

Samaritan House News

Homeless Shelter For Women and Their Children

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28th Anniversary Celebration

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then nothing more needs to be said about Joe Laureano. Doesn't the mere image of Joe make you want to smile? You can just feel his exuberance; his love for making people happy through his music. Joe has a God-given talent and we believe his special gift is just one of the attractions of our annual celebrations. Couple his class act entertainment with delicious cuisine from our friends at Panera Bread and it's a combination that draws a sell-out crowd year-after-year!

You know, I believe we are all born with God given gifts; none perhaps as obvious at first as Joe's, but **ours** nonetheless and it is up to us to discover and develop these gifts. Whether we possess a talent for music, mechanics, sports, management, volunteering or any number of others, we must all strive to do our best with what we have been entrusted. In doing 'our best' we can be content with whatever situation may test our resolve or question our intentions. And, at times, our weaknesses may actually be our strengths. If in our desire to help those who come to us with so many burdens, we become discouraged, we remind ourselves it is time to take on a *winner's mentality*; stop thinking of obstacles and start thinking about opportunities, speak positive words and avoid negative and depressing conversations.

So . . . it is July and it is very, very hot. We are sheltering thirty-seven homeless women and children. Already, in this past month we have served fifty-two different individuals. And yes, this at times can create havoc and maybe even make us wonder why we choose to work day after day to ease burdens and restore dignity to so many people. But . . . we do know why. It is our gift; it is what God entrusted us to do, to help others.

We so look forward each year on our anniversary to celebrate with you, our valued friends and supporters. It is a time of reflection and rejuvenation; a time to refill our cups and to just plain enjoy ourselves!

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"She truly believed, until then, that this trafficker loved her."

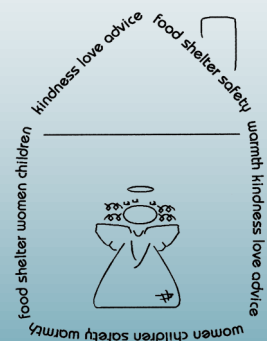
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Mission Statement

Restoring personal dignity and independence to homeless women and their children by providing shelter, hope and guidance.

Vision Statement

Lima's Samaritan House, Inc. will be recognized as the community leader in providing quality service to homeless women and their children with integrity through empowerment, education, financial stability and networking.



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samaritanhouselima.org

Shelter Projects

Adopt-A-Room

Years ago, Samaritan House had an ongoing project called Adopt-A-Room. The goal of the project was to find adoptees for each of the 38 rooms within the facility that would take on the task of the upkeep for their particular room. Many of the plaques can still be found on the doors, acknowledging the business or group that originally adopted the room. A few of the groups remain active in keeping up their room, however, Samaritan House is now in its 28th year and many of the original groups have long since disbanded. Many volunteers have stepped up in recent years to tackle flooring, bathroom repairs, and painting, throughout the shelter but many of the 17 bedrooms could use some attention. Over 300 women and children call Samaritan House home each year. Although their time here may be brief, we want them to have a space that is peaceful, encouraging and lifts their spirits. The summer months are very busy at the shelter with most every bedroom filled at all times. Because we don't want to displace our residents, we will begin the Adopt-A-Room program again this fall. We are looking for individuals or groups that would be interested in decorating a bedroom. We have neutral paint colors that we will be adopting throughout the shelter as we refresh the bedrooms so most ideas for decorating would easily work for any room. Items could include curtains and rods, table lamps, artwork, and word art. Some rooms may need more. If you would like to be contacted once this program gets off the ground this fall, please send an email through our website or watch for more information on the website in the coming months.

Helping Hands

Many thanks to all of you who donate time, money, wish-list items and talents. It has been a busy year and we couldn't do it without you! Youth and volunteers from Cridersville United Methodist Church completed weeding, trimming and beautifying our landscape and children's play area. Our volunteer, Estella, worked tirelessly organizing the food pantry. T&D Interiors donated time and materials to install new carpet in our first floor hallway. We were also fortunate to have the talents of John Deal and Tommy Walker. They raised the funds and worked hard to quickly complete a much needed bathroom remodel. The bathroom now has new drywall, vanity, door, toilet, flooring and tub surround. As with any home, there is always work to be done and it is only with the help of many volunteers and donations that we are able to operate the shelter and do our part to try to improve the lives of the families who stay with us. We are looking for



skilled labor for projects we hope to work on this fall and winter. They include various bathroom upgrades, skilled painting, and replacement of interior bedroom and bathroom doors and trim. If you are able and willing to help with one of these projects or are interested in sharing your time and talents in a different capacity, get in touch! We can always use a helping hand.

TOGETHER WE CAN AND DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE! WILL YOU HELP?

Please find my tax-deductible contribution enclosed for the following donation:

\$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

I am requesting a separate receipt for my gift.

Please note any person being recognized for a birthday, memorial, etc., along with their address. A separate acknowledgement will be sent to the recipient excluding the dollar amount.

With your support, over the past year alone, 20,149 meals have been served and 6,794 shelter units (one person, one night) have been provided to nearly 350 women and children.

THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF LIMA'S SAMARITAN HOUSE THANK YOU!

Released - *One Client's Journey*

By Janel Engberg

This past spring, I attended the *Break Every Chain Conference*. The focus of the conference was finding freedom in Jesus from our "chains." These chains could be anything from food addiction to negative thinking to sexual slavery. It was a powerful experience and especially meaningful to me when I encountered a former client who was also attending the conference. When she came up to me I didn't recognize her at first; she was so well-groomed and happy! She hugged me and told me she is doing really well. She is furthering her education while at the same time, helping other women suffering from a horrible type of

victimization she knows all too much about; human trafficking. She thanked me for helping her and told me the best thing that has ever happened to her, the turning point in her life, was when I realized her struggle and knew where to direct her. Throughout the course of helping women and children as a case manager over the last 13 years, I have worked with many who I suspected to be a slave to human trafficking. Sadly, most of these young women do not realize they are victims of crime and other times they are simply too afraid of the consequences of telling about what is, or has, happened to them. Last year I began to work with this particular client. I knew her well from a

couple of previous shelter admissions. I already suspected this client was trafficked in the past; however during this admission, she was finally able to begin to separate physically and mentally from her trafficker. I could now begin to educate her on human trafficking. I started by asking-*has this, or this, ever happened to you?* She told me she could relate to those things and I told her why I identified this as human trafficking. At first she was distraught. She truly believed, until then, that this trafficker loved her. Throughout the conversation, I used 'trafficker' to describe her 'boyfriend.' What I was saying began to sink in. This client made the bold choice to allow a Crime Vic-

tim Services representative, whom I knew well, to come visit us at the shelter. She continued to meet with Crime Victim Services for counseling, assistance and education. By the end of her stay, she was no longer choosing to have contact with her trafficker, had built a positive support network, and gained permanent employment and housing outside of the area. I am so glad that I was able to receive the training necessary to identify and assist our clients in situations like this. In doing so, I was able to help her to recognize and break the chains that were holding her captive.

Wish List

Grocery Items: Sugar, Butter, Coffee Creamer, Frozen Meat, Canned Beef/Chicken, Regular Coffee, Cheese, Cooking Oil, Eggs, Canned Soup, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Pasta, Canned Fruit, Sandwich Meats, Kids Snacks, Boxed Meals & Mixes

Office Supplies: Postage Stamps, Pocket Folders, Copy Paper, Writing Paper/Legal Pads

Household Items: Duct Tape, Electrical Tape, Clear Packing Tape, Spray Disinfectant, Disinfecting Wipes, Floor Cleaner for Laminate/Linoleum, Dish Washing Liquid, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels, WD40, Silverware, Sandwich Bags, Furniture Polish, Air/Fabric Freshener, Curtains/Rods, Swiffer, Wet Jet & Refill Pads, New Vacuum Cleaners, Fans

Misc: 10 Pack Bus Passes, Arthritis Creams, Ladies Belts, Good Condition Steeled Toed Shoes/Boots sizes 5-7, Insulated Lunch Totes, Women's Underwear (size 5&6), Bed Bug Covers/Spray, All Sizes Storage Containers/Totes, Girls Underwear Size 6, Hair Spray, Wal-Mart/Meijer/Chiefs Gift Cards, Denture Cream, Tennis Shoes Sizes 5-9

Bold: Items Most Needed

Does it really happen here?



Yes. As uncomfortable as it may be to think that human trafficking exists in your hometown, the truth is that it is happening. While the vulnerability of being homeless does increase the risk of becoming a victim, it could also be happening to a student in your child's school, a neighbor, friend, or even a family member. Human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act or labor or services through the use

of force, fraud, or coercion. One of the best ways to help is to recognize the signs. Some may include: *Is the person accompanied by another person who seems controlling? Does the person seem submissive or fearful? Are they repeatedly absent from school? Is there disconnect from friends and family? Has there been a drastic change in mood or personality?* If you believe you are in the presence of a trafficking victim, contact the **National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline at 1-888-373-7888**. To get involved locally or for more information, visit the Crime Victim Services Human Trafficking Division at crimevictimservices.org/human-trafficking.html or call 419-222-8666.



Samaritan House

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Address Service Requested

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US POSTAGE PAID
LIMA, OHIO
PERMIT # 236

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A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FAITHFUL DONORS WHO
SUPPORT SAMARITAN HOUSE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!



Mark Your Calendar - It's Celebration Time!

Join us in celebrating Samaritan House's 28th Anniversary

RAISIN' BREAD

An evening featuring Dueling Pianos,
Appetizers, and Silent Auction

Wednesday, August 12th, 2015

5:30 pm to 8:00 pm

City Club (Lima)

144 S Main St



Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased by completing the reservation card inside.
For information on becoming a sponsor or donating an auction item,
please visit samaritanhousethema.org

Thinking about how you can get involved? Please contact Brandi Schroeder or
Marilyn Cipollone at 419.222.4663 or by email at samhousethema@embarqmail.com.
Find out more by visiting us on the web at www.samaritanhousethema.org