

# A blessed journey

**GLEN JACKSON AND EVELYN  
"RUTHIE" IRVING-JACKSON**  
Founders, The Trinity House, Inc.



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Glen & Evelyn Jackson stepped forward by faith in God, and welcomed the first occupants to The Trinity House on July 15, 2005. From the beginning the Jackson's made an agreement with one another to give a "Hand up" not a "Hand Out".

Glen and Evelyn met on Christmas Day in 1992 while both were going through treatment programs. Evelyn was in a program called "Kiva" and Glen lived in a McAlister Institute after-care home. They married in 1994 and in 1995 gave birth to their only daughter whom they affectionately named "Kiva," a term used by modern Puebloans to describe a room for religious rituals – or "A place of Healing."

In 1997, Evelyn graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelors in Computer Science, and in 1999 Evelyn received a Masters degree in Software Engineering. After graduation Evelyn worked as a software engineer and also taught technical college courses. In the final stages of completing her Doctorate, Evelyn's focus is leveraging Technology in Non-Profit Organizations. Glen received his AS degree in Inter-Networking Technology in 2004 and worked as a voice and data cable technician and network engineer. However, both had a passion to help others, and found themselves mentoring and encouraging others who have had similar struggles.

Glen and Evelyn, both once homeless themselves, wanted to be a part of the solution to homelessness in San Diego. With that, they opened the first Trinity House, a faith-based transitional home that offered clean, safe and affordable housing for women and women with children who were homeless or at risk of homelessness. We discovered for ourselves that a spiritual path provided the way to a better life and we knew

for sure that it could happen for others." After seeing the transformation in the lives of the women and children they were able to help, it was clear that there was a greater need. In January 2006, The Trinity House expanded and opened a 2nd home for women and women with children.

The Jackson's knew that providing more than a sober living home was important because there are many individuals who are in need of housing, but do not suffer with substance abuse issues. The Trinity House opens up opportunities for anyone finding themselves in unforeseen circumstances that could lead to homelessness. The Trinity House is the link that hopefully diverts the path to homelessness, and provides stability until permanent housing can be found. In fact, since its inception, The Trinity House has been able to divert homelessness for over 50 families. "We later saw a need for housing for men, men with children and single women. In May 2006, we opened two additional homes, one for men and men with children, and one for single adult women."

The Trinity House's guiding philosophies are about building lives and developing character according to spiritual principles. Our motivation is to help those in need and to allow God to restore their lives. "Immediately after opening the first home, we discovered that God had this wonderful ministry for us. While we certainly didn't know that it would lead us to this place and we are blessed that God has allowed us this journey."



Having fun with the family. Back row: left, Serinity Gaulden; right, Evelyn Irving-Jackson. Front row: left, Kiva Jackson; center, Glen Jackson; right, Joseph Thomas