

UPWARD NEWS

It's the season of love, Periann,! Upward Transitions has a lot to share with you this month and lots of opportunities for you to show and share your love.

We'll be celebrating Valentine's Day with our **"Share the Love"** event, and we're continuing to celebrate our centennial year! As we work to prepare for our gala in May, sponsorships, reserved tables, and tickets are already available, so keep scrolling for information on everything happening this month.

In observance of our 100 years of service to the community, we are asking our supporters to help us to raise \$100,000 for another 100 years. Your support has meant so much to us. Will you donate to our FY2025 Annual Campaign today?

DONATE TODAY

Annual Campaign: \$100,000 for 100 More Years

for those who are stranded

of help

We're so glad you are with us on this journey.

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION



Nate & Ginny: An Upward Transitions Client Victory Story

Nate and Ginny are stable now and maintaining their housing. Nate is working full-time in a restaurant job he loves, their 5 children are doing well in school, and they are saving for a car. This was not the situation for them just a year ago.

Nate had been unable to find permanent employment or maintain housing in the town in Kansas where they lived, so the family moved to Oklahoma City with a plan to stay with a relative while they stabilized their situation and relocation.

After two weeks, their situation staying with a relative didn't work out, so they found refuge in a local homeless shelter. The shelter referred them to Upward Transitions to assist in obtaining their marriage certificate and birth certificates to apply for subsidized housing and other benefits. The family couldn't afford to obtain these documents on their own as the cost was more than they could afford.

An Upward Transitions case manager assisted them with retrieving their documents and provided Nate with bus passes for transportation to look for a job as well as referring him to a partner agency to assist with his job search. The family was also referred to partner agencies to assist them with clothes and food.

Within 2 months of relocating to OKC, Nate found permanent employment at a local restaurant. 5 months later, they received their voucher for section 8 rental assistance and found a home to rent the next month. Upward Transitions assisted the family with utility deposits and the first month's rent. Ginny is now working part-time while looking for full-time work and "window-shopping" for that future car.



Send a personalized Valentine to your loved-one letting them know you donated to help Oklahomans in need in their name!

Get started at www.upwardtransitions.org/SharetheLove today!

CENTENNIAL CALENDAR

Don't miss being a part of history. Follow us on social media and online to be sure to take part in the events each month!

www.upwardtransitions.org/centennial/

We're celebrating 100 years of serving Central Oklahoma with a special event every month of 2025! We hope you'll join us for these observances, festivities, and parties. Follow along online at: <u>2025 Centennial Calendar - Upward Transitions</u>

BE A PERMANENT PART OF HISTORY

Join Your Legacy with Ours for Another 100 Years

Upward Transitions is celebrating 100 years of serving our community in 2025, and we are inviting you to Centennial celebrations all year long! One of our big projects in honor of 100 years of hope is our 100-year endowment campaign: *Endowing a Second Century of Hope*.

Since 1925, Upward Transitions has served those in need in Central Oklahoma, making us one of the oldest social services agencies in the community. Regardless of age, race, income, lifestyle, religion, or culture, people in need can always turn to Upward Transitions for help.

To ensure our longevity for another 100 years to serve those facing the threat of poverty and homelessness, we have set a goal to raise \$1,000,000 for our endowment fund to sustain our services in perpetuity. We invite you to join in this mission and to link your legacy with ours for the next century.



A gift to our endowment will give back its full value to us within 15 years and then continue to give more. In this way, your gift today is your legacy and will keep giving back again and again forever.

To learn more about our endowment, go to: <u>Endowment Giving - Upward Transitions</u> and/or contact Conna Dewart at <u>cdewart@upwardtransitions.org</u> or 405.232.5507 x 113.

Save the Date for Our Centennial Gala!



Did you know?

In fiscal year 2024, 33 Travelers Aid Volunteers dedicated nearly 6,400 hours to serving 152,790 visitors and callers at OKC Will Rogers International Airport.

www.upwardtransitions.org

Join Our Circle of Hope!

The members of the "Circle of Hope" are those supporters of Upward Transitions who have chosen to support the mission of preventing generational poverty by giving a monetary donation at a level of \$1,000 or more in a calendar year.

The "Circle of Hope" will be recognized at our annual American Tourist fundraiser and invited to a special Partner celebration in the Fall of each year.

\$1,000 dollars is a meaningful investment in the work of Upward Transitions. Research reveals that a "one-time assistance of \$1,000 with rent or utility payments can prevent a family from becoming homeless for up to 2 years and 76% less likely to become homeless after 6 months."

The "Circle of Hope" members are making a significant investment in the work of Upward Transitions. We are grateful for their partnership and for the hope they inspire every day through the work of community collaboration, emergency relief, and empowerment.

Learn more about Upward Transitions' Circle of Hope



At Upward Transitions, our mission is to prevent generational poverty through community collaboration, emergency relief and empowerment, therefore inspiring hope with our neighbors experiencing housing instability.

UPWARD TRANSITIONS® Ending Generational Poverty



Community Partner

For more information, please email Conna Dewart at <u>cdewart@upwardtransitions.org</u>, visit us online at <u>upwardtransitions.org</u>, or call our office at 405-232-5507.

Follow Upward Transitions on social media:



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