

Becoming God's Masterpiece

Almost 10 years ago to the day, I found myself at the end of my rope. I had no hope. My life was empty and void of meaning. I had plenty of reasons to see myself as a victim. I was sexually abused as a child, was in an abusive marriage, and had no relationship with my three children. I had also been in psychiatric hospitals, had ECT treatments, and battled with self-mutilation and suicidal thoughts. I believed the Refuge was my last hope. In one sense that was true, but I learned I was placing my hope in the wrong things.

Jeremiah 17:7 says, *"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence."* The Refuge guided me to a hope and healing that came by trusting God and looking to Him for my strength and meaning in life.

In March 2024, I returned to the Women's Refuge for the internship program. God continued to teach me and I developed a more intimate relationship with Him. I knew there was a God, but I had no idea who He really was or how much He loved me. If He loved me, why would He allow all these things to happen to me? At the Women's Refuge I learned that everything we go through

has a purpose and I experienced the unconditional love of Jesus Christ.

Through a support group called **Shelter from the Storm**, I realized I did not have to be a victim. I could be a survivor. Our past does not define who we are. It is not our identity. Our identity is in Jesus Christ who loves us with an everlasting love. We are not victims. When we trust Jesus and look to Him for our identity, we not only will be survivors, but we will also be thrivers.



Kathy Thompson
Office Manager

I praise God for the Women's Refuge. Because of what I learned, I can now say, *"I am God's masterpiece. He has created me anew in Christ Jesus, so I can do the good things he planned for me long ago."* Ephesians 2:10.

If you are struggling, hurting and have lost hope, I pray that you will consider coming to the Refuge. Allow God to make you His masterpiece. Give us a call at 772-770-4424 and let's talk things over.

Message from the Executive Director



Diane A. Ludwig
Executive Director

I am deeply fearful of roller coasters. It's not the movement itself, but the fear of trusting the cars won't go flying off the tracks and lead to my demise. I don't trust them! Sometimes our lives feel like they're out of control; circumstances have lulled us into a state of hopelessness, and we see no way out.

Many are those we meet at the Refuge. We see fear and worry on

their faces and their spirits are unsettled. That's when we can confidently offer the peace of God *"that surpasses all understanding"* and show them how it will *"guard their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."* Phil 4:7.

It's a privilege to see the faithfulness of God throughout the ages. We see the hand of God move mightily in the lives of those who are serious about applying the Word of God to their lives. Once our hearts and minds are open to His truth and promises, there is a present and everlasting peace. Our lives are then led by His Spirit and filled with His peace. He is the One in control of our lives.

WOMEN'S REFUGE
OF VERO BEACH
26TH ANNUAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT



SEPTEMBER 22, 2025
MONDAY



9AM SHOT GUN START

www.womensrefugevb.org/Golf_Tournament



VERO BEACH COUNTRY CLUB



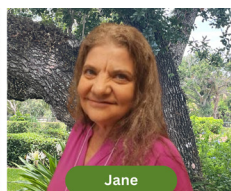
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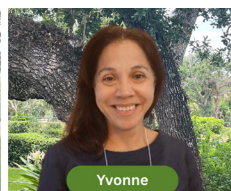
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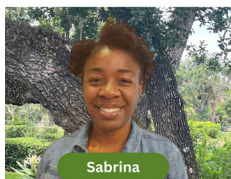
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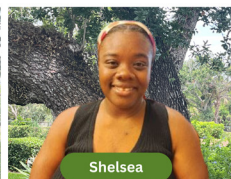
Yvonne



Sabrina



Cecibel



Shelsea

A Weekend of Renewal & Transformation

In June we hosted a powerful women's retreat at the Women's Refuge which brought healing and renewal to all who attended. With the theme *Renewing Your Mind*, the women dove deep into transformative teachings, including our identity in Christ, lessons from the prodigal son, recognizing unhealthy flesh patterns, and embracing the peace that comes with forgiveness—both of ourselves and others.

What began with uncertainty blossomed into a weekend of immeasurable growth. Through heartfelt worship, fellowship, small group activities, journaling, individual counseling, and quiet reflection, each woman encountered the truth of her worth, security, and acceptance in Christ.

By the end of the retreat, the women didn't just leave with full hearts—they left changed. For many, it was a life-altering experience, one that marked the beginning of a deeper, more grace-filled journey with God.

See below for details about our next retreat.



September 11-13, 2025

WOMEN'S REFUGE
OF VERO BEACH
RENEWAL
WEEKEND

FIND PEACE. STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH.

For more information please email us
at info@womensrefugevb.org or call
772-770-4424

You're invited!

MEET & GREET

MEET THE STAFF - CAMPUS TOUR - LEARN MORE
RSVP: womensrefugevb.org/MeetAndGreet

When? Wednesday
Aug. 27, Sep. 24, & Oct. 29
10:30-11:30 AM

Where? Women's Refuge Campus
1850 Lemon Ave
Vero Beach, FL 32960

Shop Donate Volunteer

Proceeds benefit the Women's Refuge of Vero Beach



WOMEN'S REFUGE
RESALE SHOP

Tuesday - Friday 10AM - 4PM
Saturday : 10AM-3PM

(772) 567-3598 | wrrstore@gmail.com | 1615 10th Ave. Vero Beach, FL

poshmark.com/closet/womensrefuge



Women's Refuge of Vero Beach Welcomes Judy Graziosi, As New Director of Development

We are thrilled to welcome Judy Graziosi as the new Director of Development. Judy brings with her over 30 years of experience in marketing, communications, and nonprofit leadership on the Treasure Coast. Most recently, she served as Marketing Manager for The Source, where she helped elevate brand awareness for their many outreach programs serving the homeless. Judy is passionate about connecting people to purpose, and her heart for women who are hurting aligns beautifully with our vision and mission. With a background in creative design, community engagement, and donor relations, she is already bringing fresh ideas and energy to our development efforts. A long-time resident of Vero Beach, Judy is excited to help grow awareness and support for the transformative work happening at the Refuge. Please join us in giving her a warm welcome as she steps into this vital role with faith, vision, and compassion.



Judy Graziosi
Director of
Development



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