5th Annual Potluck Benefit Dinner

On March 23, 2010, we gathered for our 5th Annual Potluck Benefit Dinner in the Cenacle at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Friends and supporters joined us to listen to His Eminence Justin Rigali’s hopeful and inspiring address, with the Visitation at its core. We also enjoyed an array of aromatic meals served at hosted tables, fellowship among so many in the pro-life community, a silent auction and raffle. This year’s Ruth V. Pakaluk Award was presented to Marilyn Sullivan by Most Reverend Daniel P. Reilly for her support of Visitation House. We are grateful to all of you who made this fundraising event a success. As always, we are reminded that you are Visitation House. We are comforted and encouraged in knowing that your faith in action is what buoys us up in being able to provide a home to the women and infants who pass through our doors. How blessed we are by you. ~

Skills for Tomorrow…

A struggling economy and job market have made us sure of one thing… we need to be prepared for the future. Visitation House residents who are enrolled in GED, certificate and degree programs or who are seeking employment have been able to take advantage of software trainings made possible through a generous grant provided by the Order of Malta. Training Associates is providing a skilled instructor for six-week courses in basic and intermediate Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. These trainings are vital in helping residents to become competitive candidates in the goals that they set for themselves in education and in the workplace. Visitation House hopes to continue to assist residents and former residents through these trainings. We are grateful to the Order of Malta for giving us the opportunity to impact our residents’ futures. ~

Prayer for the Feast of the Visitation

Eternal Father,
You inspired the Virgin Mary, mother of Your Son, to visit Elizabeth and assist her in her need.
Keep us open to the working of Your Spirit, and with Mary may we praise You forever. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.
**REPAIRS & RENOVATIONS**

We are so privileged to make Visitation House a home for our residents in this former convent where we are blessed by Jesus’ presence in our chapel. Prior to opening, extensive work had to be done to operate as a place of lodging. At this point, we continue to make much needed repairs to the physical building constructed in 1925.

**Recent capital improvements:**
- Repaired the roof and rotting soffit over the front porch due to the leaking widow’s peak.
- Replaced a skylight window blown out during a winter storm and repaired the roof areas affected by it.
- Repaired/reinforced the unsound roof/ceiling structure over the rear porch/ playroom. Moved a fire sprinkler pipe.
- Much needed storage space was added to the first floor by replacing what remained of a fireplace.

**Urgently needed capital repairs:**
- To save money and to run more efficiently, our furnace is in need of two new zone valves. We hope to be able to afford this repair before the next heating season begins.
- Our roof, which is over 25 years old, urgently needs to be completely replaced. Are there any roof angels among our donors?

Needless to say, all this work necessitated spending thousands of dollars budgeted for operating expenses. *Please consider an additional contribution* to help us cover these critical maintenance items. You are our sole support in helping us to literally *keep a roof over the heads of our residents - women and infants in need.* ~

**Ways to Give**
- in memory of a loved one
- in honor of friends or family
- in celebration of special occasions, i.e. birthdays, anniversaries
- planned gifts, bequests
- a tax-deductible contribution before the end of 2010
- a United Way contribution by designating Visitation House as your charity

**Did you know?**
- Visitation House, Inc. is a 501(c)3 private non-profit organization.
- We are the only Catholic home for women in crisis pregnancies in Massachusetts.
- We do not accept state funding because of our Catholic, pro-life stance.
- We do not receive funding from Partners in Charity.