

Samaritan House News

Homeless Shelter For Women and Their Children

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What Has Changed?

According to a Gerber survey, Jessica and Matthew were the most popular names for newborns; the Minnesota Twins won the World Series, the Washington Redskins took the Super Bowl for the season and the Los Angeles Lakers were NBA champions. *Walk Like an Egyptian* by The Bangles was the number one hit and more people turned on their televisions to watch *The Cosby Show* than anything else on TV; it was America's favorite. The year was 1987 and it was estimated that there were between 10,000 and 15,000 homeless individuals, one-third of whom were children, living on the streets, residing in an unsafe environment or in buildings considered unfit for human habitation in the state of Ohio.

What has changed? Well, in four or five years, kindergarten classes will be filled with Sophias, Olivias, Avas, Isabellas, Liams, Noahs, Oliver and Masons. Sport fans are still rooting on their favorite teams to bring them glory, *Psycho* by Ty Dolla \$ign (say what?) was at the top of the billboards last week and apparently a record number of viewers, over 15 million, never miss an episode of *The Walking Dead*, *Stranger Things* or *Game of Thrones*. And now, it is projected that between 10,000 and 15,000 individuals will be homeless in 2018, one-third of whom will be children, living on the streets, residing in an unsafe environment or in buildings unfit for human habitation in the state of Ohio.

The year 1987 is the year Samaritan House first opened its doors. For thirty-one years, the shelter has been a safe haven for thousands of homeless and/or abused women and children who otherwise would have had no place to go. What has changed in those thirty-one years? Names and faces have changed but, unfortunately, the events leading up to being homeless remain much the same. However, we have seen more addiction and mental illness and more mothers who have lost custody of their children due to drug abuse. Through it all, we keep the faith; we keep hoping, we work closely with other social service agencies in our community who care, as we do, for those whose lives have been interrupted, ever mindful that, *there but for the grace of God, go I*.

When I speak of hope, which is quite often, I remember a favorite quote of mine by Emily Dickinson,

*"Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all."*

We hope you will celebrate with us on August 15, Samaritan House's 31st Anniversary at The City Club with *Aces Wild*, dueling pianos, wonderful food by *Panera Bread*, a silent auction and some of the nicest people in our community. Nineteen eighty-seven was also the year that President Ronald Reagan challenged Soviet General Secretary, Mikhail Gorbachev, to "tear down that (Berlin) wall." Together, we too can bring down some walls; the ones that keep people in bondage; one brick at a time. There will always be those with kind hearts; thankfully that never changes!

By: Marilyn Cipollone

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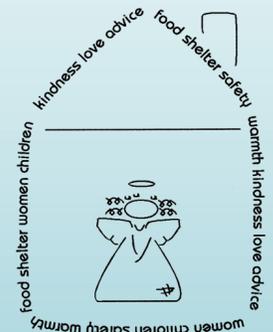
Patrice Reinhart

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Tiffany Wright

"...I am afraid God,
make a way."

A Clients Story:
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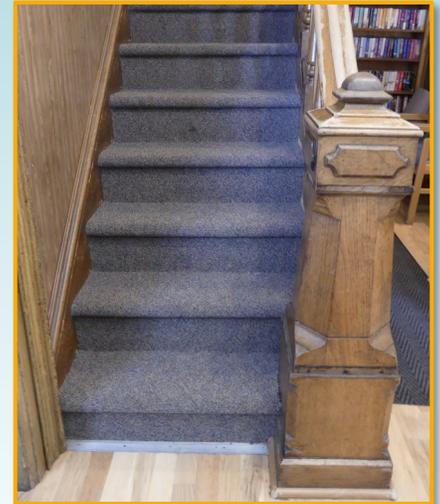
Shelter Projects

By: Brandi Schroeder

The completion of shelter projects throughout the past year has been both challenging and exciting. As a shelter and home to many already in distress, we are forever aware of the amount of disruption created at any one time. It is a delicate dance of shifting projects and balancing available skilled volunteers, funding, and the amount of disturbance created. This past year presented a unique set of circumstances due to the St. Rose construction project and its impact on our grounds and project schedule. The removal of the old high school left us completely exposed but until their project was near completion, we were unable to begin any work.

This required an extraordinary amount of coordination and consideration between the volunteers, our staff, and the St. Rose Project Team. Mind you, this was in addition to the bathroom, stairway, and additional washer and dryer hookup projects already underway *within* the shelter.

These projects and more have been made possible due to the Husky Energy Refinery Charity Golf Outing proceeds, donations by the Altrusa Club, T&D Interiors, and Ford/UAW local 1219 and countless other donations and volunteer labor hours.



You can imagine what a blessing it was to be contacted by the Husky Volunteer Council and C.O.F. Day of Caring Committee with their incredible timing and proposal of completing the entire backyard project - leveling the yard, planting grass, removing and replacing the shed, tearing out the crumbling concrete patio and pouring new concrete, and last but not least, installing privacy fencing and an additional gate for the new parking area.

When you walk a new family through for the first time, often they are scared in anticipation of what a shelter is going to be like, and then you see their faces relax and even light up; you know it is all worth it.

Thank you to all of our Friends of Samaritan House for helping to create a safe environment, a place of healing and renewal, a place for rest; a home. We couldn't do this without you. We are forever grateful for your past support and future consideration.

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, 16,314 meals have been served and 5,438 shelter units (one person, one night) have been provided nearly 250 women and children.

The women and children of Lima's Samaritan House thank you!

A Client's Story



I am a girl who stepped out of a messy situation and had nowhere to go. I chose to leave a living arrangement involving severe mental abuse, endured for months. The situation was escalating. I had to make a move. Looking around, "where do I turn"? No family. "God it is me, Heather. Please give me your strength and your direction, I am afraid God, make a way." God led me to The Samaritan House. I had no idea what I was walking into. "Humbleness" consumed me. There was no way around; I had to walk through it and an angel named Rachel guided me, supported me, welcomed me, showed me unconditional love. God provided her in my life. God provided the Samaritan House.....the employees, exceptional.... I stayed for 50 days. Experience-Brandi, very compassionate, understanding, helpful and lovely. You couldn't ask for a better director! I accomplished a lot here. Although I walked in here with a job, I learned how to save money for the first time in my life. I learned again, the value of money. All my life I have struggled with the disease of addiction and have

been down many roads. The Samaritan House for me was the high road. I felt worthless when I got here but the staff was very supportive; they each had a lot to offer. I am exceptionally grateful and thankful for each moment I spent here. I am walking into my house! My goals are to get my license back and a car with my savings and to go back to college.

With love and gratitude,

Heather

Note from staff: Heather was determined to make a go of it. Even when her hours changed suddenly and she temporarily had no transportation, she stuck it out. Not wanting to risk losing her job, she walked in the dark, early in the morning to a fast-food restaurant clear out on Harding Highway. She would have ridden a bicycle if she had one. In the meantime, she secured comparable employment just blocks from her new home. We don't think she feels 'worthless' any longer.

While Job and Family Services may be able to provide temporary rides, the RTA may be an option depending on availability

and routes, or The Wheelhouse may be able to offer a bicycle, transportation is often a barrier for women. Cabs are expensive and busses don't run early in the morning or late at night. Many have never had a driver's license or, if they have, they may have expired or been suspended. Often there are heavy court fines and of course mandatory insurance. When you are starting over from scratch, a car cannot be at the top of your list. As you see from Heather's letter, now that she has her own place, she can think about getting her license back and eventually a car.

Wish List

Grocery Items: Boxed Meals & Mixes, Breakfast Bars, Butter, Cereal, **Cheese, Coffee Creamer,** Cooking Oil, Eggs, Frozen Meat, Hamburger/Ground Sausage, Kids Snacks & Fruit Cups, **Lunch Meat,** Powdered Milk, **Regular Coffee, Sugar.**

Office Supplies: Binders, Copy Paper, Envelopes, File Folders, Pocket Folders, Postage Stamps, Scotch Tape, Thank-You Cards

Household Items: All Purpose Cleaner, Bathroom Cleaner, Furniture Polish, Disinfecting Wipes, Floor Cleaner, Gallon-size Storage Bags, HE Laundry Detergent, Large/XL Trash Bags, Paper Towels, Spray & Wash, Spray Disinfectant, Toilet Bowl Cleaner.

Misc: 10 Pack Bus Passes, **Bras: 36DD, 38D, 38DD, Conditioner,** Insulated Lunch Totes, Kids Lightweight PJ's, Liquid Hand Soap, Mouth Wash, Toothpaste, Wal-Mart/Meijer/Chiefs Gift Cards.

Bold: Items Most Needed

Complete list available at samaritanhouselima.org

31st Anniversary

Raisin' Bread Celebration & Fundraiser

Gold Sponsor - \$500. Up to 8 tickets*. Company name and logo on event program.

Silver Sponsor - \$250. Up to 4 tickets*. Company name and logo on event program.

Friend of Samaritan House - \$100. Up to 2 tickets*. Recognition at Event.

Donate a Silent Auction Item. Recognition on donated item. Auction items must be received by August 10th.

Sponsorships due by August 8th.

Forms available at samaritanhouselima.org or by calling (419) 222-4663

*Value of the ticket is not tax deductible according to IRS regulations



Samaritan House
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 Lima, OH 45801
samaritanhousethima.org
 Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
 US POSTAGE PAID
 LIMA, OHIO
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Samaritan House



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.

It's Celebration Time!

31st Anniversary

Raisin' Bread Celebration & Fundraiser

An evening featuring Dueling Pianos, Appetizers, and Silent Auction

Wednesday, August 15th, 2018

5:30 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 visit samaritanhousethima.org