



Mission Statement

"Mary's Shelter saves lives by empowering and equipping homeless pregnant young women for lives of dignity, hope and self-sufficiency."

Mary's Shelter

"Saving lives two at a time."

Resident Care for Young Pregnant Women

Summer 2013

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It's summer time! Kids are done at school, snow birds have left us for a time, it's hot and muggy and we can expect a thunderstorm almost every afternoon!

What else? Well, here at Mary's Shelter we are busy as usual! We have been full, with up to ten women living in our home and two babies! The two babies living at Mary's Shelter are both doing great, getting big, cooing and playing with all of us. Both mommy's are busy bonding with their babies while at the same time making plans for their future!

We had three of our residents graduate at Jensen Beach High School on May 31st with their GED diplomas! Four of our residents are working fulltime with the Workforce Solutions Youth Connection work certified program. So much activity, so much excitement!!!

Our Thrift Store is looking for volunteers as some of their most treasured volunteers have left for the summer months. If you are home and have some free time, please come and get involved. Its fun and exciting, you can meet new people, make a difference in your community and help us to save lives, two at a time.

And as always, thank you for your prayers and support. We at Mary's Shelter could not exist with out you.

Gina S. Thompson

Executive Director



Shelter News

We are so excited for our three residents who received their GED (high school equivalency diplomas) on May 31st at Jensen Beach High School. Each one of them worked hard at preparing for their exam and each one of them can feel so proud of their accomplishment to date. They are, however, not finished there! They have just begun their journey.



At Mary's Shelter, each new resident who moves in works with our Operations Manager, Kim Gaudet, to come up with their own individual goal plan. The target of every goal plan is for each resident to become independent and able to support herself and her child.

Certainly a high school diploma is the first step in increasing your ability to earn more and improve your ability to move up the ladder. After that we focus on certificate programs which give our residents a new skill set and better prepares them for the employment market. For example, one of our resident's, through the Workforce Solution Youth Connection Program, completed the classes necessary to become a certified nursing assistant (CNA) and is working in a podiatrist office in town. Another resident, through the same program at Workforce, is attending classes at IRSC in Fine Dining and is working in a local restaurant in town. Workforce, through their Youth Connections programs, helps young people to increase their skill set through certificate programs and then through their work certified program, pays their salary for eight weeks so that these women can offer their services to a

company for free in order to gain invaluable work experience. We are very thankful for our partnership with Workforce Youth Connection.

Volunteer Support

Mary's Shelter could not exist if it were not for the volunteers that show up on a daily basis to support our efforts. With all the recent activity in our home; women interviewing for jobs, working, going to school and looking for apartments, we need all the help we can get! Transportation has always been a challenge for us at Mary's Shelter. Martin County Public Transportation only runs Monday through Friday, up until 5pm in the evening, and does not go every where our residents need to go. With the summer months upon us, our volunteer base has diminished. We are in **desperate need** for additional volunteers who would be willing to provide and assist us in our everyday needs.

Here at Mary's Shelter we provide in-house classes for our residents on basic life-skill training. These classes are taught by our volunteers. Classes on nutrition, budgeting/finance, birthing, breastfeeding, parenting, anger management, and sewing are just a few of the classes we provide. If you are willing to give of your time/talent and would like to come to Mary's Shelter and teach a class, we would love to have you.

We like life on the weekends at Mary's Shelter to be more relaxing and fun. After a long week of classes, working, volunteering and appointments, our residents need to take some time to de-stress and unwind. If you are someone who likes to kick back and have some fun while giving back, call us. We would love to set up a time for you to come in and spend some down time with our residents. Sometimes there are things going on in our community that might be fun for our residents to be part of. You might help us to get them to these events and share in the experience with them. At Mary's Shelter, the opportunities to help are endless and the ways you can become involved are many. Please feel free to call us, come for a tour and see if you might like to get involved. Our number is 772 223-5000. We'd love to hear from you!

Fundraising News

The Fourth Annual Mary's Shelter Golf Tournament is scheduled for December 13, 2013 at the Willoughby Country Club right here in Stuart.



Registration will begin at 11:30 with a shot gun start at 1pm. Lunch will be available for a nominal fee. The format will be a four-person scramble. There will be lots of fun and exciting competition and games to participate in. There will be hole-in-one prizes and much, much more. Cocktails and awards will immediately follow on the patio at Willoughby. Save the Date in your calendar. More details will follow as the time gets closer. We are always looking for sponsors. This is a great way to get some advertising for your business. For more information on the tournament or sponsorship opportunities, please call us at Mary's Shelter at 772 223-5000.



The Fourth Annual Mary's Shelter Fashion Show is scheduled Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at the Willoughby Country Club. There will be lots of exciting auction items and vendor shopping available. We are hoping to have Fashions from the shops at Harbor Bay.

There will be much more information and details to share when the time gets closer, we just wanted you to be able to "save the date."

St. Joseph Catholic Church

We just want to thank Fr. Noel and all the St. Joseph's parishioners for their un-ending support especially during these summer months when many of our donors have gone away for the summer. We appreciate Fr. Noel's effort by continuing to take up collections for Mary's Shelter and for all the parishioners who so readily give of their treasure.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

We appreciate our partnership with St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Stuart. From the collections of diapers and household necessities to the support of volunteers and your willingness to include our residents in your community in any way you can.

Thrift Store News

Did you know that Wednesday is "Sale Day" at Mary's Shelter Thrift Store. Every Wednesday there is up to 50% off on one or more departments, which department will be on sale is a surprise! You've got to come in and see.

As with the Shelter our Thrift Store is need of volunteers, especially over the summer when so many people leave for cooler places! If you would be interested in working 3 to 4 hour shifts, one to two times a week, we would love to hear from you. Mary's Shelter Thrift Store is a great place to be, it's a friendly atmosphere, a great staff and lots of fun!! If you like to sort through merchandise, organize shelves, enjoy meeting new people, while giving back to your community, call us at 772 220-7888. Ask for Ann or Kathy or please just stop by.



In addition, we are always looking for donations of furniture. Summer is a good time to spruce up your home. Maybe make a change, thrift stores are a good place to help you accomplish this. Donate a piece of furniture and purchase a new one for your new look! We offer free furniture pick-up.

Thank you to all who give of your time and talent and to all those that have donated in the past.

*Our web site is now up and running!
We hope that you will visit it often so we can keep you informed. Contact us at info@maryssheltertc.org
or by phone at 772-223-5000*



P.O. Box 958 • Stuart, FL 34995

Save the date...

The 4th Annual !!!

Mary's Shelter Golf Tournament

will be held on

Friday, December 13th

at the

Willoughby Golf Club in Stuart, FL



Tournament and Sponsorship Opportunities will go out in the mail in September.

For more information call Mary's Shelter at 772 223-5000.