

Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc.

Emergency shelter for adult men and women

Volume 7
April 2012 Issue

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Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc.

..because our community cares

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Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc. provides emergency shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing programs that offer opportunities for men and women experiencing homelessness to become emotionally, mentally and physically more stable.

Christmas at the shelter

Christmas time at the shelter is like no other - it can be cold, lonely and depressing. Thanks to the support of the following ANGELS, Christmas for the clients staying in shelter and participating in our programs was nice.

American Mutual Insurance, Eldridge
Bettendorf VFW and Auxiliary
William and Karen Bibee
Jane Coryn
Sherri Evans
Sheila Feipel and Genesis Employees
Nancy Huse
James and Mary Orr
Preemption Church, Viola
Annette Rettig
Trinity Church, Rock Island
Vietnam Veterans of America #776
Randy Wehrman
Sue Witte
Cathy Wright

Staff and clients are truly grateful for the generosity of our Christmas ANGELS! The time, effort and financial gifts to make the Christmas season brighter is a blessing.

Efforts for our Christmas begin in October. If you would like to be a part of our 2012 Christmas, contact Melanie at 563/322-8065.



Each client staying in shelter received a re-usable bag filled with the following items: a bath towel, 2 pair of socks, a hat and scarf, gloves, a blanket, razors, toothbrush and toothpaste, comb and brush, chapstick and a pair of flip flops.



Each client staying in one of our supportive living units received a new laundry basket filled with the following items: a 2012 calendar, laundry soap, dish soap, 4 rolls of toilet paper, 3 rolls of paper towels, hand soap, disinfectant spray, a blanket, a bath towel, hand towel and wash cloth, along with some candy and socks.



M.J. was the first client enrolled into the VALOR Program on November 15, 2011. When he came into the VALOR Program, he was receiving \$922.00 per month in VA pension disability benefits and had a five-day eviction notice. M.J. had a negative balance in his checking account and his landlord was demanding \$640.00. Without our assistance, M.J. would soon be homeless.

We completed his individual service plan by identifying his primary goal: to obtain affordable housing. His second goal was to obtain food stamps and his final goal was to maintain his sobriety. M.J., a veteran of the Navy, is currently attending the local Veterans' Administration Intensive Outpatient Treatment Program and daily AA/NA meetings.

I contacted his landlord in reference to the eviction notice. I explained that our program was created to assist veterans with homeless prevention. The landlord informed me that even if our program paid the money owed, he would still proceed with the eviction. So, with that said, we immediately started an apartment search. M.J. was very frightened that his landlord would come to his house and evict him. I explained that this type of action was illegal and would be a violation of his tenant's rights. We reviewed the *Renter's Handbook* published by Prairie State Legal Services in 2009. He was very relieved to be informed of his renter's rights.

We had a couple of barriers to overcome in order to locate an apartment for M.J. He contacted several rental properties, but upon completion of a routine background check, he was frequently rejected due to his criminal record. I contacted several property owners whom I knew and was successful in obtaining a new one-bedroom apartment for M.J. On December 21, 2011, he signed the lease for his new apartment and worked with SEAP to obtain assistance for partial payment of January's rent. The Humility of Mary Shelter - VALOR Program also provided financial assistance which left M.J. with a small amount on his own.

After receiving his VA pension payment in January and spending all of his money on street drugs; M.J. realized that he needed help with his finances. We contacted a local representative payee agency and signed the papers authorizing this agency to act on his behalf. Together we completed a monthly budget with his new payee. M.J. was relieved to have assistance with his finances.

M.J. needed assistance with other things as well: food and clothing, utility assistance and transportation to his substance abuse sessions and NA/AA meetings. We went to the food pantry immediately and also went to the Humility of Mary Shelter - VALOR donation room to obtain clothing. We completed a food-assistance application and 13 days later he received his food assistance LINK card. M.J. has continued to access the food pantry and has applied to the Low Income Energy Assistance Program for utility assistance. The VALOR Program will continue to assist M.J. until his representative payee is in place and he is secure.

M.J. has made a great deal of progress since I met him in November. I'm very proud of him and of our local agencies working together to help him. It takes a community working as a whole to overcome the many challenges of poverty and homelessness.

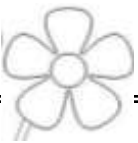
Pam, Service Coordinator

VOLUNTEERS PLANT THE SEEDS

The Saga of the Donation Room

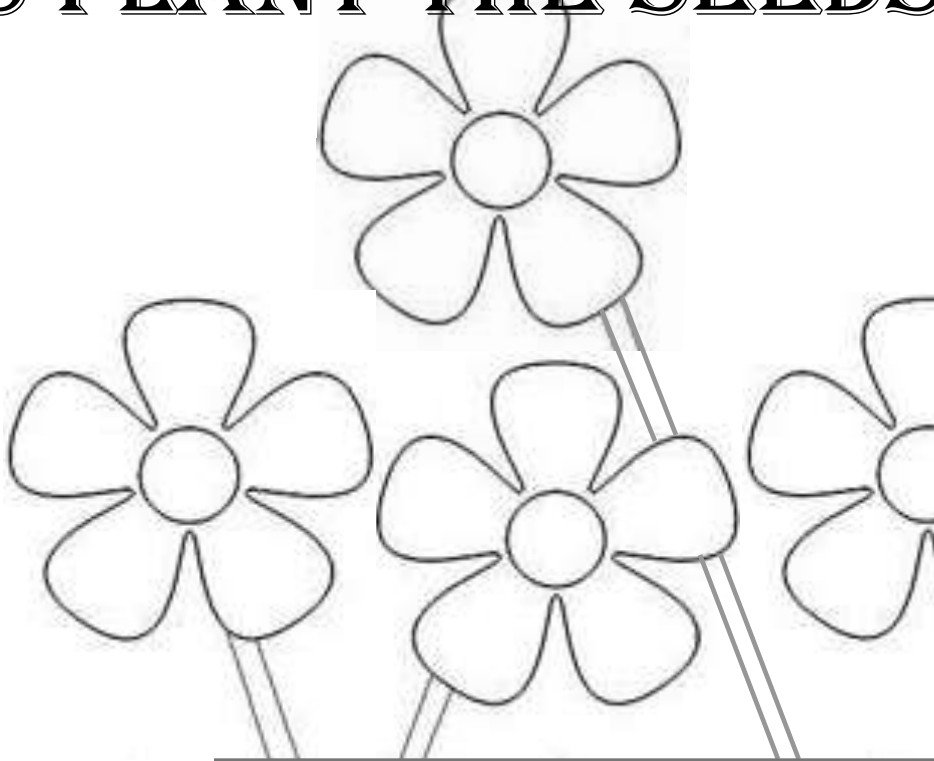
When I was asked about volunteering in the donation room, I said I'd think about it. When the idea was mentioned to my husband, being the generous person that he is, he said "yes" right away. We were given a tour of the shelter and realized the need for an organized (my specialty!!) donation room. We started out with plans of great dimension and dug in. It is a big job and we spend many hours a month sorting, marking and shelving clothing items and shoes for the donation room. Now the organizing is done and the intake is managed. We enjoy doing it very much and nothing is more rewarding than a participant coming to the donation room in need and leaving with their arms full and their needs met. I never knew volunteering could be so rewarding.

~Nancy Boutelle



To join our volunteer team call Melanie at 563/322-8065.

We are looking for a team to clean apartments and a donation pick up crew.



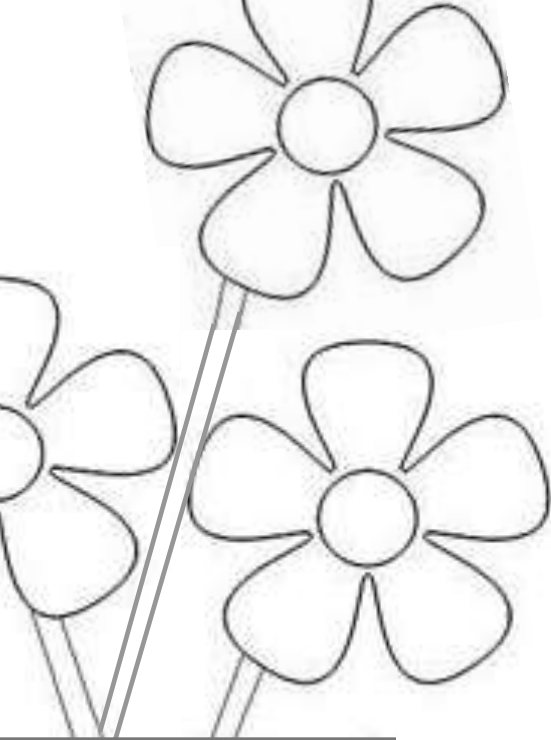
Since July 2011, volunteers have contributed 1,183.50 hours of their time to...



Paul Allen and Billie Greenwood
Bob and Nancy Boutelle - Donation
Valerie Bustle - Laundry/Cleaning
Todd Cooperman - Maintenance
Paul Elias - Night at the Shelter
Bobbie Grace - Laundry
Bernie Hansen - Financial
Pearl Hickman - Laundry
Jenna Iwanski - **Women's Health**
Olivia Jones - Laundry
Steve Kalber - Mental Health
Diane Madesian - Laundry
Margaret Ristau - Computer
Doug Page - Night at the Shelter
Dorothy Spiess - Laundry
Reggie White - Website



OF KINDNESS....



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I am a volunteer once a week at the Humility of Mary Shelter in the computer lab under the direction of Sister Nancy. Sister Nancy asked me once how long I thought I would be a volunteer. I told her as long as it was fun and not boring. It still is fun after several years. The clients I get to work with are interesting people. They have ranged from poets willing to share their poetry, quilters, readers of the same books I read, as well as people with fascinating stories of their lives. At first I thought it would be depressing to work in a place where people were without homes or roots. I was wrong. The clients I have had the opportunity to work with are filled with hope and seem to be sure that tomorrow is going to be a better day. Which in turn, makes me realize how blessed my life is and that hope is everywhere. A major factor in the atmosphere at the shelter are the people who work there. It is a privilege to interact with people who are dedicated and caring. The staff are able to help people accept themselves and move on with their lives. I know because they have helped me.



So in answer to the question of why I volunteer at a homeless shelter... I am a selfish person. I volunteer because it is fun and interesting. I volunteer because it helps me look beyond my own faults. I volunteer because I enjoy being around the clients and the staff.

~Margaret Ristau

Each day is brighter thanks to
your help and your care.
We appreciate you and all the
time that you share.

**United
Way**



2011 United Way Campaign and Illowa Bi-State Combined Federal Campaign

Thank you to the following donors who have pledged through the United Way campaigns.
In an effort to save clerical cost you should have received a postcard from us too.

Doreen Adlfinger	Kevin Finn	Rebecca Landwehr	Sarah Roeder
Barbara Arland-Fye	Patricia Fortin	Nancy Lane	Jamie Rogers
Linda Biscontine	Judy Freeman	Joann Lay	*Sr. Nancy Schwieters
Scott Bitting	Steven/Valerie Frels	Rita Leslie	*Karen Scott
Kathleen Brown	Claudia Frye	Renne Lue Lietz	Christine Sigwarth
Mary Linda Burmester	Holly Garcia	Arthur Loecke	*Terry Sims
Patricia Bush	Constance Ghinazzi	Kathleen Loomis	Katie Spain
John Cahill	Cynthia Gilbert	Johanna Malnar	Mike/Jean Steffenson
Charlene Carmack	Janet Gleason	Tracy McCampbell	Maria Steinbaugh
Cynthia Chelstrom	Kathleen Goodall	Ann McCluskey	Super Target #1583
Jack Christopher	Roberta Goodin	Cheryl McKittrick	Mary Sweeney
Patricia Colson	*Cindi Gramenz	Anne Medhus	*Kelly Thompson
Beth Cook	Matt Hansen	Harry/Georgia Mihm	Andrea Trimble
*Larry Cook	Melody Harris	Jody Millar	Darin Turner
Karen Daniel	Sheila Henson	Kathleen Miller	United Health Care
Clarence/Lili Darrow	Amanda Hinton	*Erin Moore	Andrew Vandaele
John Delaney	Jennifer Jaros	Sherri Morlok	Amy VanSickle
*Lisa Devlin	Lori Johnson	Leland Morrison	Mike Vollbrecht
Marci Dinneweth	*Melanie Jones	William Mortier	*Pamela Walker
*Amber Duncan	*Cathy Jordan	*Barbara Nightingale	*Sandra Walters
Vicki Kaye Duncan	Cheryl Keegan	Roger Perk	Michelle Welch
Carol Eddy	Joseph Kelley	*Elaine Pritchett	Cheryl Zimanek
Richard Edwards	Dana Klostermann	*Peggy Quilty	
Anna Engler	Bridget Knight	Martha Reicherts	
Sheila Feipel	Jim Kopel	Barbara Reis	*HMSI Staff

Emergency Solutions Grant - \$22,000 for shelter operations.

Scott County Housing Council - \$15,000 for contracted maintenance.

HUD Supportive Housing Program - \$935,880 to be shared among seven local agencies in the Scott County Continuum of Care that provides supportive services, emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing.

Emergency Food and Shelter Program - \$3,940 for nights of shelter.

Community Foundation of the Great River Bend - **\$1,400 for additional women's shelter bunks.**

Scott County Regional Authority - \$5,401.49 for washers, dryers and other projects at shelter.

GRANTS !



Erin and Naomi

Due to unfortunate circumstances; I have been homeless at least 4 times in the last 3 years. My most recent time being homeless, I was staying at the Salvation Army and my service coordinator, Tiffany, who works through Humility of Mary Shelter, referred me to the Housing First program. Since then I moved into my own apartment with help from SEAP to pay part of my deposit and I have been living on my own ever since! Due to my disabilities, Humility of Mary Shelter was able to accommodate my needs in my living arrangements by giving me a first floor apartment.

I appreciate my Service Coordinator, Erin, who I am able to visit with weekly and we are able to work on my goals together. While being in the Housing First program, I have been able to accomplish getting disability to increase my income. I am working towards receiving medical insurance. I have peace of mind knowing that I am able to stay in this apartment for as long as I want due to it being permanent housing.

~ Naomi Riedi, a Housing First Client

PENS from our FRIENDS

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ELEVEN ELEVEN ELEVEN ELEVEN

Hi Melanie,

I am celebrating my 11.11.11 birthday by donating to eleven worthy causes.

Thank you for all you do!

Hugs from Joy ♥

~~~~~

Dear Folks at Humility of Mary Shelter, Earlier this month my husband, Dimitri, and I hosted a party at our place of business. We asked our guests that, in lieu of cards or gifts, they make a donation to one of two charities we had chosen. Humility of Mary Shelter was one of the charities. Enclosed are checks totaling \$568.00. May God abundantly bless you in your work,

Sincerely yours,

Kathy Papageorgiou

Dimitri Wine and Spirits, Inc.

We're your EASY choice!
93.9WYEC
 Listen for us on the second Friday of every month at 11:20 am!



Malcolm Murphy, former Vice President and General Manager of Alcoa Davenport Works (left) and Patricia Hepner (right) present Kelly Thompson, our Assistant Director, a check during an award ceremony at Alcoa Davenport Works.



Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc.
...because our community cares

1016 West 5th Street
Davenport, IA 52802

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Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc. does not discriminate in the acceptance of participants, employment of personnel, or in any other respect on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, familial status, marital status, age, gender identity, genetic information, mental or physical disability/handicap, or unfavorable discharge from the military. HMSI is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

DONATIONS WELCOME



Volunteers are standing by to accept your donations of gently used or new ADULT clothing, hygiene items, paper products and basic household items.

Due to storage issues we can not accept household decorations, sporting equipment or books.

Since we serve ADULTS only, we ask that you pass **children's clothing on to Humility of Mary HOUSING** (3805 Mississippi Ave) or a Goodwill.

FURNITURE - we provide clients living in our permanent supportive living units with furniture. Please call to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery. Furniture is stored at a different location, so special instructions and directions are needed.

Night at the Shelter

is our year round fundraising campaign that was developed to maximize our efforts and to encourage community support.

It is a simple idea that will make a huge impact on the services that we are able to provide our clients.

Here is how it works –
currently our shelter has 70 beds
70 beds x a \$10 gift from the community = \$700
\$700 = 1 Night at the Shelter

Do it as a family instead of exchanging gifts, invite your co-workers to join you in a Night at the Shelter, or lead your group to support 70 beds. In addition, you can pick a date in honor of a special event or in memory of a loved one.

Call Melanie 563/322-8065 for more information.