

Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc.

Emergency shelter for adult men and women

Volume 9
April 2013 Issue

INSIDE:

A Simple Solution by Kathy & Dimitri Papageorgiou

Alleman High School

SleepOut 2013

Finance Update

Donations Wish List

“Hi, my name is Myna”

Volunteer Recognition



Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc.

..because our community cares

1016 West 5th Street | Davenport | Iowa | 52802 | 563-322-8065

www.humilityofmaryshelter.com | hmsiowa@gmail.com

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.

A Simple Solution

How do you host an event and convince your guests NOT to bring you any gifts? Here's what worked for us.



Every year we have an "After-the-Holidays Party" at our business warehouse, inviting not only the employees and their families, but also our neighbors and friends, many of whom we do not get to see as often as we'd like.

This party is also a way for us to share our many blessings, and we enjoy providing good food and drink for our friends. We tried for years to convince our guests NOT to bring us gifts, flowers, candy, or cards, but eventually realized that we were overlooking a simple fact: they, too, wanted to contribute something.

Our solution was to choose charitable organizations and set up plastic gallon buckets labeled with the name of each, along with some information about the group. We ask our guests that, in lieu of buying a gift or card for us, they donate that money to one of the charities. It is now a traditional part of our yearly celebration.

The original plan was to choose different charities each year, but we now always include Humility of Mary Shelter. Two years ago our Just Faith group at St. Pius X visited the Humility of Mary Shelter, talked with the people there, and learned first-hand of the good that was being accomplished. I taught at Marycrest College in the 1990s, and the extraordinary C.H.M. Sisters with whom I worked made a lasting impression on me; though the college is no more, their legacy of service continues.

This year we raised over \$600 for Humility of Mary Shelter, with donations coming in even after the party from those who couldn't attend but wanted to support this worthy cause!

This "in-lieu-of-gifts" idea would work for any holiday event, birthday, or anniversary. It certainly works well for us.

Kathy & Dimitri Papageorgiou
Dimitri Wine & Spirits

"A smashing success" and "fantastic" were the expressions heard as our clients opened their Christmas bags and presents this year! Thanks to the following members of our community for making December 25th - CHRISTMAS this year!!

Annette Rettig
Cathy Wright
Preemption Church
St. Alphonsus Church, Davenport
Trinity Church, Rock Island
United Way staff



Breaking Bread

Humility of Mary Shelter partners with several community meal sites to provide places for our clients to eat breakfast, lunch and dinner each day of the week.

Café on Vine for lunch, Salvation Army for dinner, Kings Harvest, St. Anthony's and Timothy's House of Hope for breakfast.

We are grateful for these partnerships and appreciate the hard work that it takes to feed so many.

ALLEMAN HIGH SCHOOL

During Catholic Schools Week the students and staff at Alleman High School collected financial contributions and hygiene items for the shelter. A total of \$970 and 3,034 hygiene items were gathered and delivered to the shelter on February 8th. Items collected included shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, razors, lotion and mouthwash.

Thank you Alleman High School - our clients appreciate your act of kindness!!

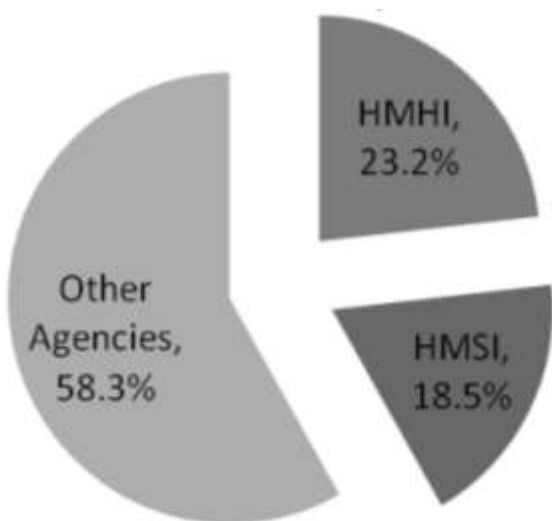


On a cold January morning...

Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc. (HMSI) and Humility of Mary Housing, Inc. (HMHI) participated in the national Point-in-Time count for the state of Iowa which was held on January 30, 2013. The national Point-in-Time count is an unduplicated count of homeless persons held annually on a single night in January across the country. The count includes both sheltered homeless persons (in emergency shelters and transitional housing) and unsheltered homeless persons (on the streets, in cars, and camping out) and captures data on gender, household type, and subpopulations like chronically homeless persons and veterans.

Ten Scott County agencies who provide emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing reported Point-in-Time data to the Scott County Housing Council. Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc. collaborated with other agencies to perform outreach in the community to reach and count unsheltered homeless persons living on the street, in their car, or other places not meant for habitation. HMSI and HMHI served 41.7% of the 568 people counted on that cold January night.

Percentage of People Housed by Agency during Point-in-Time Count on January 30, 2013



St. Andrew Catholic Church in Blue Grass has challenged their youth with collecting supplies for the shelter and collecting financials gifts to see how many Nights at the Shelter they can sponsor.

Jake Vaughn shared the speech he gave during both services at the beginning of their drive. His words were inspiring and may be an example you might want to use with your church or community group.

Hi, I'm Jake Vaughn, President of *Kids with a Cause* and these are my siblings (pointing to his brothers and sisters standing next to him). Together we would like to assist St. Andrew's Parish in supporting a Night at Humility of Mary Shelter.

Tonight all of us will go home to a nice warm house and sleep in a comfortable bed, but for many reasons, a lot of adults and children in the Quad City area are not that fortunate.

Kids with a Cause would like to challenge all the classrooms at St. Andrew's Parish to collect as much money as possible to sponsor as many beds thinkable on the night of our church patron, Saint Andrew, November 30th. The cost to sponsor a bed is \$10.

The class that sponsors the most beds wins an Ice Cream Party on April 7th courtesy of *Kids with a Cause*.

The challenge starts today February 23rd and goes until Sunday, March 24th. All students are encouraged to do odd jobs to help earn money to contribute. Parishioners are welcome to help donate. Our goals is to sponsor all 82 beds in the shelter.

So kids of St. Andrews, lets roll-up our sleeves and get busy and help show "That Kids Can Make A Difference!" Thank you for your support.

To get your Night at the Shelter poster call Melanie 563/322-8065

ABOVE BEYOND

It is not rare to find dedicated and selfless individuals when talking about the employees at any non-profit. But at Humility of Mary

33 employees
with 236+
years of
experience
working
with the
homeless

Shelter, we are uniquely blessed by a variety of dedicated and talented employees that often go above and beyond in their daily work.

Humility of Mary Shelter has 9 employees who have been on staff since our opening in September 2008 and 3 employees who are cross-trained and spend time with clients in multiple capacities. Our employees are active outside the walls of our shelter, succeeding at home and in the community; careful to set the example for our clients. In addition, our employees have a variety of educational backgrounds which include, but are not limited to the following:

- AA Criminal Justice
- AA Hotel/Restaurant Management
- AAS Criminal Justice
- Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW)
- AS Science
- BA Criminal Justice
- BA Elementary Education
- BA English and Communications
- BA English and French
- BA Psychology
- BA Secondary Education
- BA Social Work
- BA Sociology
- BE Education
- BS Business
- BS Child and Adult Family Services
- BS Criminal Justice
- BS History and Political Science
- BS in Science and Math
- BS Psychology
- Certified Field Traumatologist
- Certified in Brain Injury Training
- Certified in Trauma Informed Care
- Certified Public Housing Manager

- Certified Public Housing Operations Manager
- Compassion Fatigue Educator
- Compassion Fatigue Therapist
- Diploma in Health Safety & Environmental Technology
- Licensed Independent Social Worker
- Licensed Master Social Worker
- Master of Social Work
- Master Religious Education
- Masters in Arts and Religion
- Masters in Chemistry
- Masters in Counseling
- Masters in Criminal Justice
- Masters of Business Administration
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Secretary Degree
- PhD in Social Work



Not all staff pictured



Welcome back to Julie Bockenstedt, PhD, ACSW, LMSW

Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc. and Humility of Mary Housing, Inc. are proud to announce the return of our former Co-Director. Julie has a long history with the agencies, starting with a student internship in 1999-2000, later working in Service Coordination and leaving as Co-Director in 2010 after marrying and moving to Hutchinson, KS. "I couldn't be more pleased," said Sandy Walters, Co-Director. "We are fortunate to have Julie return to the area and assume her position as my successor. Julie played an integral part in the development of Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc. in 2008, when HMHI's Board voted to form a second corporation to prevent the loss of the shelter for adult men and women who were homeless. Julie has all the skills and knowledge needed to direct these agencies. Of equal importance is her commitment to our missions and her passion for work with the populations we serve."

Finance Update

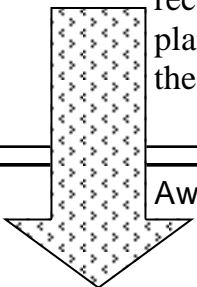
In our December newsletter we wrote about the agreement we made before taking on the operations of the shelter and the challenges we were having because the agreement was not being met. People in the Quad City community realized the need for someone to take on the operations of the shelter for adult men and women experiencing homelessness when it was announced in 2008 that the doors were going to be closed. We stepped up to do the work but it is not the responsibility of any one agency, alone, to take care of the needs of a community. It is a responsibility that must be shared by the community.

We work on a very tight budget and seek funds from many federal, state, local and private sources. We are bringing in over \$1million just in HUD grants that help seven different agencies provide services and supportive housing needs for people in our community. Of that amount, Humility of Mary Shelter receives \$575,817. An additional \$400,000 is coming in through two grants from the Veteran Administration to help serve needs of homeless veterans in our community. Many of these funds feed into the local economy through taxes paid and services purchased by our employees, through utilities and services we purchase in maintenance of our properties, and leases paid to local landlords.

In our agreement, we said we would need \$300,000 each year through community support to help us meet budget. This year we are operating with a budget of \$1,570,771. Of that amount, we budgeted \$289,160 for community support. During the first seven months of our fiscal year, which also includes our largest gift giving period, we have received \$159,971. In the next five months, we need \$130,000 to meet this budget item. In our December newsletter we described the "Night At The Shelter" development program that provides an opportunity for donors to designate a night of the year to help fund the operating costs of the shelter. The shelter has 82 sleeping spaces and, at \$10 per space, \$820 per night, we can meet our community funding need of \$300,000. **If each of you receiving this newsletter donated \$30, we would meet our budget for community support.**

In this newsletter you will read about a significant challenge grant that is being provided by the Sisters of Humility of Mary. We ask that 1) if you have never given a gift to HMSI that you take advantage of this opportunity to have your new gift matched; 2) if you already are a donor, that you consider giving an additional gift to be matched by this challenge grant. Help us reach our goal of \$100,000 in order to receive the matched gift of \$100,000. This effort will help us as we work on a development plan to secure the future of this program that provides a service for our community and for the homeless in the community. Thank you.

~Sr. Mary Ann Vogel, Finance Director



Aware of the challenges facing the agency at this time of economic uncertainty, the Sisters of the Congregation of the Humility of Mary have announced
a challenge grant of up to \$100,000.

Any new gift received throughout a one year period ending April 30, 2014 will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$100,000. For donors who regularly contribute through the John Deere Classic Birdies for Charity, any increased amount in their pledge will be considered eligible for the matching grant.

This gift from the Congregation of the Humility of Mary will not only support the current needs of Humility of Mary Shelter but will also encourage continued support and invite new contributions from the community.



Community Development Block Grant

Humility of Mary Shelter receives funding from the City of Davenport through the CDBG.

At a recent meeting, client Sam Sandoval spoke to the CDBG panel and shared his story of homelessness.

Thanks Sam for sharing your story in such a public manner! Your story of hope is inspiring!

Donations Needed

1016 West 5th Street, Davenport Shelter is always in need of the following items that we provide free to our ADULT clients: deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, toilet paper, dish soap, coffee, towels, washcloths, sheets and blankets. We also accept new or gently used IN SEASON adult clothing such as socks, under garments, jeans, sweatshirts, long sleeve shirts, coats and shoes.

To see our full Wish List visit: www.humilityofmaryshelter.com

In an effort to be good stewards of your donation, please refrain from bringing donations outside of our Wish List to the shelter. We do not have a retail store and disposing of these items is costly.

We DO NOT ACCEPT - children's toys or clothing (we only serve adults), knick-knacks or household decorations, out of season clothing, books, magazines, sporting equipment, make-up or jewelry. Any furniture is by prior arrangement only

United Way Match Challenge ACCOMPLISHED !!

Thank you to the following donors that made a Night at the Shelter donation and made this challenge a success:

- Michael C. Angelos Sr. Ursula Keough
Calvin/Beverly Askeland Cynthia Koenes
Ralph Baechle Sr. Claudellen Pentecost
Laura Becker Kathleen Repass
Sr. Margaret Bennett Patricia Ricketts
Joseph Blough Catherine Roller
Jim/Cathy Bodine Joe/Mary Kay Rosenthal
Kenneth/Connie Chitty Dan Schueneman
Joseph/Catherine Clark St. Joseph Catholic
Thomas/Joan Cox Church, DeWitt
Thomas/Mary Pat Curnyn St. Malachy Parish,
Wilbert Ensenat Geneseo
Kevin Fier/Christine Don Storlie
Courter Fier Mary Stoughton
Bernard Glynn/Charlene Gerald Stouvenel
Munson-Glynn Sr. Catherine Talarico
Donald/Katherine Healy Ronald/Sandra Tigges
Ron/Karen Huber Charley/Jill Troup, Jr.
Dennis/Marilyn Tim/Cynthia Wells
Jorgenson Dixie Wirth
Judith Kasper

United Way issued this challenge for us because this fiscal year started with cash flow issues. Some grant funds were not released on a timely basis and we had no reserve funds; this caused us to seek emergency funding. United Way gave us \$15,000 with the promise of an additional \$10,000 if we could find someone to match those dollars by December 31, 2012. In giving this grant, Scott Crane, president of United Way of the Quad Cities, said "Humility of Mary Shelter is an excellent program in our community doing necessary work to give individuals shelter and a way to get back on their feet".

Thank you United Way and Donors!

Hi, my name is Myna. I was born and raised in Chicago, IL. I lived there for 37 years. Then I moved to Kayenta, AZ, a Navajo Indian reservation where I lived for 6.5 years substitute teaching. Then I moved to Rock Island, IL and lived in a high-rise for 2.5 years. I was evicted from there because of an argument with a male tenant.

I cried because I thought it was unfair that I got evicted and he didn't, but in the end it turned out to be a blessing for me. Let me tell you how...

“...being homeless don't mean being hopeless.”

I never liked living in Rock Island. Neither did I like living in the high-rise that I lived in, so I was depressed all the time. So when I received my thirty-day notice to vacate the premises I was shocked at first, but then I was so happy because I saw it as my ticket out of there and out of Rock Island.

I found out about Humility of Mary Shelter from a men's homeless shelter in Rock Island. I called and was told that they had room for me and I went there three days after I received my eviction notice. I was afraid because I had never been homeless before, now here I was 46 years old and for the first time in my life, I did not have a place to call my own.

I had one of my friends drive me to Humility of Mary Shelter in Davenport, IA and this became my new home, and I could not imagine that it would be the start to a wonderful new chapter in my life.

When I first got there I was nervous, but after talking to the man at the desk, I calmed down. All the staff was wonderful and they made me feel welcome there. It was nothing like you see on TV or in the movies about homeless shelters. Humility of Mary Shelter was very neat and clean and they saw to it that all their guests had everything they needed to stay neat and clean as well.

Well, I figured that since I was there, I may as well make the best of it. I started applying for apartments and that's what I did for the 4.5 months that I lived there. The shelter rented me one of their beautiful apartments and I lived there for 2.5 months until I received a call from one of the apartments that I had applied for. So I moved there, which was in downtown Davenport. It is a beautiful, spacious apartment that's just right for me and my wheelchair. I'm so very happy here in Davenport and in my new apartment. I am no longer sad or depressed because of where I live now.

It's like my rags to riches story, but my riches are not money, but something much better. The staff at Humility of Mary Shelter is like gold. They are the nicest, warmest, and kindest of all people and I had the privilege of meeting them and getting to spend 4.5 months with them. They were able to accommodate me and my wheelchair. They took care of all my needs. The Services Coordinators were great and it was a wonderful experience.

I thank Humility of Mary Shelter from the depths of my heart for the care they gave me and the kindness they showed to me. So being homeless don't mean being hopeless. Keep a positive attitude, and work hard to change your situation. And that's what Humility of Mary Shelter is all about, helping you to stay positive to keep focused and giving you the support you need to better your situation. I'm writing a book entitled "Never a Dull Moment" and I have a chapter entitled "Homeless but Happy" - where I write about my experience at Humility of Mary Shelter. I truly can't thank Humility of Mary Shelter enough!!!

With Deepest Gratitude, Myna Lee Sykes

Thanks to your donations we can continue to help those who are homeless, not helpless....



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

1016 West 5th Street
Davenport, IA 52802

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 3200
Davenport, IA



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.

Since July 1, 2012 our volunteers have gifted 1,941.25 hours to our clients and staff saving Humility of Mary Shelter \$14,074.06.

Whether they are sorting donations, doing laundry, cleaning, answering the telephone, providing computer classes, doing yard work, providing Group Sessions, painting or filing, Humility of Mary Shelter volunteers know that their work makes a difference!

SAVE THE DATE
10.4.13



We're not
LION,
we have great
volunteers!



To become a part of our
volunteer team call
Melanie,
563/322-8065.