



AT TAMASSEE

www.tdarschool.org

A Meeting at the Well



he came to the well alone - in the heat of the day. It was dangerous, and she was vulnerable. Why come alone?

Shame. She didn't need anyone else judging her. She was an outsider in her own community. Not that she wanted to be an outcast, but it was better than facing another condescending glare. She was trapped by her past, repeating the same mistakes because she saw no way out. The mid-day walk to the well offered a brief escape. She expected the long walk, the hard work, and the loneliness.

She didn't expect him. A Jewish man talking to her, a Samaritan woman. She didn't expect the love in his eyes. She was used to men wanting something from her, but this man offered something to her – living water. He treated her with honor, even when he brought up her past. He didn't say it to condemn her. No, he spoke truth to set her free. He offered healing, affirmation, and redemption. He may have surprised her, but she was ready – ready for a whole new life.

She met Jesus. She met him at Jacob's Well and everything changed.

Our communities are filled with mothers just like the Samaritan woman at the well. Women who feel lonely and vulnerable. Trapped by the shame of substance use and other traumas, they want to be mothers to their children, but all too familiar mistakes keep recurring. They don't need judgment. They need love. They and their children need a place to heal and rebuild their lives. They need honor and freedom, and they are ready for it – if someone will show their family the way. Mothers and children ready to drink deeply of living water.

For over 100 years, Tamassee DAR School has empowered young people to change the trajectory of their lives through values-based education. First as a private boarding school and then as a children's home, Tamassee has loved and educated thousands of children, who stepped out of generational poverty or abuse to create a new future for themselves and their families.

Continuing this tradition, Tamassee is launching a creative and innovative Christian family-centered program where mothers with children can grow together – spiritually, emotionally, academically, and physically – as they heal from traumatic experiences such as substance abuse, domestic violence, or homelessness. Mothers will recover and find lasting freedom. They will gain the education and job skills to support their families and the parenting skills to love their children. Children will heal from these adverse experiences. They will excel academically through our Early Learning Center and elementary Academy. They will bond with their mothers and siblings and learn to be children again. Families will heal and generations will change.

The Well at Tamassee - a life-changing community for mothers with children.

"Jesus replied, 'If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water."

The need for a recovery program for mothers and children is staggering. In the four South Carolina counties that comprise Tamassee's service area:

- 3,538 opioid-related hospitalizations from 2017 to 2019
- 3,255 alcohol hospitalizations in 2020
- 4,797 child maltreatments were verified in 2018-2019
- Across South Carolina, 41.5% of women experience intimate partner violence
- 40,635 survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault received services in the state from 2018 to 2020
- 2,794 women and children received shelter services for the first time and 736 survivors were turned away from shelter due to a lack of space in 2019-2020

Childhood trauma or Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) include abuse or neglect, a parent's substance use, violence in the home, divorce or incarceration of a parent, and more. ACEs disrupt children's healthy brain development, impair them socially, emotionally, and cognitively, lead to academic struggles, make it difficult for them to form healthy, stable relationships, and lead to long-term health and social risks. All too often children who experience trauma repeat the cycle as adults.

Data from the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, The National Coalition against Domestic Violence, the South Carolina Coalition against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the South Carolina Department of Social Services, and the South Carolina Children's Trust.



Only one other provider in Tamassee's service area offers a recovery program for mothers with children. They serve just sixteen families at a time. A comparable program in Tennessee reports a waiting list of over 200 mothers for their family-centered recovery program. The need is simply overwhelming.

Tamassee believes passionately in family restoration and generational healing! The Well at Tamassee will not only change lives but also improve our society. A comprehensive Christian recovery program builds strong families, improves educational attainment, increases personal financial security and tax revenue, alleviates involvement in the criminal justice system or the need for social services and government assistance, and equips families to improve their communities in meaningful ways.

"There is such a need in our community for women to have a safe place to heal and grow. Currently, our only resources for women are too far away to be feasible. To be able to provide comprehensive services to women AND their families under one roof would be an unmistakable blessing for our community."

Dr. Phil Thomas, Magdalene Clinic, Seneca Family Medicine, Assistant Professor at USC School of Medicine-Greenville



A Holistic Approach to Family Healing

The Well - Tamassee's new recovery program for mothers with children - is driven by a passion for family restoration and generational healing. The components of the program will provide "living water" to families so desperately in need of a fresh start in life.

Individual and family **counseling** with a staff therapist will focus on each woman and child's unique needs, work to heal traumatic experiences, develop coping skills, and promote family restoration and bonding. Group counseling for mothers will address trauma,

recovery, parenting, life skills, and community living. A trauma-informed model will be used throughout the program.

To empower **recovery** from substance abuse and other addictive behaviors, The Well will utilize evidence-based, therapeutic and biblical curriculum and twelve step groups and materials to heal the root causes of destructive behaviors, develop each mom's capacity to recognize and prevent relapse, build a recovery support network, and achieve lasting freedom.

Healing and recovery allow moms to restore relationships with their children, bond, and learn to parent successfully. Evidence-based, trauma-informed curriculum and parenting coaching with staff will instill

"There is a good reason our program is in high demand and maintains a waiting list of over 200 families. Blue Monarch is extraordinarily unique. Since 2003 we have developed a successful and robust recovery model that values the child's recovery as much as the mother's, and through Christ, we equip the family to heal and thrive together. We are

family-changing **parenting skills.** Families will have plenty of opportunities to play together so they bond and children learn to be kids again. Tamassee will also advocate for mothers seeking to regain custody of their children.

The Well will empower mothers to develop the **life skills** necessary to live independently and productively. From healthy cooking and exercise, to home management and car care, from financial literacy and time management, to healthy relationships and community service, life skills will be taught, modeled, and nurtured through daily life and community living as well as curriculum and trainings.

For mothers to achieve stability, security, and independence, they must secure employment and a living wage. That means **education and job skills**. Tamassee will support mothers to earn a GED, learn soft skills through on-campus jobs, receive training with SC Vocational Rehabilitation, enroll at Tri-County Technical College, and secure internships and job placements.

Children who experience trauma fall behind in school, and their heightened emotional states make learning in a typical classroom challenging. Tamassee's specialized education programs for children support children to catch up academically and socially-emotionally. Infants to preschoolers will attend our Early Learning Center, which uses a premier child development curriculum and an evidenced-based, trauma-informed approach to social-emotional learning and behavior management. This ensures each classroom is academically stimulating, and every child is developing on pace to enter kindergarten ready to learn. Elementary age children will attend our Academy, which will feature low teacher to student ratios, individualized tutoring,

and trauma informed classrooms so that every child reaches grade level and develops the skills to succeed in a traditional classroom.

In all its program elements, The Well will be **faith-infused**, creating a healing Christian community where families find wholeness in Jesus. From daily devotions and prayer to weekly worship attendance, from faith-based recovery curriculum to biblical parenting and life skills training, from therapeutic services for inner healing to classrooms filled with God's love, The Well will provide living water to the families we serve.





excited that Tamassee is stepping up to help rebuild broken families and help mothers learn to be the happy, healthy, sober moms that God always intended them to be."

Susan Binkley, Founder & Director, Blue Monarch (TN)

Well-Paced Growth for Greatest Impact

In order to empower families to achieve long-term success, The Well at Tamassee will have two segments – a residential program and a transitional program. Families will participate in the residential program for one to two years, based on their unique needs. Residential families will live in community with each other in homes on Tamassee's campus. During the first nine to twelve months of the **residential program**, mothers will focus on counseling, recovery, and parenting skills, while children will focus on counseling and education. During the remainder of the residential program, moms will continue the former components while adding and emphasizing education, jobs skill, and life skills.

Upon graduation from the residential program, families will participate in a **transitional program** for six to eighteen months. Each family will live in their own

intermediate housing on campus or in the community as they move to full independence. Tamassee staff will continue offering counseling, recovery support, parenting and life skills coaching, and education support. Moms will begin working and saving for their future. They may also enroll in technical college to advance their careers.

Tamassee will launch the residential segment of The Well in three phases. The ultimate goal is to serve over twenty mothers and over forty children at a time in the residential program. A fourth phase will develop the transitional segment to serve the same number of families as the residential program. When both segments of The Well are fully operational, Tamassee hopes to serve up to forty moms and up to eighty children at a time!

Phase	Launch	Programming	Number Served
Phase I	January 2022	 Launch Recovery for Mothers Incorporate Infants to 4K at Early Learning Center 	Up to 8 mothers & 16 children2-3 cottagesMothers with children 4 and under
Phase II	August 2022	Continue Recovery for Mothers & Early Learning for Infants to 4K Re-Launch Academy for Primary Grades	Up to 12 mothers & 30 children4 to 5 cottagesMothers with children 7 and under
Phase III	August 2023	 Continue Recovery for Mothers & Early Learning for Infants to 4K Add Upper Elementary Grades to the Academy 	Up to 20 mothers & 48 children6 cottagesMothers with children 9 and under
Phase IV	July 2023 — January 2024	Transitional Program	In Development

The Well is a holistic and innovative approach to family restoration. Mothers will find lasting freedom, children will heal, and families will experience the love they've longed for. This program will literally transform generations!



Launching Phase 1

To launch and sustain the life-changing impact of The Well, Tamassee will need the generous support of friends who share our passion for family restoration and generational healing. It all begins with Phase I in January 2022! With literally hundreds of mothers with young children in need, the financial goal of Phase I is a life-changing \$750,000 – \$500,000 to establish recovery and educational programming and \$250,000 for capital improvements to recovery homes and an additional infant classroom.

The Well staff team will be the heart, soul, and backbone of Tamassee's recovery program. The team of five professionals will deliver a comprehensive Jesuscentered, life-recovery program including admissions, care plans for each family, recovery groups, therapeutic services, parenting and life skills, support for education and job skills, and much more. These crucial staff will be essential in order to make The Well successful.

Because Phase I will focus on mothers with children preschool age and younger, Tamassee's on-campus early childhood learning center will need to expand to serve additional children. Our current staff and space will accommodate an increase of toddlers and preschoolers, but Tamassee will need additional **infant teachers** to serve these little ones and meet licensing regulations. Children are our greatest treasure on this earth, yet the children in Tamassee's recovery program have been exposed to incredible circumstances through no fault of their own. While their moms receive the highest quality programming during the day, they need the safety, love, cognitive development, and social interactions our early learning center provides. On the next page is an outline of the staff for Phase I.

Christ's love and selfless example compel our culture of service and compassion for the 'least of these.' We see a bright and successful future for mothers and their children, and with the generous support of donors like you, that future will be realized at The Well.

Staffing Needs

Recovery Program Officer

Responsibility: All aspects of the program, including admittance decisions, programming, and case management

Recovery and Family Therapist

Responsibility: Therapeutic services for the mothers and children; lead individual, group, and family counseling sessions

Family Advocate and Case Manager

Responsibility: Facilitate each family's care plan; interact with outside partners involved in case management; advocate for our families; and lead selected programming

Residential Life Coordinator

Responsibility: Plan and administer the program schedule; lead selected programming; and interact with outside partners and advocate for families

Parenting and Children's Coach

Responsibility: Lead training and coaching for parenting skills with mothers; plan and lead programming for children outside of school

Infant Teachers (& Toddler & 4K Teachers)

Responsibility: Care for the little ones of mothers in the recovery program during the day so that moms may focus on healing and learning

In addition to staff, the \$500,000 program budget will include curriculum, training, supplies, food, utilities, family activities, and more. These early and key investments in the program will enable Tamassee to meet the highest standards of excellence and make the biggest impact in families' lives.

Phase I will also require \$250,000 of funding for infrastructure. Capital expenses will include renovations to three cottages and a new infant classroom. The mothers and children at The Well need a safe and welcoming place to call home, a clean, cozy place to sleep each night and fun spaces to learn and play each day. This may be the first home where they have clean clothes, healthy meals, good friends, and a loving community. Below is an overview of capital improvements for Phase I.

Building	Capacity	Improvements
Grace Cottage	Up to 4 Families	 New Livingroom, Hallway and Bedroom Flooring Fresh Interior Paint Updates to Kitchen and Bathrooms New Furniture for Living & Dining Rooms & Bedrooms
Hope Cottage	Up to 6 Families	 New Flooring Throughout Fresh Interior Paint Updates to Kitchen and Bathrooms New Furniture for Living & Dining Rooms & Bedrooms
Faith Cottage	Up to 3 Families	 New Living Room and Kitchen Flooring Kitchen Remodel Updates to Bathrooms New Furniture for Living & Dining Room & Bedrooms
Infant Classroom	Up to 20 Infants & Toddlers	 Complete Renovation of Cottage Downstairs Installation of Infant Bathroom Complete Outfitting of Classroom for Child Care

Meet Us at the Well

The Well at Tamassee Campaign is a multi-year, four-phase fundraising effort to secure the donations to launch an extraordinary new program for mothers with children as well as renovate recovery homes and educational facilities. Achieving this goal will require exceptional support from donors like you and the entire Tamassee Family who share in our vision and are eager to help mothers and their children experience transformed lives.

Angela Comes to The Well

Angela is 23 years old with two children ages 5 and 3. Several years ago she became addicted to opioids. Her relationships with family and friends soon fell apart due to her drug use. She eventually lost her job, home, and hope. Her children were placed in foster care. She was alone and broken. Knowing something had to change, she took her first real step toward healing – she voluntarily went to a detox clinic to begin her journey toward a new life.

To know how Angela got to this place in her life, you need to understand where she's been. Angela was abused as a child. She grew up in a broken home where drugs, alcohol, and violence were simply a way of life. She felt unworthy of love and did not know how to give it. She started drinking, then experimenting with drugs, finally getting hooked on opioids. She dropped out of school and was on her own by age 17. She was pregnant a year later.

Angela will come to The Well at Tamassee and take her next steps toward a whole new life. Surrounded by the love and compassion of our staff, she will receive counseling, recovery accountability, parenting training and support, job skill development, and life skills like home management and budgeting. Her children will have proper nutrition, warm beds, education, and develop a deep loving bond with their mother.

Although Angela's story is an illustration, it expresses how childhood trauma leads so many mothers to turn to drugs to cope. At The Well, they will discover the unconditional love of Jesus, healing from past trauma, lasting freedom from addiction, and a fresh start in life for themselves and their children.



Each life lived tells a unique story. We all seek comfort and relief from unresolved pain. Too often mothers are judged for their choices, without knowing the options they had to choose from. The greatest agent for change is love and the awareness that other possibilities exist. I am purposefully involved as a donor partner to create more happy endings.

You Can Provide Living Water

That is why your gift to The Well Campaign is so important! You have an incredible opportunity to change the lives of mothers and their children, not just for today, but for generations. Your gift will provide life-giving, life-changing, living water for families like Angela's.

Major and significant donors to The Well Campaign will be recognized on the Living Water Donor Wall – a lasting testament to your generosity, the success of the campaign, and the love of God for families. Living Water Donors launch and sustain the recovery and educational programs of The Well.



You Can Build "Jacob's Well"

Women like Angela need a modern day Jacob's Well where they can meet Jesus and be transformed by his love. Capital donations provide vital funds for facility renovations, infrastructure support, and long-term sustainability for The Well.

Recovery Cottages are a significant part of The Well Campaign. Phase I requires capital funds to update and renovate three (3) on-campus homes into warm and inviting spaces for mothers and their children. Each home will be renovated and receive new flooring, furnishings, kitchen, bathrooms, paint and more. Through your capital investment, you are literally making a house into a home for mothers and their children, where they will cook and share meals as families, budget and care for a home, and laugh, play, and heal together.

For interior spaces, your special gift will be recognized through an interior wall sign/plaque in or near the room of your selection. Endowed gifts for the sponsorship of an entire home will be placed on a special sign/plaque on the exterior of the home to recognize this extraordinary gift.

Living WaterDonor Levels

Gifts of Love	\$100,000+
Gifts of Hope	\$50,000
Gifts of Faith	\$25,000
Gifts of Peace	\$10,000
Gifts of Joy	\$5,000
Gifts of Grace	\$1,000







JACOB'S WELL DONORS – NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Grace Cottage: home for up to 4 mothers and 4-8 children \$500,000 (Endowed)

Living Room \$25,000

Kitchen \$30,000

Bedrooms (Total of 6) \$20,000 each

Bathrooms (Total of 3) \$15,000 each

Staff Office \$10,000

Laundry \$5,000

Hope Cottage: home for up to 6 mothers and 12-18 children \$500,000 (Endowed)

Living Room \$25,000

Recreational Room / Group Meeting Space \$25,000

Kitchen \$30,000

Bedrooms (Total of 6) \$20,000 each Bathroom (Total of 3) \$15,000 each

> Staff Office \$10,000 Laundry \$5,000

Faith Cottage: home for up to 3 mothers and 3-6 children \$500,000 (Endowed)

Living Room \$25,000

Kitchen \$30,000

Bedrooms (Total of 4) \$20,000 each

Bathroom (Total of 2) \$15,000 each

Staff Office \$10,000 Laundry \$5,000



WAYS TO GIVE

Gifts to the campaign are tax deductible and may be in cash, check, credit card, or securities with pledges payable over three (3) years, from January 2022 to December 2024. Memorial and honorarium gifts are welcomed. You may consider a more substantial gift through **planned giving**, or increase the value of your gift by requesting **matching funds** from your employer. The Tamassee staff would be happy to discuss these and other options to maximize your gift in support of The Well Campaign. You may reach us at (864) 944-1390 or jeller@tdarschool.org.

"Those who drink the water I give
will never be thirsty again.
It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them,
giving them eternal life."

John 4:14 New Living Translation

