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**OUR MISSION:**

Passionately sharing the love of Christ with hope to transform the lives of urban youth, their families, and the communities in which they live.



**Sozo Missions**  
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Bradenton, FL 34203

My name is Trisha Boggs. I moved to Florida 13 years ago where I met my husband, Jeff. We stay busy with four kids and four grandkids, and love to ride our motorcycles whenever we can find time to do so.

Me and my husband had been discussing wanting to get involved in a local ministry, and one day while going through our church's (Woodland Community Church) weekly bulletin I found a request for volunteers to help serve dinner to the kids at the Oasis Center. We felt God was speaking to us, so me and my husband answered the request. We both love kids and felt this would be a great opportunity to share God's love with a group of kids whose lives are full of heartache. After we met Bishop Freeze, the Executive Director of Sozo Missions, and saw how contagious his love for God and those kids were, we just knew this was a mission we wanted to be a part of. Once we started volunteering, we felt led to do more. We felt that God had blessed our lives and that while we couldn't fix the lives of the kids we served, we could share our time and God's love with them to try and better their lives. Our volunteering to help serve dinners over 5 years ago led to helping with other special events, the annual fundraising banquet, and summer camp. And for the past 3 years, me and my husband have served as board members at Sozo Missions and feel so blessed to be serving our community.

Some of my most memorable experiences happen at the Sozo summer camps. We usually have a night where everyone sits around a campfire and the kids share a distressing event in their life that has caused them pain or anger and how it has affected their life. Hearing the heartbreaking stories of abuse, neglect, drugs, death, violence, or family members in prison is truly heartbreaking. It has totally elevated my compassion for those less fortunate. Showing these kids that they can trust God in any situation, to forgive those that have harmed them in the past, and to break the destructive patterns of their parents and make a better life for themselves in the future is vital to their becoming successful young adults. It is a true blessing to be a small part of their lives and to walk beside Bishop Freeze as we minister to the many needs of these beautiful children. To see the smiles on their beautiful faces as they walk through the door of the Oasis Center is truly life changing.

Sozo Missions takes aim at a mostly pushed aside and discouraged demographic – children who live in neighborhoods surrounded by poverty, violence, crime, substance abuse, stressful family life, and few positive adult role models – and our work is to be intentional and effective in sharing Jesus in a way they can connect with. We see hope and potential in each of these young lives and our message to them is ... **you matter** – not only to us, but to God.

Would you please prayerfully consider coming along side of me and the Sozo team with a monthly financial donation of any amount to help support our mission? These tax-deductible donations can be made online via the Sozo Missions website (www.sozomissions.com) or can be mailed in by check to the address noted below. If a monthly donation is not doable, single donations are welcome and very much appreciated. You can also join our team by becoming a committed prayer partner.

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.* – Philippians 2:3-4

Together we can show young people that they matter and bring hope to this generation, and the next!

