Rest Ministries and return this form with your gift. See back to see your credit card. Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law. Thank you!



## SUMMER FUN FOR EVERYONE!

**SAVE THE DATE**



### HOPE FEST

Join us for this free community picnic on Wednesday, June 28, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



### HOPE SPORTS CAMP

Kids in grades 3-8 won't want to miss this special summer outreach! Boys basketball takes place July 17-21, and girls basketball or volleyball July 24-28.



### CHICK-FIL-A FOOD DRIVE

On August 10, bring two canned food items to a participating Chick-fil-A restaurant and get a coupon for a free breakfast sandwich!

