



**NEWSLETTER#5: JULY 1, 2024**

We are happy to welcome you to the GRACE Abounds Newsletter.  
Here, you can read about our latest news and resources.  
Thank you for walking along with us on this journey!

**Our Mission:**

**GRACE Ministries of Alabama exists to provide resources for female victims of sexual trauma and promote opportunities for survivors to experience the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.**

*Meet The Staff* 

*Michelle*

**Founder & Director**



*Erica*

**Assistant Director**



*Jinny*

**Photographer &  
Social Media Coordinator**



*Andrea*

**Speaker**



*Ann*

**A21 Chair**



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# Summer with GYMOA

We have two GMOA (GRACE Ministries of Alabama) Serve Day Projects happening on **Saturday, July 13, 2024**. Please join us if you can!



**July 13, 2024 - SERVE DAY AT CHURCH OF THE HIGHLANDS**

## **Birmingham Crisis Center Rape Response Hygiene Kits:**

**Ann Tyler is heading up a project to put together 100 hygiene kits for the sexual assault victims in the Birmingham Crisis Center Rape Response Program. You can join us at the COTH Riverchase Campus from 9am to 11am to put together the kits. If you're unable to join us on the 13th, please consider donating items for the project through the wish list at**

**[GMOA Serve Day Hygiene Kits for BCC Rape Response.](#)**

## **Crafts to Resources Victims of Sexual Violence:**

**Alternatively, you can join us at the GMOA Headquarters from 9am to noon to help with our second project. We will be doing crafts and creating items to sell at the Purchase with a Purpose Event coming up in November. We will get 100% of the profit of the items sold to help resource the nonprofit. And if Purchase with a Purpose likes our products, we have an opportunity to become a vendor in the store- allowing us a constant storefront presence with a monthly income!**

**SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER:**

**[BHAM CRISIS CENTER](#)**

**[PWAP CRAFTS TO RESOURCE VICTIMS](#)**

**[VISIT AMAZON WISHLIST TO PURCHASE ITEMS FOR HYGIENE KITS](#)**



# Upcoming Events

## Staff and Board Social

On **Saturday, August 3, 2024**, we have the pleasure of hosting our first Staff & Board Member Social. We're excited and looking forward to having fun, fellowship, and a few laughs at Top Golf! We extend a heartfelt thank you to each member of our team, including both staff and board members. It is with profound gratitude for the grace and blessings given to us by our Father that we acknowledge the invaluable gift of their time and talents dedicated to the growth of our nonprofit. Their contributions are truly making a meaningful impact in the lives of the women we serve and within the Kingdom of God.

THANK YOU AGAIN TO THE STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS OF GRACE MINISTRIES OF AL!

## GRACE Group

Each semester is an opportunity for a woman to release the painful strongholds of the past and be introduced to a future of hope and healing through Christ. You are a part of supporting our ladies and we couldn't be any more grateful! We will begin our GRACE Groups around **late August-early September**. Specifics on locations, leaders, dates, and times will be released soon!

- **Saturday, September 14th from 10am to 2pm: Christian Family Expo at Finley Center**

We will be in at the Finley Center located at the Hoover Met manning a booth with information about GMOA along with community resources and education on sexual violence and sex trafficking.

- **Saturday, October 19th from 8am to noon: A21 WFF at Pelham Dog Park Pavilion:** GMOA has been approved by A21 to host again this year, and Ann Tyler, our Walk for Freedom Chair, has already started planning the event. She already has commitments from 15 different nonprofit and charitable organizations to be present at the walk and has secured a 30 x 10 wedding reception tent to house them! You are not going to want to miss this event as it will be bigger and better than ever before! The registration link will go live **August 1st**, so be on the lookout for more details soon. We need your help spreading the word about this event!

- **Friday and Saturday, November 15-16th: PWAP Event in Tuscaloosa**

We will apply in July to be a vendor at the Purchase with a Purpose event. We will share the specifics of the times and location soon. We'd love to see you come by to visit our booth!



Erica Russell  
GMOA Assistant Director

## GRACE Testimony

My name is Erica and I am a survivor of sexual abuse. I am also a woman who has received healing from the pain of my choice to abort my child.

In full transparency, what I've gone through used to cover me in incredible shame and guilt. But today, I stand with boldness to share the truth. Not because every part of my healing journey is complete. I still have healing to do! But, I know who my God is and that through His Goodness, Grace, and Strength, I am still here. I want to share with other precious ladies who have suffered with similar struggles, that there is hope and actual healing that God alone can give. Thank You Lord!

I was a victim of childhood sexual abuse that, unfortunately, came about in the hands of two adults that were close to me. It happened in two separate timelines, in the span of elementary age to my late teens. Both abusers were members of the church and many people knew what they'd done, yet not much was done to properly protect me. This was very devastating. There were so many consequences to sexual abuse for me: distrust, blind anger, feelings of inadequacy, allowing disrespect and more abuse because I didn't know my worth, contemplations of taking my own life, and so much more. Worst of all, it made me doubt God's love for me and His Presence in my life. I felt hopeless.

The abuse finally ended completely at the age of 19 when I became pregnant with my abuser's baby and chose to abort the child. I didn't know what else to do. I wanted to protect my abuser. I didn't want to be blamed by others. I didn't know what I would tell my child as they grew up about who their father really was. I felt abortion was the only course of action that I could take in which I'd be more protected. After the abortion, the sexual abuse stopped...but, I'd lost my baby.

*This broke me.*

As an adult, I carried this weight of both the trauma of abuse and pain of abortion. I found that I simply couldn't bury, numb, or ignore it.

In His grace, God rescued me from my burden. He let me know that He sees me. All of me... and still loves me. His LOVE provided a river of healing through new, healthy relationships, therapy, small groups/support groups (such as Abortion Recovery Alabama), and through GRACE Groups. In GRACE Groups, I came to discover that God sees me as His daughter and loves me in spite of. Unconditional, in-spite-of-kind-of-love is a love that freed my broken heart and drew me closer to Him. I entered GRACE Groups fearful of if my heart could bear facing the pain and graduated knowing that I could lay down the sin, shame, and guilt and carry the peace, forgiveness, and support of the Father. **Thank you Lord for freeing me!**

# Continue to Tune in for...



It has been so amazing to see how God is working through our YouVersion Bible Plan. So far we have 5000+ subscribers. What an amazing blessing to know that more women are coming to know the redemptive work of Christ as they work through their healing!

By God's leading, we will soon be in the process of creating our next devotional series through YouVersion. This study will be tailored specifically for spouses of women who have overcome sexual violence. We will keep you informed as we bring this series to life.



Please feel free to join or perhaps share our current plan with someone you know.

**To join: CLICK BELOW**, visit Bible.com, or download the YouVersion Bible App. From there, visit the plans and search for "Grace Abounds".

Michelle Price, the founder of GRACE Ministries of Alabama, joined Nikki Dutton on her podcast, More + to share the vision of GRACE Ministries of Alabama and to share her story. You can find this episode in our Linktree.



We are currently creating new content for our podcast! We will be recording our new episodes in Summer 2024. You can listen to our previous content by visiting the podcast tab on [graceministries.life](https://www.graceministries.life).



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!