

Spring/Summer 2009

Shelter Connection

A publication of Shelter House Community Shelter & Transition Services

Shelter House Announces July 1 Groundbreaking

On July 1, 2009, Shelter House will break ground for a new shelter facility at 429 Southgate Avenue at the corner of Southgate Avenue and Waterfront Drive. The groundbreaking will launch the public phase of the capital campaign "Opening Doors." To date, Shelter House has raised just over \$2 million in pledges, donations, and grants toward the \$4 million project goal. The new facility will replace the existing shelter—a single family home, over 100 years old, that severely limits our ability to meet the needs of the men, women and children whom we serve and the community.

The new shelter will be much more than just a building it will literally be a vehicle through which men, women and their families will be offered the opportunity and guidance to improve the quality of their lives and to once again become part of the fabric of our community. The campaign already enjoys support from such local businesses as Fresh Food Concepts, Mercy Hospital, Midamerica Securities Management Company, Neumann Monson Architects, Scheels All Sports, Selzer-Werderitsch Associates, U.S. Bank, Wal-Mart, and West Bancorporation.

The new facility will provide separate dormitories for single men and single women (with rooms set aside for military veterans), a families-only area designed with children in mind, and space for staff offices and outreach services, Drop-In Center, training room, nurse's office, a

Opening Doors Capital Campaign Committee: Connie Champion, Chair; Katherine Burford, Campaign Manager; Crissy Canganeli, Executive Director; Members: Mary L. Lareu, Joyce Leff, Jim Merchant, Dale and Kay Prediger, Lynn Rowat, and Alan and Liz Swanson



community kitchen, dining room, and laundry. The new location, adjacent to other service providers and close to a bus line and employment opportunities, will be an asset to clients. This new facility will be a tremendous support as Shelter House staff works to make a difference in the lives of the men, women, and children who come through its doors.

Julie Fitzpatrick created the 2008 artwork for the Capital Campaign – *Doors of Hope, Opportunity, Community, and Independence* (above) to convey Shelter House's commitment to homeless individuals and families. Clients have good things to say about successes experienced while at Shelter House:

Hope: "I worked with all of the counselors (at Shelter House). Every day, I was learning something new."

Opportunity: "If you really want to change, this place (Shelter House) will help you."

Community: "I'm glad I moved here if just for my kids' sake. Iowa has good schools, good teachers, and good counselors."

Independence: "I am receiving (VA) disability benefits and back pay. I was hurt doing a para-rescue mission while in the Strategic Air Command."

Shelter House July 1 Groundbreaking and Land Blessing: 429 Southgate Avenue (Across the street from HACAP)

- 4:45** Welcome and announcements
- 5:00** Acknowledgements and recognitions
- 5:15** Ecumenical land blessing
- 5:30** Groundbreaking

Shelter House Services

Transitional Shelter: Shelter House provides short-term housing to men, women, children, the disabled, and the elderly.

Drop-In Center: Open to anyone in need for an evening meal, bathing and laundry facilities, and a place to receive mail and phone messages.

In-house Counseling Program: Helps clients access community resources, set goals, and maintain gainful employment.

John E. Thomas Security Deposit Program: Provides assistance to individuals and families in securing rental housing.

STAR Program: The Supported Training and Access to Resources (STAR) is a vocational training program.

Outreach: STAR Case Managers provide daily outreach services at the Wesley Center.

Opening Doors: The Campaign for Shelter House Exceeds \$2 Million Goal

by Connie Champion, Capital Campaign Chair

The Shelter House's Capital Campaign Committee kicked off the quiet phase of the campaign last summer. Our goal was to reach \$2 million before we went public with the campaign in 2009. We reached our goal in April and have now exceeded it by \$50,000. Donations have come from many new friends of Shelter House and loyal supporters.

Gifts to date have come from private individuals throughout Johnson County and beyond, local civic groups, local businesses, faith groups, private foundations, and federal grants. Shelter House (originally the Emergency Housing Project) was founded through a partnership between the City of Iowa City and the Consultation of Religious Communities. We celebrate the fact that this new facility will enjoy substantial financial support by these same faith communities and the City of Iowa City through Community Development Block Grant funds.

Local businesses contributing to the project to date include Fresh Food Concepts, Mercy Hospital, Midamerica Securities Management Company, Neumann Monson Architects, Scheels All Sports, Selzer-Werderitsch Associates, U.S. Bank, Wal-Mart, and West Bancorporation.

The following areas in the new facility have already been named:

- The Prediger Life Skills Training Room—Main Floor
- Elizabeth Stanley Family Wing on the second floor:
 - Dining Area, Family Kitchen, Congregate Area, Family Laundry Room
- The Scheels Dormitory (Men's Dormitory)
- The Mercy Dormitory (Women's Dormitory)
- Congregate Area—Main Floor (Tom & Berth Ann Werderitsch)
- Jacques Wachtel Family—Family Guest Room
- IC Junior Service League Play Room—Family Area
- IC Junior Service League Study Room—Family Area
- Nurse's Room—Main Floor (Alan & Liz Swanson)
- Selzer Werderitsch Associates—Dormitory Lockers
- The Stensvaag Family—Program Manager's Office
- Robert C. Brown Veterans' Room (Men's Dormitory)

Naming opportunities begin with gifts of \$5,000 and above. Gifts of every size will be recognized either on a donor honor roll or on the donor wall. Gifts can be made through pledges of up to five year. We continue to schedule small group meetings in private homes to introduce Shelter House and discuss the new facility project. Please contact us if you are interested in organizing an event or scheduling a small group meeting in your home.

We were approached by Jim and Maureen Mondanaro in November with a wonderful fundraising idea — a grand opening party at the renovated Mondo's Sports Café to benefit the capital campaign. We were floored by the generous offer and gladly accepted it.

As it turns out, the timing of the event on January 24th was perfect for an after holiday get together and a way to reach out to the community in a unique way. Many friends met and enjoyed fabulous food and the ambiance of one of the area's favorite restaurants reopening after the 2008 flood. Ticket sales raised \$17,000 for the capital campaign.

We thank the Mondanaro family and their business, Fresh Food Concepts, for hosting this one-of-a kind event.

The Volunteer Corner

How volunteers are making a difference at Shelter House.

Hello! My name is Megan DeMeulenaere and I am the Client Services and Volunteer Coordinator at Shelter House. I am excited to inform you that there will be a section in each newsletter dedicated to volunteerism at Shelter House. We will share updates as to what our current volunteers are working on as well as what volunteer opportunities are coming up.

At Shelter House, we have anywhere from 5–20 volunteers at any given time. While most of our volunteers are students, we have opportunities for community members, congregations, civic groups, school groups, or anyone wanting to get more involved.

One-time opportunities can include a service day which entails coordinating with the staff at Shelter House to come in and clean, organize and complete a special project like painting, yard clean-up or gutter cleaning. You can also provide an evening meal for our clients.

If you are interested in volunteering on an ongoing basis, we offer a weekly shift for a minimum six month commitment. Many people find this rewarding as they have regular contact with staff and clients and can do several different tasks such as office work, cleaning and organizing, sorting donations or serving our evening meal. If you are interested in this, log on to our website for more information and the volunteer application at www.shelterhouseiowa.org.

Last year, volunteers contributed thousands of hours of service. Through their gifts of time and talent:

- Thousands of evening meals were prepared and served.
- Phone calls were answered, mail and donations sorted.
- The facility was cleaned, maintained, and repaired.
- Donation drives organized by volunteers provided much needed toiletries and household supplies for our clients. Please see the website for a list of needed items!

- Fundraising events organized and implemented by volunteers raised over \$80,000.
- On-site mental health counseling was offered.
- The website was maintained and the newsletter was produced.

Through these efforts and more, hundreds of men, women, and children have experienced the kindness, hospitality and generosity of this community! On behalf of everyone at Shelter House, the Board of Directors (21 volunteers strong), staff and clients, we are grateful! You have made a difference in our lives. You inspire and fortify us and we thank you!

Upcoming Calendar of Events

June 28, 2009

Blue Grass Concert
7:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church

July 1, 2009

Ground Breaking and Land Blessing
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
429 Southgate Avenue, Iowa City

July 3, 2009

Musical Performance by Saul Lubaroff and Jared Fowler
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Dawn's Hide and Bead Away Coffee House 220 East Washington Street

Summer/Fall 2009

Greg Brown, Iris Dement, and Friends Concert
Englert Civic Theatre
Date and time yet to be determined

November 15 – 21, 2009

National Week of Hunger and Homelessness Awareness
Local events yet to be determined

February 2010

Annual Book Sale
Date and location yet to be determined

April 17, 2010

Eighth Annual Spring Gala
5:30 – 9:00 p.m.
hotel Vetro

The STAR Program

The New Faces of The STAR Program

Jacob Livermore

Jacob came to work for the STAR Program in October of 2008. He is a seasoned employee having worked as Shelter Coordinator for the Shelter House since December of 2004. According to Jacob, he enjoys working for Shelter House because “I like helping people reach their goals of self-sufficiency.”

Mario Hayslett

Mario began working for the STAR Program in October of 2008. He came with experience working with homeless individuals in the Des Moines area since 2001. Mario states that what he likes best about working for the STAR Program is “the flexibility to address client’s needs and meeting them where they are in their transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.”

Samantha Grimes

Samantha came to work for the STAR Program in December of 2008. She came with experience working for the Shelter House as a Shelter Coordinator since May of 2007. Sam has a passion for social work and enjoys working for the STAR Program because it allows her to “work with each person as an individual and learn from their life experiences.”

STAR Success Stories

The following success story illustrates the impact that STAR has on people’s lives.

Nadia is a single parent who had developed skills as a massage therapist in Russia. She was unable to work here in the U.S. even after extra training. However, through STAR she was able to work as an intern at Washington Street Chiropractic to complete hours needed to complete state requirements. She will be taking her examination to become a certified massage therapist within the next few weeks so she can open her own business.

Introducing our New Logo

Last fall during the planning for the capital campaign, we decided to create a new logo. We asked Benson & Hepker Design to create options for a new logo. We selected the logo shown with the tagline: Opening Doors. We are transitioning the old Shelter House and STAR Program logos to the new logo over the next few months. Genia Jackson has begun using the new letterhead and envelopes for thank you letters and correspondence. It will take us another few months to run out of STAR business cards and other printed materials; then, the new logo and its tagline will be used on all printed materials and the website.



Seventh Annual Spring Gala Raises \$37,500 for Shelter House Operations

The 7th Annual Shelter House Gala was held at hotelVetro on Saturday, April 18th. We are pleased to announce that the 7th Annual Gala raised \$37,500 for Shelter House operations. Many individuals and businesses contributed to the event's success through item donations, sponsorship, attendance, auction purchases, and monetary donations. We thank them all for supporting Shelter House's mission to serve homeless individuals and families.

Guests enjoyed themselves as they entered the event area to meet friends, view the auction items, and listen to music by pianists Maggie Mowrey and Ben Weideman. Our emcee Michael Lensing and auctioneer Brent Wears kept the mood light and fast paced. Crissy Canganelli, Shelter House's Executive Director, honored the Iowa City Junior Service League (ICJSL) and retiring Board Member for Betty Norbeck. The ICJSL was recognized for their pledge of \$50,000 for the children's study and play areas in the new Shelter House. Betty Norbeck received praise and recognition for her many years of service on the Shelter House Board of Directors.

The delightful evening was the result of volunteers' and Shelter House staff members' work and dedication. Volunteers included Shelter House Board members, Stacey Pilling, and Suzanne Rose Funk. They solicited item donations and sponsorships, created the evening program, greeted guests, and managed the checkout area. We thank all our supporters for the funds raised for Shelter House's mission.

Business/ Artist

- A & A Seasonal Services
- Active Endeavors
- Akar, Art, Architecture & Design
- Amana Golf Course
- Among Friends
- Anne Vandenberg
- Annette Shaabon
- Axial Industries
- Bagolita
- Becky Johnson
- Ben Franklin Crafts
- Beppie Weiss
- Betty Norbeck
- Bill Roush
- Body & Balance
- Brown Deer Golf Course
- Catherine's
- City High School
- Clay & Madgetta Dungy
- Connie Champion
- Cook's Jewelers
- Coral Ridge Mall
- D.J. Rinner
- Dan Knight
- Dave Moore
- David Loeb sack, Congressman
- Dawn Harbor
- Dawn's Bead and Hide Away
- Debra Hefner
- Dennis & Cheryl Boedeker
- Derek Brit
- Devotay
- Dianne Day

- Dick Schwab & Katherine Burford
- Discerning Eye
- Dombys
- Dottie & Al Persson
- Dulcinea
- EK Designs
- Elf Cashmere
- Esther's Massage
- Every Bloomin' Thing
- Fair Grounds
- Fired Up Iowa City
- Gale Kolbet
- Gay Mikelson Glass Harbor
- Goose Town Floral
- Governor Chet Culver
- Haight's Meat Market
- Hands Jewelers
- Hayden Fry Football Office
- Herteen & Stocker Jewelers
- Ina Loewenberg
- Iowa Artisans Gallery
- Iowa Gym-Nest
- Iowa Pediatric Dental Center/Laser Wash
- Iowa River Power Company
- Jan Kupka
- Jean & Steve Berge
- Jim & Mary Merchant
- Josephs Restaurant
- Julie Fitzpatrick
- Kay Irelan
- Kay Moyer
- Kerith St. Louis
- Kerstin Van Guilder

- Kristen Harding
- Leash on Life
- Loret Mast
- Maragret Allen
- Mariah Dekkenga
- Mary McMurray
- Meg Kiekhauser
- Mel Schlachter
- Michael Mauro
- Michael Perrone
- Michael Tschantz Salon
- Motley Cow
- New Life Fitness World
- New Pioneer Coop
- Old Capital Quilters' Guild
- Patricia, Richard & Edward Furchtenicht
- Pleasant Valley Golf Course
- Prairie Lights
- Red Head's Restaurant
- Regina High School Richard Koontz
- Riverside Casino & Golf Resort
- Rosanne Hopson
- Ross & Mary DeValois
- RSVP
- Ruth Skelley
- Sarah Fletcher
- Sarah Hunold
- Scheels All Sport
- Selzer Werderitsch Associates
- Senator Charles Grassley
- Silver Spider
- Soap Opera Spiral Tree Soap Body Product

- Susan Chrysler White
- The Animal Clinic
- The Art Mission
- The Cottage
- The Knitting Shoppe
- The Little Shop
- The Mansion
- The Third Eye-Betsy Klein
- The Wedge/Steve Harding
- Thomas Langdon
- University Iowa Women Hawkeye Basketball
- Victor Janey & Mark Kimler
- West High School
- Westport Touchless Autowash
- Writer's Workshop Alumni
- Zenders

Auction Services

Wears Auctioneering

Winter Presenting Sponsor \$2,500

- hotelVetro

Fall Sponsor \$1,000

- Vangent
- Victor Janey and Mark Kimler
- W.R. and Joyce Summerwill /MidWest One Bank
- Spring Sponsors \$600
- Al and Dottie Persson

- Bobby Jett and Marc Moen
- Cedar County Democratic Activists
- Fred and Ginnie Woodard
- Iowa City Junior Service League
- Mercy Hospital
- Ross and Mary DeValois
- Selzer-Werderitsch Associates
- The Furchtenicht Family
- The Maurus Family
- Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City
- Zion Lutheran Church Summer Sponsors \$250
- James and Anna Barker
- Todd and Lisa Jacobson

Music Povided by

Maggie Mowrey & Ben Weideman

Special Thanks to

Bobby Jett & Marc Moen, Dick Schwab, Michael Lensing, Peg and David Cahill, The Bread Garden, and West Music

And Special Thanks to

Mel Schlachter, John Gross, and Congressman David Loeb sak for selling their ties!

Interim Overflow Project Summary for Winter 2008/2009

by Meg Kiekhaefer

The Interim Overflow Project has closed down for another summer. This past winter has been the most difficult winter so far with overflow. We experienced continued cold weather and high numbers of clients in Overflow. Although we had hoped that this would be the final season for the Interim Overflow Project, its services will still be needed for another winter. Christine Mullen and I want to share our heartfelt thanks for all of the dedicated volunteers and congregations who helped us provide 1,661 nights of shelter to people seeking a warm safe place. We are very grateful for the contributions from Laundromania and Sunshine Laundry, for all the University students who have volunteered time, as well as all the community members who have provided breakfasts, transportation, laundry services, overnight watch and other services to the project.

Next winter, we will be seeing changes as both Christine Mullen and I will transfer coordination responsibilities to a new team. Our special thanks to Christine for the creation and development of the Overflow as well as her many years of volunteering as Overflow Task Force Chair. She has spent many long hours training and scheduling volunteers and students, as

well as overseeing the congregational teams who have provided the shelter and site leadership. It has been a joy working with all of you. Thank you, Christine, for your continued dedication over the years.

The Consultation of Religious Communities is already working on the transition to a new coordination team. It will be led by Judith Crossett, Penny Rembolt, and Sally Jablonski. The new team is looking at different options for the overflow this next winter, which include finding a "fixed" site for the project rather than shuttling people from one church to another each week. The Consultation and transition team have approached Johnson County and Iowa City to provide a single site that can be used for the whole winter. So far there are a few practical options but no final decision.

Shelter House, the Consultation of Religious Communities and the Interim Overflow Project are looking forward to this being the last year for the Overflow. With the completion of the new shelter, all services and staff will be housed under one roof. It should improve the continuity of services between Shelter and STAR, eliminating extra time and travel between offices, thus giving clients one less barrier to getting back on their feet.

| Winter | Nights of Shelter | Unduplicated Count | Nightly Average |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2004-5 | 1256 | 166 | 8 |
| 2005-6 | 1612 | 173 | 11 |
| 2006-7 | 1315 | 186 | 9 |
| 2007-8 | 1143 | 163 | 9 |
| 2008-9 | 1661 | 209 | 12 |

A sincere thank you goes to Meg Kiekhaefer for her incredible support over the past 5 years to the Interim Overflow Project. Her dedication to overflow, caring attitude, and sense of humor were appreciated by clients, volunteers, and SH Staff. *Crissy Canganelli*

2009 Shelter House Book Sale

by Becky Johnson, Shelter House Board Member

The eleventh annual Shelter House Book Sale was a rousing success with \$5,400 raised. Due to the flood damage, the UI Jazz Studies Department moved to Trinity occupying the space normally used for the book sale. Thankfully, Pastor Sherry Lohman and the congregation of Hope United Methodist Church volunteered their facility. The task force headed by Judith Crossett, included Anne Tanner (also of Trinity); Gale Kolbet, Alan Elgar, Becky Johnson, Meg Kiekhaefer and Dan Daly met to organize the sale.

Thanks to volunteers Keith Rageth, Bob Lehman and his brother who transported the books from storage to the church, to Betty Norbeck, Jody Falconer, Dottie and Al Persson, Garry Klein, Gay Mikelson, Nina Cilek, who met during the evenings to sort the books during the month of February. Thanks to St. Mark's Methodist Church for tables and to numerous volunteers from many congregations who supplied an abundance of cookies and coffee for the day of the sale. Sara Kirkman served as greeter extraordinaire.

A new item this year was canvas bags with the book sale's logo for sale at \$15 a piece. They almost flew off the shelves. By the end of the afternoon, with the help of volunteers from a local sorority, the books that remained were boxed up.

We made a little over \$5400; this included the sale of books, bags and sponsorships! This was the most successful book sale to date. We are extremely grateful to the congregation of Hope United Methodist who were continually gracious, welcoming, and patient with the mess. We would also like to thank everyone who participated in making this such a successful event.



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Shelter House is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization. As a partner agency of the United Way of Johnson County, we have successfully met all local membership accountability standards in finance, ethics, governance, and diversity.

Board of Directors 2009 – 2010

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Jean Berge | Ross DeValois |
| Alan Elgar | Sarah Fletcher |
| Pat Furchtenicht | Sarah Hunold |
| Diana Gilbert | Victor Janey |
| Becky Johnson | Gale Kolbet |
| Mary McMurray | Gay Mikelson |
| Jeff Nock | Dottie Persson |
| Mel Schlachter | Annette Shaaban |
| Torage Shivapour | Anne Vandenberg |
| Tom Werderitsch | Fred Woodard |



YES! I want to support Shelter House Community Shelter & Transition Services

Each night men, women, and children who are homeless come to Shelter House in need, uncertain of their future, afraid, confused, and without hope. At Shelter House, they find a safe, caring place for the night as well as support and hope for a brighter tomorrow. Please give today and help with extraordinary change in our community.

- \$140** will sponsor a week of shelter and supportive services for someone trying to start their life
- \$100** will sponsor the shelter's women and children's room
- \$60** will sponsor a night of shelter and supportive services for a family in need
- \$20** will sponsor a night of shelter and supportive services for a person who is homeless in our community.

Name _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Please make checks payable to Shelter House and send to P.O. Box 3146, Iowa City, IA 52244
For gifts made by credit card Visa Mastercard American Express

Card number _____ Name as it appears on card _____

Expiration date _____ Zip code _____

For more information or to donate online please visit our website at www.shelterhouseiowa.org.