

Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc.

Emergency shelter for adult men and women

Volume 8
December 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.

UPDATES ABOUT OUR Clients

I just saw someone who is another success story. This former client had a bad experience with mental health and was very closed down to meeting with me. He was not interested in an assessment, let alone meeting with me once a week (which had been a requirement). Finally, after one year, he shared he wanted to work, talk again to his children and go back to school. All these things seemed unreachable. Now, eighteen months later, he has a terrific job, has seen his family five times just this year and school plans are in the works. Discussions concerning spirituality made all the difference for him, as his diagnosis years back had been all inclusive of someone with spiritually "different" ideas. Now, he seeks me out regularly and has blossomed into a highly energetic man, able to help others and help himself. What a joy!

~submitted by Kathleen, Mental Health Counselor

I wanted to express my gratitude to everyone of you at Humility of Mary Shelter for all that you do on a daily basis to help people like me that need help. In my short 55 years of living I have had my ups and downs. I have spent most of my life trying to prove that I was worth something. In my family I was a failure from birth. When I came to the shelter, I was met with compassion and respect [thanks, Larry] and over the weeks the thoughts of being worthless began to go. I love each of you with all my heart. For the first time in a long time, I feel that I'm someone to a lot of beautiful people. You are giving people a life worth living in all you do.

~ an emergency shelter client

Happy Birthday, HMSI

On September 21, 2012 we celebrated our FOURTH year of operation. We continue to grow in our dedication to the homeless and look forward to our ongoing partnership with the community.

Eleven of our staff are day one employees!!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY.....

Are you a great organizer? Are you creative?

Do you have one hour a month? Do you work well in a group?

We are looking for a group of dedicated individuals who

would like to work with the support of our staff on a

Fund Development Committee. This committee would meet

monthly for one hour and develop a fundraising plan

to help the community raise the funds that in 2008 we said

would be needed each year. Time commitment may vary,

depending on the plans that are decided by the committee.

For more information call Sandy, 563/326-1330 Ext. 103.

A greement Needs To Be Refreshed

From the desk of
Sr. Mary Ann Vogel
Finance Director

We need to remind everyone that as corporate documents were being drawn up for Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc. to take over the homeless shelter for adult men and women that was going to be vacated in 2008, **we stated very clearly that we were willing to do the work but we could not do it alone; in addition to grants we would need the financial support of the Quad City community.** We knew it was a big leap of faith but we also know this is a very caring community and you wanted to make sure the service of sheltering the homeless would continue. We said we would need \$300,000 before we could even consider opening the doors. Thanks to the generosity of The Community Foundation of the Great River Bend, Riverboat Development Authority, United Way of the Quad Cities, Diocese of Davenport, Genesis Medical Center and Benedictine Sisters of St. Mary Monastery, we received \$318,000 for start up funds and operating expenses. A significant portion of the operating funds would eventually be reimbursed by grant funds but we always have to pay up front and then request payment which creates a cash flow problem when there are no contingency funds building up and/or gifts are not coming in on a regular basis throughout the year. **The piece of the agreement that needs to be refreshed is: in addition to the \$300,000 we said we would need up-front, we were also projecting a need of at least \$300,000 annually to cover expenses not covered by grants and other revenue AND this would have to come through Quad City community support.** The need varies from year to year based on grants that we receive. Some grants have fixed amounts and others change from year to year. We are at our goal for client fees and grants.

Over the past three fiscal years, we have averaged a deficit of \$58,000 and, as a result, have used up all of the contingency funds we had from the initial start-up funds. In our annual report this year we told about our efforts to reduce expenses by eliminating a position and shifting some responsibilities to other staff members and by eliminating some staff benefits. This fiscal year started with cash flow issues, because 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 can 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". The Congregation of the Humility of Mary loaned us \$50,000 with no interest.

Humility of Mary Shelter has a professional, dedicated and compassionate staff that

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Agreement Needs To Be Refreshed...

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works with the nearly 1,000 people who come to the shelter each year, treats these clients with dignity and helps them with whatever is needed to reach goals that will make them more stable emotionally, mentally and physically. **We are still agreeing to do the work BUT we need your help.**

Let us suggest one way you can help. Instead of having several fundraising events, we have a year round funding program, **NIGHT AT THE SHELTER.** This is a very simple way to help us have consistent funding throughout the year and to make you a true partner in this ministry that provides dignity to some very special people in our community.

We are looking to have all 365 nights of the year filled on our calendar with the names of individuals, groups, families, businesses, churches who pledge \$10 for each of the 82 spaces in the shelter. This \$820 per night will help us meet the \$300,000+ we need to fill our funding gap. You may even choose to have more than one night. Send us the month and the date you choose and tell us if you want to pay \$820 in one lump sum or if you prefer monthly payments of \$68.34. In order to continue your partnership, let us know if you are willing to pledge a Night at the Shelter for three to five years. We will be happy to send reminders as your anniversary date comes near. Consider giving a gift of a Night at the Shelter in memory of, or in honor of, someone or some event that has special meaning in your life.

A gift of \$10,000, to match the United Way challenge grant would certainly be welcomed.

We appreciate all the support we have received and look forward to continuing our partnership with you until everyone has a safe place to call home.
Please be generous and help us fill our calendar.

Birdies ^{for} Charity

A total of 2,113 birdies were recorded, including 2012 John Deere Classic champion Zach Johnson's final birdie.

Thanks to 108 paid pledges, we received a gift of \$6,148.96 in paid pledges. With an 8% bonus match we added \$491.92 to that creating a grand total of \$6,640.88!

Thank you John Deere Classic and YOU our generous donors.



GRANTS

we have received the following grants since 7/1/2012

Amy Helpenstell Foundation
Doris and Victor Day Foundation
Emergency Food & Shelter Program
Emergency Shelter Grant
In From the Cold
Scott County Regional Authority
United Way



Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your partnership!

Area businesses partner to create concrete pad under bike rack at homeless shelter



We have a new concrete pad under the bike rack at the back of our building. The space is a total of 20x30 feet. The good news....IT WAS ALL DONATED!!!

John Kessler and his crew of carpenters did the excavating and framing. Montie Schell and his Mason Union 18 workers did the pour and managed the concrete specifics. Hahn Concrete out of Mt. Joy donated the 8 yards of concrete and a special anonymous donor donated sand for the foundation.

Not only does this look much nicer for our shelter, but it saves us money every year on mulch. In addition to the concrete pad we now have a small area for a garden!

Special thanks to: John Kessler, Wayne Jochmann, Todd White, Brian Schlump, Pat O'Rourke, Michael Simmons, Greg Riessen, Jayme Massa, Matt Willman, John Spitzmiller, Montie Schell, Brian Nagle and Bob Boutelle. Bike racks were previously donated by the Doris and Victor Day Foundation.



Our first annual Night at the Shelter - Sleep Out was a great success! The air was cold and the ground was wet, but those who are homeless endure much more than we did that night! Thanks to a great community we raised over \$8,500 to support **the work done at the community's homeless shelter.**

Build Your Own Shelter Contest winners:

- ◆ Jacob Pohlman
- ◆ Tatianna Becker
- ◆ Friends of Girl Scout Troop #8504
- ◆ Payton and Brian Coopman II
- ◆ Central (High School) Crew
- ◆ St. Paul Lutheran Church Youth

Best in Show: Girl Scout Cadette Troop #8824

Top Fundraisers:

Youth Division:

- ◆ Tatianna Becker
- ◆ Gabby Smith
- ◆ Hope Kealey

Adult Division:

- ◆ Steve Kalber
- ◆ William Grimes
- ◆ Connie Coopman

Group Division:

- ◆ Palmer College of Chiropractic
- ◆ Friends of Girl Scout Troop #8504
- ◆ St. Paul Lutheran Church Youth Group

Committee Members: Bill Pearson, Caitlin Painchaud, Connie Coopman, Doug Page (memorial), John Robinson, Lindsay Deckert, Neal Rolwes, Paul Elias, Brittany Carter and Stella O'Rourke.



New Challenges Ahead

Kelly Thompson started her work with Humility of Mary Shelter and Humility of Mary Housing on September 21, 2008 when the new corporation was formed to keep the community shelter open for homeless men and women. Kelly began in the daunting position of Quality Control and Assurance as HMSI took over the HUD grants that support the agencies in the Continuum of Care. Kelly assumed the responsibility of monitoring our services, guidelines and procedures to be sure we were in compliance with not only the HUD grants, but with regulations of our many funders. This was a new role within the agencies, but one necessary to maintain integrity with our grantors. Kelly got us off to a great start.

When our co-director married and left the area, Kelly was offered the position of Assistant Director of the two agencies, and once again, she played a key role in the administration of Humility of Mary Shelter and Humility of Mary Housing.

After four years with the housing and shelter programs Kelly began her internship at the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend, working toward her Masters in Social Work studies through the University of Iowa, where she plans to graduate in May of 2013.

On October 8, Kelly resigned her position to devote her efforts toward her education and to begin her work as an AmeriCorps member. Kelly writes about her experience with **HMSI and HMHI: "I am so fortunate to have spent the last four years with HMSI and HMHI. Our staff and participants make me so proud every day and I will miss being here very much! I truly believe in the strength of our programs and I will remain a strong advocate for Humility of Mary Shelter and Humility of Mary Housing."**

Kelly has been greatly appreciated and is missed at the agencies. We wish her the very best in her education and her career.

A search has been underway for a new co-director and plans are to fill that position in the near future, followed by a search for another staff person to work with the administrative team as I move toward my retirement in 2013.

~Sandy Walters, Director



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

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Donations Needed at Humility of Mary Shelter 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, wash-cloths, 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 or call Melanie 563/322-8065.

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.

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