

Genesis House, Inc.

.....a new beginning

Happy Thanksgiving, 2013



I AM VERY THANKFUL for all the wonderful volunteers and donors who have helped us this year and through the past 36 years by sharing their *talents, love, time, and financial help*. As a non-profit organization we continue to learn new and better ways to help the many desperate women and their children who come to us for shelter and guidance as they work to improve their lives. Everyone has ways they can help others.

The apostle Paul phrased it this way:

"If it is serving, let them serve; if it is teaching, let them teach; if it is encouraging, let them encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let them give generously; if it is leadership, let them govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let them do it cheerfully." (NIV, Romans 12:5-8)

I often receive messages from past residents and visit with them when I see them working in our community. I hear about their children, many of whom are in or have completed college. I am encouraged by their happiness and success that has come from the help we have provided them. They always express their gratitude, and they recognize the generosity of the people who support Genesis House.

I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!

- Mary Allen, Founder and President of the Board of Directors



Genesis House I shelters adult mothers with children who are homeless or in transition. Some of these mothers are also pregnant. These residents stay fairly short term while they look for more permanent living arrangements or make educational plans for themselves.



Genesis House II provides a home for homeless mothers and their children while the mothers complete their education and work toward financial and emotional independence.



Genesis House III provides shelter for six homeless, pregnant women. These residents often move to Genesis House II after delivery.

IT IS THE MISSION of Genesis House to provide transitional shelter for homeless women and their children, long-term housing for student mothers with children, and shelter for homeless pregnant women. Genesis House, Inc. is committed to providing a safe, supportive, caring environment. Education, self-discipline, self-reliance, and independence from the welfare system are earnestly promoted. Counseling, personal improvement classes, and appropriate health care are obtained for all residents. Classes in childbirth and parenting are provided as needed.

NEW PROGRAMS ADDED THIS YEAR. We now have Wednesday night Life-Skill classes for our adult residents and Homework Club for our school-age children.

The Life-Skill classes are mainly run by our Webster University Interns. There are varied topics such as: Nutrition, Parenting, Infant CPR and First Aid, Time Management, Stress and Anger Management, Self Esteem, Budgeting, and Job Interviewing plus Dress for Success

The Homework Club was started by Justin Smith who is stationed at Patrick Air Force Base. He helps the children with their homework, follows their grades, and he often has a project for them to do, which has included baking pretzels and science projects.

Our residents from all three houses participate in these programs. Baby-sitting for the infants and toddlers is provided by volunteers and a dinner is served for everyone. These are weekly events that everyone looks forward to attending.

We also have a Tower Garden in which vegetables are growing. The mothers and children are watering and caring for this new project.

PATIO PROJECTS. We are in the planning stages of creating a design for two covered back yard patio structures. These areas will be comfortably furnished, well shaded, and beautifully landscaped. They will be used for confidential counseling sessions and as private areas for the residents. All our residents need time alone and private time with their counselors to reflect and problem solve their situations. We need the following items for this patio project:

- Weather hardy, low maintenance plants and bushes
- Large pots for plants
- Four comfortable outdoor chairs and two small tables
- Three lawn hoses

BY THE NUMBERS

In the past year:

- 105 Women sheltered
- 99 Children sheltered
- 11 Babies born
- 1 Adoption
- 18 Residents started GED classes
- 8 Residents earned GEDs
- 3 Residents attended college
- **35** Past residents helped with food, clothes, furniture
- 1200 Phone calls responding to requests for help

TESTIMONIALS

Thank you all so much for everything you have done for my son and I and to help us better our lives. I truly feel I am ready to take care of everything on my own again. I will never forget this! I hope to one day come back to donate my time! God bless.



I just wanted to thank you for the opportunity to stay with you at Genesis House. When our family was evicted we had nowhere to go. If it wasn't for the love and compassion of Genesis House we would have been on the streets. In the short time we have been with you, Genesis House has helped us with food, clothing, diapers, wipes, a bus pass and personal items and, of course, shelter. I never would have guessed the amount of love and compassion that comes from all of the ladies that work in the program.



















JANUARY FUND RAISER. "A Genesis of Art" — An Evening of Art and Jazz. This event will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2014, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Lexus of Melbourne, 6927 Bromley Drive in Viera. It will be an evening of art, music, and fun to benefit Genesis House. Well-known talented local water color artists Beth-Anne Fairchild, Therese Ferguson, Cindy McKee, Linda Neal, Frank Spino, and Lolly Walton will participate in a "paint around," while we listen to the live music of Julia Bullock. The tickets are \$100.00 per person. We are seeking sponsors at the following levels:

Cezanne Couples Sponsor O'Keefe Single Sponsor

Van Gogh Business Sponsor \$750, receive 6 tickets to the event & name on all printed material \$500, receive 4 tickets to the event & name on all printed material \$250, receive 2 tickets to the event & name on all printed material

For Sponsorship or ticket information, call 984-8884 or email 4genesis house ad@att.net.

GOLF TOURNAMENT. The 9th Annual Genesis House Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday, April 27, 2014, at the Suntree Golf Course. Last year's tournament was a big success! We had 7 Main Event Sponsors (\$1500 ea.), 13 Team Sponsors (\$500 ea.), and 36 Hole Sponsors (\$150 ea.). A big THANKS to organizer Scott Steele and the committee, sponsors, golfers, and volunteers. Please consider sponsoring, forming a golf team, or volunteering for the 2014 tournament.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Baby sitters for Wednesday evenings, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday meals (could be a group project)
- Transportation for residents to appointments and occasional GED and college placement testing
- Occasional yard maintenance (could be school or club volunteer projects)
- Maintenance for minor plumbing, electrical, repair problems
- Painting rooms (could be an adult group project)
- Canned-food drive helpers and canned-food pick up and shelving, done twice a year
- Pick up donated furniture and other items
- Free Boutique sorting and organizing
- Help maintain our new sprinkler systems

ON-GOING PROGRAMS

- Individual counseling by Webster University Interns who are under the supervision of Mary Allen, LMHC.
- Individual counseling by a Circles of Care counselor who has worked with our residents for many years.
- Bible Study for residents who wish to participate



RESIDENTS' CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

Christmas gift items are needed by Saturday, Dec 7 for our Christmas party on Tuesday, Dec 10. Gifts received after Dec 7 will be put under the Christmas trees in the houses. Please gifts unwrapped or in gift bags. For details, please leave a message for Mary at 321-723-3133

Sleepwear Sweaters and jackets Sweatshirts and pants Knit tops Jeans

Shoes and sneakers

Backpacks Purses, wallets Gift certificates for clothing and food Movie theater tickets Toys for babies & children

Games for all ages Skid-proof house shoes Watches, cameras **Dav Planners** Alarm clocks Baby monitors

Governing Board

Mary Allen Janice K. Hill Marie Strock Michael D. Allen Carol Ashwell Laura K. Chiesman

Advisory Board

Michael C. Hill Susan Adams Dave Ashwell John R. Hopkins Deacon Stephen Johnson Bernard Bryan Robert L. Cochran, Jr. Andrea Kunert Judge John C. Murphy Beth-Anne Fairchild Charles Favors Mary Kay O'Toole Michael Foley Msgr. David Page Les Wilmeth J.R. Gunther

OUR NEEDS

ITEMS ALWAYS NEEDED

Financial help with utility bills Household cleaning supplies Laundry detergents & bleach

White vinegar, Windex

Dishwasher detergent Paper towels, napkins, toilet tissue

Aluminum foil

Quart, gallon, sandwich-size storage bags

Large kitchen garbage bags

Baby diapers, all sizes

Baby wipes

Crib sheets

Baby & children clothing

Fitted sheets and mattress protectors for deep

twin mattresses

Pillows and pillow covers

Bath towels, wash cloths

Personal shower baskets (for soap, etc.)

Soap, shampoo, conditioner

Hand sanitizers

Sanitizing wipes

Skidproof area rugs, doormats

Laundry baskets

Vinyl table cloths (90" & 70" round.)

Bus passes

Gift cards for birthdays for mothers & children

Gift cards for gas & groceries

Food certificates

Small lock boxes for residents' use

School supplies

SPECIAL ITEMS NEEDED

Good used car for a resident

Mailbox with lock

New microwave oven

Pots, baking pans, cookie sheets

Baking dishes

Kitchen utensils

Twin-size quilts

Chests of drawers for GH II

Desks for GH II

PCs & laptops (with wireless capability) for GH II students

Paper shredder

Six sets of wooden custom-fit blinds

PROJECTS NEEDED

Well, pump & sprinkler system for GH I Sponsor for next year's newsletter Sponsors for golf tournaments &

"A Genesis of Art"

Seasonal yard work

Wind-resistant windows & doors at GH I



IN MEMORIUM

Mary Yvonne (Vonnie) Marian 1952 - 2013





(Remittance Envelope)

We are proud to have our non-profit organization debt free, but our operating expenses continue to be high. We have two full-time employees and three live-in house managers. Funds for utilities and maintenance are difficult to find in these hard economic times. We need help for these

expenses to assist the many women and children who come to us with their urgent needs. It is our sincere hope that you will consider making a donation to Genesis House. We need your help so we can continue to provide a *new beginning* for the many women

and children who come to Genesis House. If you can help us find additional grants, matching funds, foundations, donations, or fund-raisers, please contact us.

Make your check payable to Genesis House, Inc. If you are an employee of a company that has a gift-matching program, please indicate so with your donation. You can also make a donation online at our website:

www.genesishouse-shelter.org

Thank you so much for your help.

Please send the donation/volunteer form to Genesis House, Inc., P.O. Box 2044, Melbourne, FL 32902

Genesis House, Inc.		Your Nar Address	me
Please check if you or your organization would like to — Volunteer to help residents — Volunteer to work at the houses — Volunteer to support fund raisers — Make a donation, \$	Fund Raisers - Virtual Valentine Party - Kendyll K. Bliss Memorial Birthday Party - Mother's Day Cards - Golf Tournament - Other opportunities during the year	Phone #_	E-mail Are you a Harris employee or are employed by a company that will match your donation? _ Yes _ No Company
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