

Dear road home

Dear Road Home,

My daughter and I first entered The Road Home in 2008. The staff and volunteers were wonderful. It was the first time since being homeless that I felt safe and secure knowing that wonderful people were always on hand whenever we needed them.

I remember one time my daughter had gotten hurt so a volunteer at the church went to the store to purchase things I needed to take care of her. The staff at The Road Home helped us get a home and we have been there for over a year now. I would like to thank Kristin, the shelter case manager and Melissa, my House-ability case manager for all the progress I have made working with them. I just want to say thank you to everyone including the volunteers and donors for all they do for the families who had no where else to turn. God bless you all.

Shamiaa and Valencia



News from the road home

Vol 2, Issue 4
Winter 2009

Four Families Move Into Housing & Hope!

On November 19th the first four families moved into the new Housing & Hope apartments on Vera Court and began, along with their new lives, the creation of a supportive community of families moving together out of homelessness. This small community celebrated Thanksgiving together in their new homes along with their on-site case manager, Kristin Rucinski.

Jason, Melissa and their two children Olivia and Troy (photo at right) are among these first families. "The Road Home has given our family hope for our future when we thought all was lost," says Melissa. Melissa and Jay's family are excellent candidates for the Housing and Hope apartments. They can't qualify for any other housing because they have poor credit and housing records. But these days, both are employed full-time, working closely with their case manager and participating in counseling and other support services. They are taking excellent care of Olivia and Troy, who are their best motivations for a better future.



"The staff and volunteers are like family. They raise us up when we are down and celebrate our successes with us," adds Melissa. "After dealing with homelessness for three years, affordable housing is part of the answer for us. With the help of our on-site case manager and the support provided through the program I have no doubt that our family will succeed."

With Meridian Group and General Contractor Mark Landgraf, The Road Home is renovating the apartments and will move additional families in as the units become ready.

Homes for Families Breakfast

On November 4th, 2009 The Road Home Dane County held our 5th annual Homes for Families Breakfast, to benefit homeless families with children, at the Alliant Energy Center. The event was incredibly successful with hundreds of people in attendance. This year's event began with a welcome from board member Barbara McKinney. Then, Rev. David Michael gave thanks for the simple things like a meal to share, a warm bed at night and a place to call home. We also heard from our Executive Director, Rachel Krinsky, and from Marcus Green, a graduate of our IHN Shelter and participant in our Second Chance Apartment Project program.

At the breakfast we announced an incredibly generous and exciting challenge gift from the DeAtley Family Foundation, our largest challenge gift to date. This gift will match dollar for dollar up to \$200,000, any funds raised to support The Road Home's programs. Including the challenge gift, the breakfast raised a total of \$356,000 in donations and multi-year pledges that will support our programs over the years to come. "We are so thankful to the DeAtleys and to everyone who responded to their challenge", said Rachel Krinsky, "Together we are reaching towards our vision of a community with housing for all."

We would also like to thank our generous sponsors for underwriting all of the expenses of the Homes for Families Breakfast, guaranteeing that all donations raised from this event will directly benefit The Road Home programs. The CUNA Mutual Group was the presenting sponsor for the 2009 Breakfast, joined by Midwest Open MRI, The Great Dane Pub and Brewery and UW Health.

For questions regarding the breakfast or pledges, please contact Cyndi Wood, Development Director, at 294-7998 x 311 or cyndiw@rhome.org

Non Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Madison, WI
Permit # 2950

128 East Olin Avenue, Suite 202 • Madison, WI 53713

the road home
DANE COUNTY

Program Report

January – September 2009

IHN Shelter:

- 17 families (29 adults and 42 children) stayed in shelter.
- 16 families moved directly from shelter into housing (94%)

Housing Stabilization:

- 17 families participated
- 7 families reached 1 year in stable housing

The Second Chance

Apartment Project:

- 14 families housed in sponsored apartments
- 2 families graduated and moved to permanent housing

House-ability:

- 24 total families were housed, 9 families served by The Road Home
- 5 families have reached 1 year in stable housing

Rapid Rehousing:

- 29 families housed, 9 families case managed by The Road Home

Furniture Wish List

Beds
Kitchen table
Chairs
Coffee & end tables
Sofas
Lamps
Dressers
Volunteer Movers

Please Help

The Road Home reduce postage costs

The Road Home will be offering our newsletter by e-mail in 2010. Please contact Cyndi Wood, Development Director, at 294-7998 x 311 or cyndiw@trhome.org.

Special Thanks

Everyone at The Road Home would like to thank the following groups and individuals for giving their time, money or items to support our families with children.

- **O.W. Storage and Jim Wills** for their generous donation of two storage units to store our donated furniture for our families moving into housing.
- **Oak Bank's Great Pumpkin Giveaway** raised \$2,015.00 plus donations of diapers, wipes, personal care items and more!
- **Chrysalis Work Center** for their many years of continued assistance. Their volunteers complete bulk-mail projects for The Road Home and other non-profit organizations at no charge. www.workwithchrysalis.org
- **Thanks to everyone who donated wish list items and furniture.** Your donations have helped families moving back into housing rebuild their homes one item at a time.

Shop at SERRV!

Use this coupon at SERRV from December 11-21 and 20% of your purchase will be donated to The Road Home. Nonprofit SERRV partners with 75 groups in 35 countries to bring you handmade crafts and artisanal food. SERRV is also a "buddy" in our IHN shelter program.

SERRV
2701 Monroe St.
233-4438
www.serrv.org

Why We Give to The Road Home

By Tye and Cyrena Cook

We were introduced to The Road Home by our good friends the Achterbergs. It was apparent how much enthusiasm they had toward the cause and how entrenched they had become in helping families move to a better situation in life. Once we were exposed to the details of how The Road Home operated and more importantly the stories and happiness of those benefiting from the cause, we were extremely excited to join such a passionate community.



When reflecting back on Cyrena and my upbringing, the aspect for which we're most thankful is the foundation and positive influence provided by our families. A roof over our head and food on the table allowed us to enjoy the experience of being a kid and growing up, while at the same time providing the opportunity to truly succeed and look beyond potential barriers that life inevitably throws our way. Additionally, we are strong believers in the concept of working hard and applying yourself. In our opinion, The Road Home shares very similar values in an effort to improve the lives of those in need. The ability to help others fulfills a big need in our lives. The families associated with The Road Home are so special. We admire the determination and resolve of the parents working to provide their children with a better opportunity. The genuine appreciation and happiness of the children supported through The Road Home is heartwarming and at times overwhelming. We are thrilled to be part of something special, and contribute to a cause that brings the ultimate joy to others.

Wish List

Bleach
Cleaning supplies
Diapers/pull ups (size 4-6)
Dish soap
Deodorant
Gas, grocery cards
Laundry detergent
Pots and Pans
Tampons/pads
Toilet paper
Towels

****Please Note****

We can accept and store only these critically needed items. Thank you.

the road home
solutions for homeless families

www.trhome.org - 294-7998

128 E. Olin Avenue, Suite 202, Madison, Wisconsin, 53713

Financial gifts: contact Cyndi Wood, Development Director, extension 311 or cyndiw@trhome.org

Donated items: contact Lacie Scheider, Shelter Case Manager, extension 303 or lacies@trhome.org

Volunteers: contact Shannon Hayes, Network Coordinator, extension 306 or shannonh@trhome.org