



Genesis House



December 2007

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is hard to believe a year has passed since I became Executive Director of Genesis House. I quickly found that I have a very strong team of dedicated employees and volunteers that are true to our mission. They work hard to ensure the needs of the people are being met to the highest quality of care that can be achieved. I am blessed to be surrounded by folks that really care about what they do. With such wonderful support from the community, the volunteer program has grown, funding has increased, and services for people who are homeless have expanded.

Since opening our doors in 1995, over 500 families have resided at Genesis House, thanks to the labors of wonderful people such as you. Last year over 40 families were aided in the Aftercare Program which helps families stay strong and independent after they leave Genesis House. Many other families who called for help were also assisted so they did not lose their housing and did not need to move into Genesis House. We love being able to help prevent homelessness. That's the best thing we can do!

That's why we are starting a new program called HelpNet, to help support pastors. Genesis House will help provide faith-based confidential case management. Today our goals include increasing public awareness, and our volunteer program; diversifying our funding resources; and further developing our medical and mental health services to stabilize the health of our families. We are one of the very first rural homeless shelters to provide medical services to our residents who do not have insurance.

Genesis House is a very special place for new beginnings, and it could not happen if people like you did not support us as your local mission.

Your continued support is needed to assist us in providing a home for the homeless. We ask for your continued daily prayers for the families of Genesis House and all our caring volunteers and staff. With your valued partnership, we can offer countless hopes for a fresh start.

Thank You,

Linore E. Lounsbury

Linore E. Lounsbury
Executive Director



Wish List

Call 373-3354 for a drop-off time.

Siding for house

Diapers

Pillows

Pans

Beds

Laundry and Dish Soap

Volunteers such as:

Nurses

Psychiatric Nurses

Receptionists

Your talent is God's gift to you;

What you do with it is your gift back to God.

Leo Buscaglia

HOPE BROUGHT FROM DC CENTRAL KITCHEN SPEAKER

In July, the executive director of the DC Central Kitchen, Michael F. Curtin Jr., spoke at the luncheon hosted by the Genesis House to support Homeless Awareness Day.

Mr. Curtin explained that “hunger is not all about food” and neither is “poverty all about money.” He credits the success of the DCCK to the culinary skill program taught. The program helps to give those who are homeless some of the skills they need and also helps to empower them.

The DCCK, with Curtin’s experience in hospitality and restaurants, takes in unused food and turns the leftovers into healthy meals. The meals are then sent to non-profit services to distribute among the homeless.

At the Genesis House, we too are taking steps toward feeding the local homeless people. With food donated, we are putting together healthy soup packets, which are easy to make and provide healthy, convenient and nutritional meal choices.

YEAR-END GIVING

Of the many worthy organizations that you can support, thank you for giving to the Genesis House. As year-end gifts are considered, remember that a gift of an appreciated asset, often common stock, or mutual funds may significantly reduce your tax obligations on capital gains.

This will often enable you to make additional gifts or larger gifts to your favorite charities without an extra out-of-pocket expense.

Our long list of donors is folks from all over the country and supports us in ways that amaze us everyday. If it was not for the hard working donors, groups, congregations, and businesses we would not have been able to serve over 500 families. I have no way of thanking you in a way you deserve, but know the people we serve have you to thank.

Bless you all.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR JAMBOREE A SUCCESS

Thank You to the Christopher Columbus Hall for the use of their beautiful facility, to all the bands and to WPIG. None of this would have been possible without you. Also, thank you to all those who came out to support us and made the Jamboree a success.

A very special thank you to Jesse Garon: without you the jamboree would not have been such an achievement in giving back to the community. Thanks to your devotion, many families in the area will be able to have a new beginning. Your time spent does not go unnoticed.

It’s almost time for our annual spring geranium sale. Last year, nearly 6,000 plants helped to make our community ever more beautiful. We hope that you will continue to come out and carry on this tradition with us. We express our sincerest appreciation for your continued generosity, friendship, prayers and support.

AFTERCARE

Aftercare is a safety net for the shelter graduates so they can continue to progress after leaving the shelter. Aftercare hopes to better serve the community by helping people avoid future homelessness and a return to shelter living.

Continued case management and services are an effort to assist past residents with self-reliance. A team provides Aftercare support to graduates. They provide help with food, transportation, finding housing, medical needs, parent education, job referral and budgeting. Aftercare begins the day people enter Genesis House.

Genesis House

107 South Barry Street, P.O. Box 139

Olean, NY 14760-0139

Phone - (716)-373-3354

Fax - (716)-373-3354

E-mail address: ghouse@adelphia.net

We’re on the Web!

See us at: Web:

www.geneshouseolean.org

VOLUNTEERS-CHANGING THE FUTURE

When we become a part of anything, it becomes a part of us. Thanks to all of our past and present volunteers for making us a part of your life.

Volunteer opportunities at Genesis House are many and varied. There are projects on a weekly basis such as; shopping, cleaning, cooking, office help and answering phones.

Some volunteers help with fund raisers like our dinner dance, spring flower sale or our annual jamboree.

We need people monthly to help in our food pantry, with labeling and sorting. There are small house maintenance projects to be done as needed. Seasonal jobs involve snow removal and lawn moving.

We have people involved in aftercare. People are needed in getting residence household items, cleaning supplies and food. We like to follow up with families when they leave Genesis House if they wish.

-Volunteer and Aftercare Coordinator

Muriel Sweitzer



VOLUNTEERING THE ACT OF GIVING

Genesis House is dependant upon volunteer support for tasks to be done to complete our mission. Volunteers embrace the daily lives of our residents in many ways.

- Assisting in maintaining our home
- Office and receptionist work
- Planning and giving birthday parties
- Hosting special events
- Lawn mowing and shoveling snow
- Grant research

Thank you for considering joining the many volunteers who work throughout the year to make this home a happier place, a cleaner place and a safer place for those who are living with us.

We look forward to welcoming you to our staff.



WELCOME DR. KALSMAN

When families come to Genesis House many are facing health issues that need attention. Thanks to Dr. Michael Kalsman our prayers have been answered. Dr. Kalsman is the Medical Director of Southern Tier Community Health Center Network and has generously donated his day-off every week to help care for the families at Genesis House. No rural homeless shelters have a physician onboard to help families to get their lives back in order.

Dr. Kalsman is a graduate of the University of Arizona College of Medicine and completed his residency at the University of Utah Department of Family and Community Medicine. He is board certified in Family Practice and received the 2002 AAFP Foundation Practice Based Research Network Research Stimulation Grant. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Family Practice and a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, Society of Teachers of Family Medicine and National Rural Health Association.

Many who are homeless go years without receiving any medical attention, which often results in life-threatening health problems. Dr. Kalsman's concern for treating the homeless is caring, conscience and inspiring.

Dr. Kalsman stated, "The average life expectancy of a person that is homeless is 45, compared to the national average of 77. The goal of our practice at University Primary Care has always been for the underserved. This program is another avenue to achieving our mission. My hope is to eventually be able to be able to provide basic service to all those that are homeless in the Olean/Salamanca areas."

Genesis House

107 South Barry Street P.O. Box 139

Olean, NY 14760-0139

Phone - (716)-373-3354

Fax - (716)-373-3354

E-mail address: ghouse@adelphia.net

We're on the Web!

See us at: Web:

www.genesishouseolean.org

A GIFT FROM THE NAPOLI NYMPHS

Members of the Red Hat Society, called the Napoli Nymphs arrived "in all their glory" on October 10, 2007 to learn more about Genesis House and homeless awareness. This particular group comes from areas including Randolph, Napoli, Little Valley, Cattaraugus, and Salamanca, all sharing a common goal of having fun. After coffee and desserts, the group presented Linore Lounsbury, the Executive Director, with a hand-crocheted filet doily illustrating the words "Genesis House" graciously made by Grace Peace.



HOW DO YOU SAY "THANK YOU"?

Genesis House Board of Directors, staff and residents say "thank you" to all the Pastors and their families who are so much a part of our lives. In honor of Pastor Appreciation Month, we speak in deep gratitude of all the hard work pastors do to support the work of the Genesis House, a faith based shelter for homeless women and families. Pastor means Shepherd. There is no better person than the one who leads the way. At Genesis House, the one who leads the way is Chairman of the Board, Rev. Dan McDowell of First Baptist Church of Olean.

Genesis House would not exist without the pastors and the Supporting Congregations: Bethany Lutheran Church, Christ United Methodist Church, First Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church of Olean, First Presbyterian Church of Portville, Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Islamic Society of Southern Tier, St. Bonaventure Roman Catholic Church, St. John's Lutheran Church, St. John's Roman Catholic Church, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and Temple B'nai Israel.

Other congregations are always welcome to join us in assisting countless people with a fresh start.

Linore E. Lounsbury
Executive Director

Genesis House
P.O. Box 139
Olean, NY 14760

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Olean, NY 14760
Permit No. 62