



WANDA'S KITCHEN

Wanda Cooks Joyfully

A STORY BOARD



WANDA GREW UP IN AND OUT OF THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM IN PUERTO RICO. ONCE WHEN SHE WAS SIX, HER FOSTER PARENT SHOT A GUN INTO THE AIR AT THEIR DINNER TABLE. THE BULLET RICOCHETED AROUND THE ROOM UNTIL IT HIT HIM IN THE CHEST. SHE MOVED ON TO ANOTHER HOME.

Wanda (age 6)



THROUGHOUT HER YOUTH, WANDA REMEMBERS THE CHAOS OF NOT KNOWING WHERE SHE WOULD LIVE. BUT SHE ALSO REMEMBERS LEARNING TO COOK AFTER STAYING WITH HER GRANDMA. THIS STARTED HER LIFELONG LOVE OF COOKING FOR OTHERS.



WHEN WANDA GOT OLDER, SHE HAD TWO CHILDREN OF HER OWN AND A JOB AS A TEACHER. BUT WHEN ABUSE FROM HER CHILDREN'S FATHER BEGAN, SHE KNEW SHE COULDN'T STOMACH IT. SHE DIDN'T WANT HER CHILDREN TO EXPERIENCE THE THINGS SHE HAD AS A LITTLE GIRL. WANDA MADE THE DECISION TO MOVE TO LANCASTER, PA, AND STAY WITH HER SISTER.

Lancaster, Pa



UNFORTUNATELY, HER SISTER'S LEASE DIDN'T ALLOW HER TO STAY LONG. SO SHE CAME TO WATER STREET MISSION FOR A FEW NIGHTS, BEFORE FINDING SHELTER AT MILAGRO HOUSE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.



WANDA WENT ON TO FIND A JOB, AND RAISE HER KIDS IN AN APARTMENT IN COLUMBIA, PA, WHICH SHE HAD FOR OVER 9 YEARS. SHE MOVED BACK TO LANCASTER CITY WHEN HER KIDS WERE OUT OF THE HOUSE, AND SHE QUALIFIED FOR HOUSING SUPPORT.

Columbia, PA



DUE TO SEVERAL INJURIES, WANDA NOW RECEIVES DISABILITY. BUT THAT HASN'T STOPPED HER FROM DOING WHAT SHE CAN. SHE STARTED COMING TO WATER STREET MISSION'S OUTREACH CENTER FOR GROCERIES, NOT JUST FOR HERSELF, BUT SO SHE COULD COOK FOR HER UNDERSERVED NEIGHBORS. SHE WOULD BRING FRESH FOOD OR WHOLE MEALS TO OTHERS FOR FREE. SHE WOULD EVEN COOK MEALS FOR PEOPLE SHE MET LIVING ON THE STREET.



NOT LONG AFTER RECEIVING GROCERIES THROUGH WATER STREET'S FOOD PANTRY, SHE FOUND A WAY TO GIVE BACK EVEN MORE. SHE NOW VOLUNTEERS AT THE SAME OUTREACH CENTER THAT HELPS HER, SORTING AND HANDING OUT GROCERIES TO OTHER NEIGHBORS IN NEED.

Hands Food Out



AND SHE'S STILL COOKING, ONLY THIS TIME FOR HER FAMILY OF
OUTREACH CENTER VOLUNTEERS, SEVERAL TIMES A WEEK.

The End

Water
Street
Mission



WATER STREET MISSION

Restored to be restorers