

FREEDOM FARM NEWSLETTER

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GARDEN UPDATES



Keith from Sims Grown visited our garden for a consultation and soil test. He gave recommendations based on our vision for the garden. We are thrilled to continue working with Sims Grown this year as we bring our garden to life.



The land has been lovingly tilled and prepared in anticipation of our upcoming planting. Our hearts are full of hope and expectation as we look forward to the harvest ahead!

AROUND THE FARM



In March, a precious new addition was born at Freedom Farm - a darling baby calf! Our hearts overflow with joy and love for this precious new life. It's a beautiful reminder of the wonder of new beginnings and the promise they hold.



We had several work days in January and early February to continue clearing the way for our Hope Homes. We are so grateful for the countless volunteers that pour into Freedom Farm!

MEET OUR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



Amanda Norris

Amanda made a remarkable journey from Texas to join us here at Freedom Farm. Her role in our day-to-day operations is invaluable, as she provides unwavering support to our Executive Director and Project Participants. You'll often find her at the Freedom Farm office, inspiring and empowering our young adults with her uplifting words. Amanda's compassionate heart is devoted to helping others and spreading hope wherever she goes.

Amanda's favorite scripture is Colossians 3:1-2 "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."



Freedom Project

We partner with local schools like Russell County and The Rock Academy to identify children in grades K-12 who may benefit from spending time on our farm. There is a significant demand for Tier 3 youth, and we are dedicated to addressing this need. We also work with other organizations like Project Green Light so the farm can benefit the entire community. Through our weekly mentorship program, we provide a supportive and nurturing environment where children can cultivate healthy relationships and connect with the Lord.



The Vision

EDUCATION CENTER

Our Education Center will serve as the heart of our Freedom Project operations, providing a central location for a range of essential services. Here, we will offer academic tutoring and counseling sessions to students who have fallen behind in school, empowering them to reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

In addition, the Education Center will play a vital role in ensuring that Farm Days can continue to operate despite inclement weather. With indoor spaces for activities and gatherings, we're able to provide a safe and welcoming environment for children to learn and grow year-round.

We plan to begin restoration in Q2 of this year!



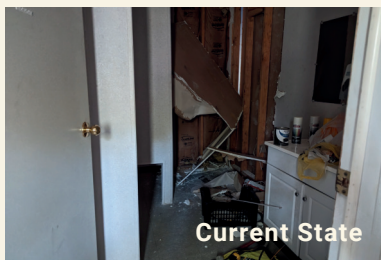
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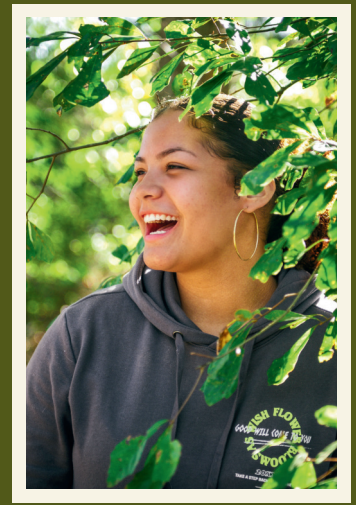
FARM DAY

Our weekly goal is to provide an enriching space for children to learn and thrive through a diverse range of activities, including caring for farm animals and crops, engaging in outdoor adventures, and exploring their creative interests. We firmly believe that connecting with nature and building relationships with others can deeply impact a child's personal and spiritual growth. In addition to the experiential learning opportunities, we also plan to introduce educational tutoring to support children who may have fallen behind academically. By taking a holistic approach and meeting each child where they are, we are committed to making a positive difference in the lives of the children in our community.



Hope Project

We're dedicated to helping young adults aged 18-24 who have aged out of the foster system, are in crisis, or facing homelessness. Unfortunately, this specific population is often neglected in our area, and there are limited resources available to them. To make matters worse, in our area, shelters are only available to those over the age of 21, leaving 18-20 year old young adults with few options for support. This gap in services means that vulnerable young adults may be forced to homelessness at a critical time in their lives, with few resources to help them transition into adulthood.



Spotlight with Jaymarie

BEFORE FREEDOM FARM DID YOU HAVE ANY FUTURE GOALS?

I had a next day goal because if I even made it to the next day, that would be a miracle for me. I see more of a future now than I ever did before.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT FREEDOM FARM?

Everything. The memories, the people. These people love you so much, you don't have to worry about anything. I love it here.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST JOY?

Being able to praise the Lord and knowing that He has my back. Knowing that I have the opportunity to go on to do something even greater is what makes me so happy.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO FROM HERE?

I want to be able to travel and minister. I know that I can help people where I'm at, and I do...but I would love to be a missionary, plant seeds, and share the love of Christ.



HOPE HOMES

A new beginning. After an intake process and months of life skills classes, mock interviews, schooling, job placement and much more, these tiny homes will be a perfect start for an individual to start living independently. Each home is 1 bedroom and 400 square feet. We have been so blessed with amazing partners and donors that have made it possible to begin construction on three Hope Homes. Each young adult will have certain requirements that must be met before moving into a Hope Home. During this transition time, they will be provided with essentials and continued education on how to become contributing members of society. With each passing day, we are one step closer to providing safe and affordable housing to those in need.



GRADUATION

D'Asia, a participant in our Hope Project, has excelled in her new surroundings and recently achieved a major milestone, earning her high school diploma. She graduated from The Bridge Academy Selma in January with flying colors and earned the highest math score in the school's history. The sense of accomplishment and pride she felt was immeasurable. With her diploma in hand, D'Asia's future will be transformed. Freedom Farm not only provided her a home, but people to call family, and the educational resources and support she needed to overcome adversity and unlock her true potential. D'Asia is now filled with optimism and hope, ready to embrace a new chapter in her life with renewed confidence and purpose. Congratulations D'Asia! We are so proud of you!