



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 Homeless Pregnant Women

Winter 2013

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As we approach this holiday season we can take a moment to reflect on all of the blessings God has given to us throughout the year.

Mary's Shelter has been blessed by doing God's work by saving lives two at a time. We have also been blessed by providing a loving, caring, and nurturing environment for the women who have had the opportunity to live at Mary's Shelter and give birth by the blessing of life. Mary's Shelter has also been fortunate to have a great staff, volunteers and board members who are dedicated to the residents of Mary's Shelter.

Mary's Shelter has become a reality through your generous financial support and prayers throughout the year. As the year comes to an end, we ask you to continue to support Mary's Shelter through your giving of prayers, talents and donations. With your efforts we can collectively continue to do the work God has directed us to do, which is to provide an alternative for women who choose to give the gift of life to their babies and allow them to experience the grace of God's presence in their lives.

Inside this newsletter you will find some special moments that will show you how you have participated in God's work for Mary's Shelter throughout the year and hope you will find them as informative and comforting as we have.

In closing, on behalf of all of the family of Mary's Shelter, we wish you a very joyous and blessed Christmas and holiday season, and a prosperous and happy New Year.

Nick Grubbs, President,
Board of Directors Mary's Shelter



Shelter News

We are also proud to report that we have had another resident pass and receive her Certified Nursing Assistant certification. She has been volunteering her time at Stuart Nursing and Restorative Center and we hope that she will be able to gain employment as a Certified Nursing Assistant after she has her baby.

One of our residents is enrolled online with Florida Virtual School to complete her credits to receive her high school diploma. An essay she wrote was selected to be published in a hardbound anthology, *Celebrating What is Important to Me*. We are very proud of her hard work and are excited to see this book.

We have a couple of residents working on their GED's and thanks to Molly, one of our volunteers, these two women are now receiving private tutoring.



We recently were able to purchase two new curriculums. Both series provide lessons that are taught at the shelter on a weekly basis. The first program teaches

life skills while providing the women with support to help meet the physical and emotional needs during pregnancy. The second lesson is a bible study that will help the women to understand the importance of God in their lives. We have a wonderful couple, Frank and Florie, who have volunteered to teach this curriculum.

The Paralegal Association of Florida had a diaper drive on our behalf. We have been receiving diapers on a weekly basis and we are so grateful! Within the next two months we will have four infants in the house and these diapers will help out tremendously.

MIS Consulting from Stuart has graciously volunteered to provide support for all our computer needs. We greatly appreciate their efforts and are so excited to have this help.

Shelter Needs

We continue to try to collect email addresses from our supporters in an effort to save on printing costs. We would like to be able to communicate with as many of you as we can by email. Email is a most cost effective way to keep you up-to-date on our progress and our successes! **Please email us at kim@maryssheltertc.org and let us know if we can add you to our list, its that easy.**

We continue to struggle with our transportation needs. If anyone is available to drive our residents to and from their many appointments, classes, and educational programs please call us and speak to Nancy Metzler at 223-5000.

Volunteer Support

At Mary's Shelter our residents work on a point system called the Empower Me Program. Our residents get points for all the hard work they do toward attaining their goals. These points are used to purchase baby items they will need for their infant's first year of life (i.e. diapers, wipes, strollers, car seats, and more).

Peter Candela, a Boy Scout came to Mary's Shelter looking for a project to earn his Eagle Scout rank. We told him we have always struggled with storage and have dreamed of a store where our residents can shop with the points they have earned. Well, he made our dreams come true. He turned part of our program room into a wonderful enclosed store!

Thank you Peter and congratulations on your Eagle Scout rank!



Fundraising News

Our fundraising efforts are well underway! Mary's Shelter was fortunate enough to receive a grant from the Raskob Foundation to cover fifty percent of the salary for a Development/Marketing Manager. At the end of September we hired Emily McNutt, a recent communications graduate from Francis Marion University in South Carolina. Emily's



responsibilities will include getting the word out to the Treasure Coast community that Martin County has a shelter for pregnant women in need. In addition, Emily will be helping us find new funding sources and many more resources for our residents.

Just a reminder about our three fundraising events:

The Fourth Annual Mary's Shelter Golf Tournament is scheduled for December 13, 2013 at the Willoughby Country Club right here in Stuart. The cost is \$150 per player and registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a shot gun start at 1pm. Lunch will be included in the price of the ticket. There will be lots of fun competition and games to participate in. Cocktails and awards will immediately follow on the patio at Willoughby. We have been sold out every year with over 100 golfers participating. Sponsorships available:

Hole Sponsorships \$200
Green Sponsorships \$350

The Fourth Annual Mary's Shelter Fashion Show Luncheon is scheduled Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at the Willoughby Golf Country Club from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person. There will be many exciting auction items and vendor shopping will be available. Fashions will be provided by the shops in Downtown Stuart and at Harbour Bay. We have sold out every year with over 200 women in attendance. Sponsorships available:

Teddy Bear \$ 250 includes 1 ticket
Sweet Dreams \$ 500 includes 2 tickets
Rainbow \$1,000 includes 5 tickets
Precious Baby \$2,000 includes 10 tickets

The Second Annual Mary's Shelter Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, March 2, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. at the Sailfish Country Club. Tickets are \$200 per person. There will be fabulous hors d'oeuvres, dinner and open bar plus an exciting auction as well as sensational entertainment. Sponsorships are available for this event:

Bassinette Level: \$5,000 includes 4 tickets
Layette Level: \$2,500 includes 2 tickets
Lullaby Level: \$1,500
Love Level: \$1,000
Hugs Level: \$ 500

Thrift Store News



Our Thrift Store continues to do well and we would like to say thank you to Ann Jones. Ann had been on the Mary's Shelter Board of Directors and stepped down in order to develop, open and manage the thrift store. Through her hard work, dedication and commitment, we now have a successful and thriving store in Stuart. Ann has resigned from the thrift store due to health reasons and we would ask that you keep her in your prayers.

We would like congratulate Kathy Carmody who will be taking over as Manager of our thrift store. Kathy has had years of management experience at House of Hope and has been with Ann since the very beginning. We would also like to welcome Kathy Cischke, our new assistant manager! Kathy has been a long time resident of Stuart and a great addition to our store. Stop by, if you haven't already, to meet Kathy and Kathy!

As always, don't forget, Wednesday is Sale Day at the Thrift Store. One department is always on sale, you just never know which one. With Christmas right around the corner, come browse our store, and see what treasures you might discover.



Mary's Shelter

P.O. Box 958 • Stuart, FL 34995

Save the date...

The Fourth Annual

***Mary's Shelter Fashion Show
And Luncheon***

Will be held at Willoughby Country Club

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

From 11 am to 2pm

\$75 per person

A selection of fashions from some of the
finest boutiques in Downtown Stuart and
Harbour Bay Plaza

For tickets or sponsorships

Send checks to PO Box 958, Stuart FL 34995 or
call 772 223-5000 for credit cards

The Second Annual

Mary's Shelter Banquet

To be held at Sailfish Point Country Club

Sunday, March 2, 2014

From 5pm to 9pm

\$200 per person

An elegant dinner, silent and live auc-
tion, and entertainment by
the Atlantic City Boys!

For tickets or sponsorships

Send checks to PO Box 958, Stuart, FL 34995
Call 772 223-5000 for credit cards.