



Lima's Samaritan House News

Homeless Shelter for Women and Their Children

27th Anniversary Celebration – What's in a number?

By Marilyn Cipollone, Executive Director

A couple of years ago when we celebrated our 25th Anniversary, it seemed special; a bench mark, a quarter of a century. The following year, our 26th Anniversary: not so much. In an effort to make this year's event somehow exceptional, I set out to find some very important 'facts' about the number 27. Here is what I discovered.

The number 27 carries the qualities and vibrations of the number 2 and the number 7. No big revelation here. But, my source attempts to further inform. Number 2 resonates with the attributes of intuition, duality and finding balance, mediation and co-operation, sensitivity and selflessness, serving others; a divine life purpose and soul mission. This sounds very good so far! Number 7 relates to spiritual awareness, persistence of purpose, understanding and introspection and spiritual enlightenment. Number 7 also relates to manifesting and inner-wisdom. These energies combine to make 27 the number of the humanitarian, of harmony, spiritual insights and unconditional love.

Here, I must admit that I neither read nor believe in numerology, horoscopes or zodiac signs. I don't think

they have any credibility other than the power of suggestion. *If we believe; it will be.* And just as many of our homeless women come to believe what they have been told about themselves; their worthiness or lack thereof, we all too often allow ourselves to thrive or falter on the opinion of others. It becomes, more or less, a matter of self-fulfilling prophesy.

We'll gladly wear the mantle of humanitarian; sensitive and selfless in our mission to serve others. I like



We share our loaves (literally) but always have enough food.



what I 'discovered' about the number 27. I like how it ties together with what I believe are the qualities and virtues of those of us who work day after day in seeking solutions to homelessness. To do so, we have to believe in ourselves; continually examining our motives and doing our very best. If we get discouraged, we 'lift each other up.'

It takes a 'special' kind of

person to work at the shelter. We certainly can't take anything personally or for granted. We know we serve those who have become disenfranchised, discouraged and often without hope. We do this on a very tight budget; sometimes wondering whether or not we will be able to remain open to continue our work. We never have an abundance of funding but manage somehow to have what we need. For example, if Lima Rescue Mission has more apples than they can use, they bring some to us. If someone donates more bread or potatoes than we can use at the time, we call them. We share our loaves (literally) but always have enough food.

We became convinced a long time ago that Samaritan House will remain a viable resource; a refuge in the storm, a safe place to begin again for as long as the good Lord wants it to.

I know astrology is fun for some and that is fine. But, I will put my faith in a higher power and perhaps a little divine intervention.

So, what's in a number? I really don't know. I do know what matters most is in our heart and soul.

Thank you for your support throughout the years!

Summer 2014

Samaritan House Mission Statement

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

Samaritan House 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.

Samaritan House Staff

Marilyn Cipollone,
Executive Director

Brandi Schroeder,
Assistant Director

Janel Engberg,
Case Manager

Leora Steele,
Team Leader

House Managers:
Alice Donahue
Linda Donahue
Evelyn Johnson
Debra Lockett
Edna McLaurin
Sharon Pitson

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Shelter Perspectives - Living and Learning

Shy and Scared

I came to Samaritan House in the beginning of April. My ex-boyfriend had kicked me out of the house, I had nowhere else to go, and they took me in. I felt safe at the Samaritan House. Every body from the staff to the residents greeted me and helped me learn the rules. Some I had to learn on my own. At first I was shy and scared and stayed in my room a lot but eventually I started coming out of my room and getting to know the other residents, I began to think, this place isn't so bad after all. I met with Janel three times a week and we started working on finding me a place to live. I found the Lima Towers and wanted to live there. I filled out an application and waited. I thought I would have to look for another place to live when I finally heard back from the Towers. They had a list a mile long of things I had to get to qualify for an apartment. While I was completing the list I was in a car accident that really slowed me down. I was sore and out of commission for about two weeks, but kept pushing through with Janel's help. I had about two weeks left and finally had almost all of my paperwork completed for the Towers. The staff at Samaritan House walked me through what I had to do to get ready for leaving. I will always

remember my time at the Samaritan House. Seeing residents come and go and making friends with some. But most of all I will always be grateful to them for making me feel safe, giving me shelter when I had none, and giving me advise whether I wanted it or not, but in the end knowing it was right all along.

Goodbye Samaritan House and God Bless you for all the wonderful work that all of you do. ~Stacy W.



A note posted on the board by a resident exiting the program:

To My Fellow Sisters,
I just wanted to say to the staff, and to everyone else thank you for making my stay here feel very much like home.
Love ya and have a blessed life, KC:

A Volunteer's Experience

Dear Staff,

I am writing to say thank you for allowing me to volunteer at the Samaritan House. Your hospitality was very welcoming. I thank you for showing me the programs that you offer to women and their children. You all are very compassionate and respectful of the needs of the residents.

The programs you offer to women and children are extraordinary and in my own opinion are very helpful to the residents that complete your program. The best part of the program that I have noticed would be the women having to save 80% of their earnings for future housing costs. I believe that is amazing and very insightful for the residents.

May you all continue working with needy women and children, your services will surely be appreciated by many. Keep the spirits high and caring nature of the Samaritan House staff going. You are all awesome.

Once again thank you for allowing me to come and volunteer for your agency.

Sincerely,

Shantia M. Drake

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, 21,242 meals have been served and 7,204 shelter units (one person, one night) have been provided to over 350 women and children.

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



Good Works

By Leora Steele, Team Leader

I just wanted to share with our friends some of the wonderful gifts individuals and organizations have given us this year. As we have mentioned in newsletters past, keeping up maintenance on a facility this size without a maintenance staff can be somewhat daunting.

This June two gracious groups stepped in and helped us in big ways. Procter and Gamble employees came in and installed brand new flooring in our front entryway and carried it on through to the dining room. It turned out beautifully! This was a much needed repair as the existing flooring was worn and dimpled in areas. They also replaced a screen door in the back of the shelter that had to be removed last fall. Along with that they repaired some exterior brick work that was extremely water

damaged. They also installed a few air conditioning units to help create a cooled common area and help with the heat and moisture from the kitchen.

Cridersville United Methodist youth also came in to the shelter and helped out with spring cleaning, planting flowers, mulching, and painted the second floor hallway as well. It had been patiently waiting for a fresh coat of paint for quite some time.

Both groups were a joy to have and we truly appreciate all of their hard work. To view pictures of our hard working volunteers, visit www.samaritanhouselima.com.

As with most every older house, the shelter is still in need of some help. There are opportunities for individuals

or organizations to assist with various maintenance issues as well as simple sorting and stocking. Please contact Leora or Brandi if you or your group are interested in helping.

Samaritan House is fortunate to have so much support from our community. Every month there are dozens of donations of food and household items, volunteers that teach a class or come to share their stories and encouragement, help organize, clean, or make a holiday brighter for our women and children. We appreciate all that you do and thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Without you, it would be impossible for us to continue in the capacity we do. Whether it is a new floor or a roll of toilet paper - it all matters.

Keep up the good works!



Samaritan House Wish List

Cooking oil Cheese Salt & Pepper Butter Coffee Creamer Frozen meats
 Canned chicken/beef Canned pasta Canned fruit Sugar Drink mixes Sandwich meats
 Kids' snacks Ziploc bags - gallon size & smaller Tall & large capacity trash bags Foil
 Silverware Plastic grocery bags Bleach Spray disinfectant Disposable gloves
 Glass cleaner Floor cleaner for wood/linoleum Toilet bowl cleaner Air/fabric freshener
 Fabric softener Large size rubbing alcohol Laundry detergent Hand sanitizer Mops
 Brooms Curtains/rods Laundry baskets New/like new pots and pan
 Drain opener Toilet paper Copy paper Pens Writing tablets/legal pads
 Manilla Folders Cold/sinus medicine -infant & adult Tylenol/Ibuprofen
 Antibiotic ointment Conditioner Hair styling products Lotion
 Women's underwear - sizes 6-8 girls and boys underwear Diapers - sizes newborn to 5
 Diaper rash ointment baby lotion
 Good condition steel-toed shoes/boots (needed for many of the available jobs)
 New or gently used charcoal grill Wal-Mart/Meijer/Rays gift cards

Volunteer Opportunities - instruction, classes or small events for residents (skills, crafts, cook out, games etc), organizing & rotating food pantry and storage rooms, painting, cleaning.



Samaritan House
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 Lima, OH 45801
 samaritanhousethima.com

Samaritan House

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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 27th Anniversary

RAISIN' BREAD

An evening featuring Dueling Pianos, Appetizers, and Silent Auction

Wednesday, August 13th, 2014

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 samaritanhousethima.com



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