

Inspirational - Inez C. Stafford, Daytona Beach

Nominated by Deborah Minor and Angela Poku

Minister Inez Stafford is the founder of Faith Fellowship, which serves to bring women from area churches together on a monthly basis for prayer, praise and proclamation. She is an active member of Mt. Bethel Baptist Institutional Church, where she serves as a Deaconess, a Sunday School Teacher, and a Youth Counselor and participates on Saturday mornings with the Outreach Ministries serving those in need of food and other services in the community. She serves on the Women's Center Advisory Board and is the President and founder of WIT-NEST, INC. (Women in Transition Now Establishing Support for Themselves) a residential home for single women in transition.

WIT-NEST is where we came to know Mrs. Inez. We were women facing various hardships and entered WIT-NEST at different times and at different points in our lives. Mrs. Inez was the first person each of us met during our intake process and from the moment you meet her you know how wonderful she is.

While you are WIT-NEST Mrs. Inez helps you in anyway possible. Sometimes it seems like she has a crystal ball at home because you may be thinking about how to resolve an issue and she calls you out of the blue. She never tells you that she cannot fit you into her schedule and if she senses you are down she shows up at the house to lift your spirits and give you words of encouragement. She has done so many wonderful things for us as residents of WIT-NEST that it is truly hard to put into words. She has a compassion for helping women that is endless, a giving soul that never stops and a true robust passion for life.

She continued to encourage us and she believed in us even at a time when we did not believe in ourselves.

The inspiration that she exemplifies cannot be put into words. Mrs. Inez manages to squeeze 48 hours into a 24 hour day and never looks tired or acts fatigued. Even the energizer bunny needs to change his batteries once in a while but not Mrs. Inez she truly keeps going and going and going.