



**A VIRTUAL EVENT  
OCTOBER 21, 2021**

PRESENTED BY:



**WATCH PARTY KIT**



Greetings!

We hope you're ready for an exciting evening as we bring you Gilgal's **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Jean Gala!** This is our second year hosting a virtual event, and we can't wait to share all that God has been doing at Gilgal since our last livestream!

The theme for this year is "**Love Never Fails.**" The event will go live **Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** Pre-show activities start at 6:30 p.m. Throughout the evening, we will share testimonials from clients, staff and partners, as well as important updates. We will also host an online silent auction with some amazing items up for grabs. You don't want to miss it!

So, if you haven't already done so, round up your favorite blue jeans, pick out a comfy viewing spot, and invite your friends and loved ones to watch this year's gala with you. We know you will all be inspired.

To help you plan and enjoy a successful viewing party, we've assembled this handy "**Watch Party Kit**" which includes:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Jean Gala Program (What to Expect Before, During and After)
- Watch Party / Pre-Event Planning Checklist
- Prepare to View the Event: Test Your Devices and Connections
- Prepare Your Heart: Armor of God Prayer
- Prepare Your Mind: Substance Abuse and Homelessness Statistics
- Prepare Your Table and Share Your Photos
- Enjoy a Scrumptious Recipe
- Meet Our Gala Sponsors
- Meet Our Gala Committee and Patrons
- Gilgal at a Glance
- Gilgal Impact
- 2021 Blue Jean Gala Giving Opportunity
- Next Steps: Help Us Dream Big

Thank you for joining us for this special virtual event and for helping us spread the word. God is doing amazing things at Gilgal. We invite you to join us as we dream big and step into all that He has for the future.

Change Happens at Gilgal because God's love never fails. Thank you for being a part of it!

Val Cater  
Executive Director

Terena Washington  
Board Chair

# 7th Annual Blue Jean Gala Program

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Special **THANKS** to Chesley McNeil and Jennifer Bellamy for once again hosting our gala. Their love for Gilgal never fails, and we're so grateful for their support.



6:30 PM      Pre-Show

7:30 PM      Welcome

Meet Our Honorary Chairs  
Barbara and Monte Jackson

Dream Again (Part 1)  
Meet Gilgal Residents Marie R. and Stephanie W.  
Meet Cheryl McClure, Program Director

Sponsor Spotlight  
Vincent Longo Custom Builders

Volunteering at Gilgal

Raffle Drawing

Dream Again (Part 2)  
Meet Terena Washington, Board Chair

How You Can Help

Q&A

8:35 PM      Silent Auction Closes

# Watch Party / Pre-Event Planning Checklist

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HERE ARE A FEW CHECKLIST ITEMS TO ENSURE YOUR NIGHT IS A SUCCESS:

- SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE REGISTRATION:** If you have not already done so, please make sure you and your guests are registered for the silent auction site. Your online profile allows you to bid on auction items, purchase raffle tickets and “Fund a Need.”  
There are two ways to create your profile:
  - Text **bluejeangala** to **243725** OR
  - go to: [https://one.bidpal.net/bluejeangala/welcome\(authentication:login/sign-in\)](https://one.bidpal.net/bluejeangala/welcome(authentication:login/sign-in))
- INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES:** Because the event is virtual, people can view it from all over the U.S. and even the world. Invite your family and friends to enjoy the evening and share the link with others. It’s free to watch and will inspire our viewers.
- CONFIRM YOUR WATCH PARTY GUEST LIST:** Check-in with your guests who will enjoy this special evening with you. See if they have any questions and encourage them to pre-register for the silent auction site.
- TEST YOUR EQUIPMENT AND CONNECTION:** Before the event, it is a good idea to test your viewing equipment (phone, tablet, computer or TV) and your internet access. More information about this is on the following page.
- SET THE TONE FOR THE EVENING:** Our Blue Jean Gala has always been a casual and fun event. So put on your favorite blue jeans and find a cozy viewing chair. If you are planning to enjoy dinner while you watch, make it relaxing for everyone. Dim the lights and light some candles. You can also keep this guide handy in order to share some statistics or read the “Armor of God Prayer” with your guests. There are so many ways to make the night your own and keep everyone engaged.
- PURCHASE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS:** There is a \$1,000 Lowe’s gift card up for grabs in our raffle. Log on early and purchase your tickets and encourage your loved ones to do the same. The tickets are \$25 each or \$100 for five.
- BUILD SOME EXCITEMENT BY BIDDING ON AUCTION ITEMS:** Silent auctions can be a lot of fun—especially for a group. Why not place a bid on one of the items and start a little healthy competition?
- WATCH AND ENJOY:** Enjoy the livestream together—making note of your favorite parts. Encourage dialogue with your guests during and after the event to keep the enthusiasm going.

# Prepare to View the Event

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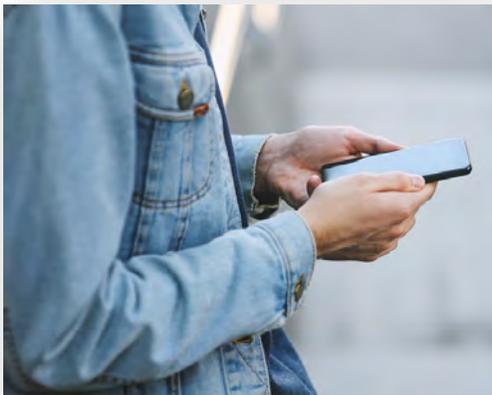
## Test Your Devices/Connections



If you are watching on your Smart TV, make sure your internet connection is working.

Go to [gilgalbluejeangala.org](http://gilgalbluejeangala.org) on the web.

We will be live streaming the event from this web page.



If you don't have a Smart TV, you can pull up the website on your computer or phone and "cast" (connect) it to your TV as a mirror screen.

Refer to your device's operating manual for specific directions.



On **Thursday (October 21st)**, you can go online to [www.gilgalbluejeangala.org/live-stream](http://www.gilgalbluejeangala.org/live-stream) to watch the event. The main program will start at **7:30 p.m.**

Tune in early to ensure your equipment and sound are working properly.

Pre-show activities will begin at 6:30 p.m.

To bid on silent auction items, purchase raffle tickets, or help "Fund a Need," you can:

- Text **bluejeangala** to **243725** OR
- go to: <https://one.bidpal.net/bluejeangala/welcome>

# Prepare Your Heart

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## Armor of God Prayer

Gilgal is a Christ-centered recovery residence for women experiencing homelessness due to drug and/or alcohol addiction. Our vision is to assist women in breaking the cycle of defeat that led them to addiction and homelessness, and to replace it with victorious living through Jesus Christ. Each day, the women say the prayer below and put on the full armor of God. We invite you to join us praying these words and activating God's promises for us all.

### Good Evening Lord!

Thank you for assuring me of victory today. By faith, I choose to follow Your battle plan and to prepare myself according to Your instructions.

To prepare myself for the battle ahead, by faith I put on the **belt of truth**. *Renew my mind to what is true. Fill me with truth. Expose in my heart the lies that I am tempted to believe. The truth is that You are a sovereign God who loves me and cares for me. The truth about me is that I am Your child – bought and paid for by You. Nothing can separate me from Your love.*

By faith, I put on the **breastplate of righteousness**. *Today I am committed to doing what is right. I pray that I would be known as one who does what is right regardless of what it costs me. Allow the righteousness of Christ to shine through me today.*

By faith, I put on the **sandals of the gospel**. *I am available to You. Use me in the lives of others. I pray that in my conduct and speech I would accurately represent You. Make me a calming presence everywhere I go.*

I now take up the **shield of faith**. *My faith is in You and You alone. Apart from You I can do nothing. In You, I can do all things. Everything that comes against me must come through You for I am in You. As You walked without sin on this earth, live without sin through me today. By faith I claim victory over \_\_\_\_\_ [silently name the temptations] that I know I will face today. When I face these temptations, remind me that the victory has already been won.*

By faith I put on the **helmet of salvation**. *Thank You for saving me. Thank You for forgiving me. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to live inside of me. Holy Spirit, I surrender my will to You today. I surrender my thoughts to You. I choose to take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.*

And lastly, I take up the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the Word of God. *I claim these specific promises from God's Word for me today: \_\_\_\_\_ [name the promises]*

So Lord, I go now rejoicing that You have chosen me to represent You to this lost world. May others see Jesus in me. May satan and his hosts shudder as Your power is manifest through Me.

**In Jesus' Name, I pray.  
Amen.**

## Prepare Your Mind

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### Substance Abuse & Homelessness Statistics



- **95,000** Americans die every year from the effects of alcohol <sup>2</sup>
- **53 Million** (20%) of Americans ages 12 and older have used illegal drugs or misused prescription medications in the last year <sup>2</sup>
- **Every 15 minutes** in America a baby is born addicted to opioids <sup>3</sup>
- **47%** of young people in America use an illegal drug by the time they graduate from high school <sup>2</sup>
- **Hydrocodone** is the most misused prescription opioid – **5.1 million** Americans reported having abused it in 2020 <sup>2</sup>
- **8.7 million children** nationwide have a parent who suffers from a substance use disorder (SUD) <sup>4</sup>
- Georgia has an estimated **10,200+** experiencing homelessness on any given day; Atlanta has an estimated **3,200+** on any given day <sup>5</sup>
- More than **93,000** drug overdose deaths occurred in the U.S in 2020; the highest number ever recorded in a 12-month period. <sup>1</sup>

SOURCES:

1. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
2. National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics
3. SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
4. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
5. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) - Continuums of Care

# Prepare Your Table and Share Your Photos

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Since our first Blue Jean Gala in 2015, it's always been about the table! It is the central meeting place where Gilgal family and friends come together to share a meal and be inspired.

Year after year, our gala committee has put their talent to work – making every detail perfect. The denim table cloths, mason jar vases, and centerpieces covered in burlap and tealights have made the ballroom inviting and fun!

And while the past two years have been different with our virtual events, we hope that you can still enjoy the fellowship experience around your own table. We know that each of you have unique talents and tastes, and that your personal tables will be equally special.

We've included a few decorative ideas to get you started. Feel free to add your own flair! There is no right or wrong way to set your table. Because the table is less about how it looks, and more about how you and your guests feel!

So be creative! And most importantly, BE YOU! Because this night is still about the passion and love that comes from partners like you – who believe in what we're doing at Gilgal and want to help us tell God's story.

Change Happens at Gilgal Because God's Love Never Fails. Thank you for being a part of it!



## SHARE YOUR OWN TABLE DESIGNS WITH US!

Want to share your table set-up with us? We'd love to see your creativity! Who knows, you might just inspire our committee for next year's gala! Post your pictures on our Facebook or Instagram page, or email them to [info@womenofgilgal.org](mailto:info@womenofgilgal.org).

[www.facebook.com/Gilgal-Inc-38455850030](https://www.facebook.com/Gilgal-Inc-38455850030)  
[www.instagram.com/gilgalinc](https://www.instagram.com/gilgalinc)

## Enjoy a Scrumptious Recipe

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We are partnering with **Zest Atlanta** to provide an exceptional dinner delivered to our sponsors and table patrons.



The following is a recipe for the scrumptious Orzo Salad that is served this evening with the Polynesian Chicken Breast. We hope you will enjoy it!

### Orzo Pasta Salad (Serves 10)

#### INGREDIENTS:

- Orzo Pasta (1 Pound) - You can substitute gluten free Orzo.
- Sundried Tomato (1 Cup)
- Pesto (2 Cups)
- Salt and Pepper
- Asparagus (3 Bunches)
- Optional: Caesar Dressing (1 Cup) - Makes it creamier

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees
- Boil Orzo Pasta until cooked

#### PESTO BLEND:

- In a food processor: Combine Sundried Tomato, Pesto & Caesar Dressing
- Blend ingredients until smooth

#### BAKED ASPARAGUS:

- Cut Asparagus in 1/2 inch to 1 inch pieces
- Season with Olive Oil, Salt & Pepper
- Bake Asparagus @ 375 degrees for 3 – 4 minutes

#### COMBINE AND SERVE:

- Place cooked Orzo, baked Asparagus, and Pesto blend in a large bowl
- Mix all ingredients well
- Add Salt and Pepper to taste
- Serve warm, room temp, or chilled

# Meet Our Gala Sponsors



Special  
Thank You to  
**KIA**  
Presenting Sponsor  
of the  
Blue Jean Gala!

## PLATINUM SPONSOR



## GOLD SPONSORS

Anonymous

Amy & Mark  
Kistulinec



## SILVER SPONSORS

Anonymous



Ali & Robbie  
Thompson

## BRONZE SPONSORS

Anonymous



Loretta  
Dale Smith



Karen & Steve  
Maloor



# Meet Our Gala Committee and Patrons

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## HONORARY CHAIRS

Barbara & Monte Jackson

## STEERING COMMITTEE

Tina Alexander, Chair

Darcie Bailey, Co-Chair

## COMMITTEE

Kehni Adewole

Tai Akintokun

Lisa Alexander

Danielle Blair

Adriane Carter

Robyn Feather

Caroline Fredericks

Darcy Harper

Rose Marie Lockett

Tracy Ryan

Renee Schwarzkopf

Sara Sharp

Onica Stewart

Ali Thompson

Terena Washington

## GILGAL BOARD

Terena Washington, Chair

Tina Alexander

Courtney Ball

Val Cater

Marie Davis

Darcy Harper

## TABLE PATRONS

Lisa and Randy Alexander

Darcie and Stan Bailey

Berean Bible Baptist Church

Builder Investment Group

Val and Tommy Cater

Louis Dale

Sharon and Alec Dicks

East Point Church

Natalie Henderson

Infinity Capital Partners

Barbara and Monte Jackson

Jennifer and David Kahn

Maximum Impact

Donna and Charles McCord

Tracy and Scott Ryan

Renee and Jim Schwarzkopf

Terena and Ken Washington

Wellspring Nonprofit Resource

Marion and Hamilton Williams

Stephanie and Whit Yates

## BENEFACTORS

Selma and Joseph Blackmon

Jill Langella

Jill and Carl Wilbanks

Elise and Tom Wilkes

## PATRONS

Julia and Mason Barge

Penny and Michael Boaz

Karen Costie

Jolene and Dan Crofoot

Robyn and Nathan Feather

Edith and Frederick Fresh

Roslyn and Jim Gregory

Bernadette Hartfield

Susan and Steven Hooker

Jimmye and Samuel Jolley

Martha and Blaine Kelley

Maura Kelly

Karen and Crawford Loritts

Susanne and William

Melchione

Denise Nyberg

Deborah and Rod Ponder

Donata Russell Ross

Marion Sharp

James Thompson

Katherine and Thomas White

Donna Williams

Women of Gilgal Discipleship

Class #1

Christine Zinman



CHANGE HAPPENS AT  
GILGAL BECAUSE GOD'S  
LOVE NEVER FAILS.

[www.womenofgilgal.org](http://www.womenofgilgal.org)



## Gilgal at a Glance

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Gilgal serves **single women** over the age of 18

The **average age** of a Gilgal resident is **41**

Our programs are **free of charge** – eliminating barriers to receiving services

Gilgal has **3 residences** that can serve up to **28 women** at a time

**Alcohol, Crack, and Meth** are the top 3 drugs of choice for Gilgal women

Women come from **all walks of life** and socio-economic backgrounds

*Gilgal is a Christ-centered, long-term recovery residence for women who are experiencing homelessness due to drug and alcohol addiction. Through our one-year, multi-phase program, we help women transition from crisis and homelessness to a place of stability and independent living.*

*We currently provide women with basic essentials (housing, food, clothing, etc.) as well as a full range of recovery services, spiritual enrichment, case management, workforce development, life skills training, and aftercare. We are located in southwest Atlanta and serve women from across Georgia.*

**100%**

of Gilgal residents meet the official definitions of “poverty” and “homeless”

**75%**

of women have received at least one **mental health diagnosis**

**80%**

of residents have been in **previous recovery programs**

**40%**

of residents have had their **children removed** by child protective services

**75%**

of Gilgal women are victims of childhood **abuse, neglect, or trauma**

**60%**

of Gilgal women are victims of **intimate partner violence**

## Gilgal Impact

## Bringing Dreams to Life

**820+**

women have been served since Gilgal opened its doors

**60**

Alumni are actively engaged with Gilgal.

Many are giving back to the agency through donating their time, talent and financial resources.

**96**

women officially completed the one-year Transformations @ Gilgal program

On average **50** women are served **every year** at Gilgal

Gilgal women go on to live out their dreams:

- GEDs / College Degrees
- Livable Wages
- Career Advancement
- Healthcare Benefits
- Savings / 401k
- Families Reunited
- DL Obtained / Restored
- Vehicle Ownership
- Home Ownership
- Professional Licenses (new and reinstated)

**3**

Gilgal graduates are currently on staff:

- Deborah M. (10 years)
- Rachel D. (3 years)
- Sara F. (2 years)

### Some Employer Partners:

Atlanta Retail Management  
Chick-fil-A  
CKS Packaging  
Coca Cola United  
Fastenal  
First Step Staffing  
Publix  
Randstad Sourceright  
UPS  
Waffle House

**500+**

women have been assisted with I-9 Documentation (SS, DL/ID, Birth Certificates, etc.)

**100%**

**overcame** medical, mental health, legal, financial, and employment **barriers** while a Gilgal resident.

*Standard recovery programs can cost thousands of dollars per month. Gilgal's programs are free to clients – allowing the most vulnerable women an opportunity to receive critical services they might otherwise be denied.*

*It costs Gilgal approximately \$1,500 a month (per resident) to provide housing and basic services (food, clothing, etc.), as well as individualized case management, addiction/recovery programs, career services, health and wellness education, and life skills training.*

*We rely on the generous support of partners to help us educate, equip and empower our women to embrace a future free of drugs and/or alcohol and dream again!*

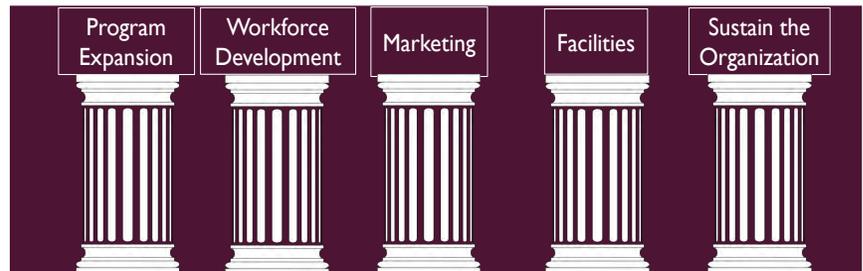
# 2021 Giving Opportunity: Building for Our Future

Help us build a sustainable future for Gilgal by joining us as we strengthen the **5 Pillars of Our Foundation.**

1. Program Expansion
2. Workforce Development
3. Marketing
4. Facilities
5. Sustain the Organization

## 2021-2024 Strategic Plan

Serve as many women as possible with excellence throughout their recovery journeys by providing **robust programming** and expanding **workforce development**, in **modernized facilities** with the support of a **Christ-centered sustainable organization**.



### PROGRAM EXPANSION

- On-site counseling (Family Reunification and Parenting classes)
- On-site psych nurse
- First 72 hours (Modular Housing Expansion)
- After graduation support (Housing/ Programming)
- Look to add a location to widen coverage area

### MARKETING

- Explore alternate ways to expand awareness: billboards, radio, referral pipeline, print newsletter for churches
- Social media presence (content development)
- SEO (search engine optimization)
- Potential hire to manage marketing (possible intern)
- Annual marketing calendar/plan



### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- GED classes / continuing education (partner w/Atlanta Tech)
- Computer lab with skills training
- Expand employer partnerships
- Soft skills job training expansion

### FACILITIES

- Architects to build a master site plan (multi-year, with phases)
- Begin a capital campaign
- Modular housing plan (short-term use by residents)
- Current property - maintenance and updates

### SUSTAIN THE ORGANIZATION

- Strengthen the Board (handbook, succession planning, committees)
- Succession planning for the staff
- Funding diversification and endowment

## Next Steps: Help Us Dream Big

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### Thank you so much for sharing this evening with us!

Our desire is for every Gilgal woman to DREAM— exceedingly, abundantly beyond all they can think or ask! We want them to know that anything is possible, and that there is no limit to God's love for them!

We invite you to join us; not just for the sake of Gilgal residents, but for every person who will be impacted by their changed lives. Our goal is to *educate, equip* and *empower* women to embrace a future free of drugs and/or alcohol and help them reach their full potential.

For some, this might start with taking a computer class or gaining the confidence to try something new. For others it could mean getting a GED, training in a new career or going to college. For all, it will mean a changed heart and a determined mind. Whatever the dream, it starts with a belief that more is possible — and you can help!

**PRAY** Please pray for the women that God connects to Gilgal. Some need courage to reach out for help. Some need patience to face the everyday challenges that come with making new choices. Some are now living on their own and need positive support networks to keep them focused and on the right track. Wherever they may be in their journey, we pray they know God's unfailing love.

**GIVE MONTHLY** Your financial support directly provides Gilgal women with basic essentials (housing, clothing, food, etc.), case management, career development, mental and physical health education, spiritual enrichment and recovery programming. You can give monthly or make a donation to "**Fund a Need**" and make a dream come true.

- **\$50** Start the Dream (Admission Fee)
- **\$75** Seed the Dream (GED Books & Calculator)
- **\$100** Rides for the Dreamer (Monthly Marta Pass)
- **\$150** Feed the Dreamer (Food for One Month)
- **\$250** Drive the Dreamer (Gilgal Van Monthly Gas Card)
- **\$750** Anchor the Dream (Program Services for One Month)

**GO** Volunteer! Use your specialized skills to fundraise, help with technical projects, advocate, teach classes, support residents, etc. There are a host of opportunities to get involved and make a difference. Visit our website at [www.womenofgilgal.org](http://www.womenofgilgal.org) to learn about volunteer opportunities or sign-up for our next orientation. You can also contact us by emailing [volunteer@womenofgilgal.org](mailto:volunteer@womenofgilgal.org).

**CONNECT** Subscribe to our newsletter and join our social media community. We continually send out updates and inspirational stories. As you educate yourself and share the information, you're in turn equipping others and empowering change!

For more information, please visit our website at: [www.womenofgilgal.org](http://www.womenofgilgal.org)



Change Happens at Gilgal  
and You Can Be a Part of It

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404-305-8007 ♦ [info@womenofgilgal.org](mailto:info@womenofgilgal.org)  
[www.womenofgilgal.org](http://www.womenofgilgal.org)