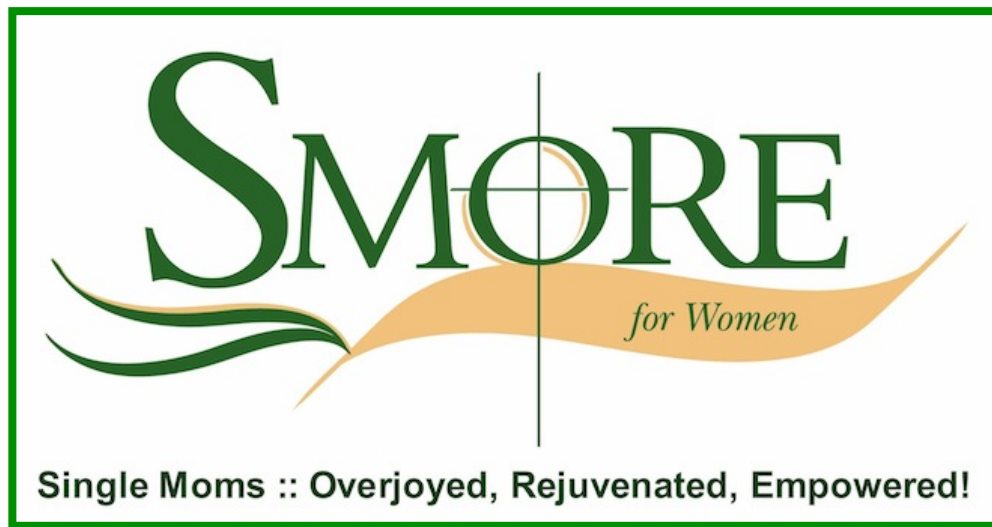


History of SMORE for Women



www.smoreforwomen.org
www.gailshowalter.com

History and Evolution of SMORE for Women Spring 2007

SMORE for Women was established April 19, 2007. SMORE is an acronym for Single Mothers :: Overjoyed, Rejuvenated and Empowered. The mission statement became “to minister to single moms by encouraging them to discover and develop their abilities and inner strengths.” Our Core Values are

Every Single Mom is Worthy of:

- Receiving respect
- Having opportunities for personal growth
- Sharing fellowship with those in similar circumstances
- Restoring self-esteem
- Realizing God’s plan for her life.



Our first event was a Day of Blessing on September 29, 2007 in my Nederland, Texas home with eleven hostesses and six single mother guests. Days of Blessing are hosted in homes. Moms are pampered and showered with gifts. They are served a sit-down breakfast and lunch. After wards they return home Overjoyed, Rejuvenated and Empowered!

2008

Our second Day of Blessing was August 9, 2008 with “Job Jump Starts” as the theme. We had speakers after lunch and it was another memorable event.



2009

September 20, 2009 we held our first class for single mothers at Calder Baptist.



November 7, 2009 we hosted a Day of Blessing in the home of Dr. John Terry and Ormand Jane Smith in Beaumont. We had eight single mom guests and six of those were from the group at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. Our theme for the day was "Money Matters." Moms were given guidance and a small handbook as well as many other gifts.

2010

On May 1, 2010 Crossroads Church in Nederland hosted a Day of Blessing with our direction. The ladies at did a fabulous job. The theme was "Bonding with Family Fun" and was great fun with imaginative decorations and gifts.



That same year, November 5-6, 2010 we hosted our first overnight retreat at the Holy Family Center in Beaumont. Our theme was "Putting Your Puzzle Pieces Together." It was truly an inspiring, spiritual time.



2011

Dealing with Difficult People



January 28, 2011 SMORE hosted an evening event at Calder Baptist featuring various *difficult* personality types-with lots of humor and fun.



Day of Blessing for Widows

February 13, 2011 we hosted a Day of Blessing for widows in the home of Reggie and Mary Ann Iles. Twelve women were our honored guests.

Hostesses



Day of Blessing at Apartments

2011 was an active year. April 9, 2011 we were invited to host a Day of Blessing for a few mothers at Stone Hearst Apartments in Beaumont.



Large Day of Blessing

August 13, 2011 we hosted a Day of Blessing with “Nutrition and Manners Matter” as the theme. There were eleven guests and eighteen hostesses.



2011 – A Full Year



2011 was a full year that ended with an overnight retreat November 18-19th at Holy Family Center. The theme was “What’s In Your Inner Net?”

2012

Day Conference – “Perspectives, Your Annual ‘I’ Exam”

In 2012 we slowed down. We hosted a day conference at Aldersgate Methodist on Memorial in Port Arthur. Our theme, “Perspectives, Your Annual ‘I’ Exam” was well received and the food was delicious.



Single & Parenting Series

We provided an evening meal and babysitting for the moms who attended.

2013 Overnight Retreat

November 1-2, 2013 we hosted another overnight retreat at Holy Family Center with the theme, “It All Comes Out in the Wash with Jesus.”

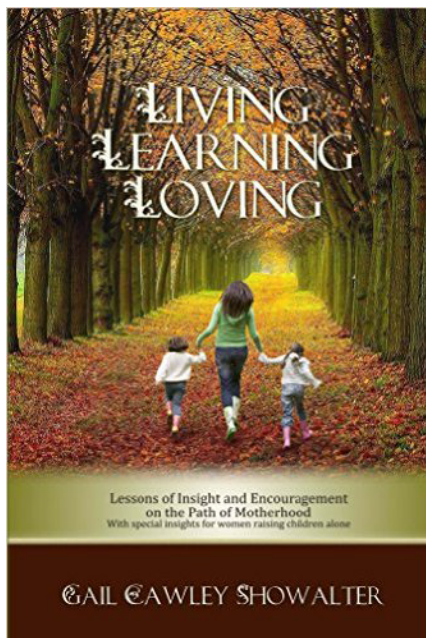


2014

May 6, 2014 I received my certification as a Professional Coach through Fowler International Academy. This was very useful as I began to work more often one-on-one with single mothers.

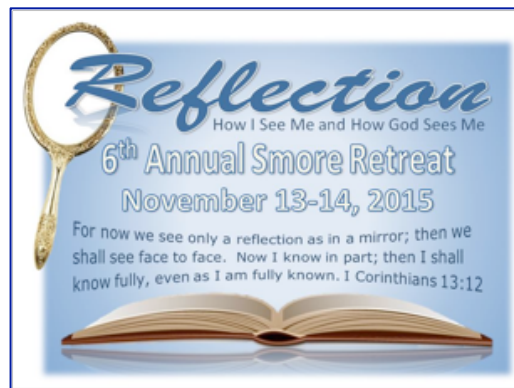


November 7-8, 2014 our overnight retreat theme was
 "Growth & Rejuvenation."
 2015



My book,
Living Learning Loving,
Insights and Encouragement for Mothers
 was published.

6th Annual
SMORE
for Women
Retreat



November 13-14, 2015 our overnight retreat theme was
"Reflection, How I See Me and How God Sees Me."

We provided excellent vehicle maintenance for the moms who
needed it.





In 2015 Bridges of Hope was established
(under the dba of The Community Coalition).
I was invited to direct the Educational Support Program for Single Mothers.

2017

SMORE hosted a Day of Blessing 2017



Theme – “Stepping Forward”

2018



Work moved forward in earnest to see the Bridges of Hope *Education Support Program for Single Mothers* established for moms in southeast Texas.

Our first candidate, Jackie Guillory, began classes at Lamar University August 27, 2018 to complete a degree in sociology. She is halfway through and we plan to support her until she graduates.