



Wonderful Send-off

After dedicating herself for three years to Visitation House, House Manager Susan Arraje has decided to explore other ministries; however she will continue to be actively involved with Visitation House in many other ways. On her last day, October 8, 2010, we had a beautiful gathering with the staff and residents. Susan will truly be missed, and we wish her fulfillment on her journey.



On October 3rd, Respect Life Sunday, parishioners from St. Bernadette in Northboro, Sacred Heart in Webster, and St. John in Worcester participated in the MCFL "Walk to Aid Mothers and Children" and raised money for Visitation House in Worcester. This is the third year that Eve Lindquist, Executive Director of Visitation House and a parishioner of St. Bernadette parish, coordinated the trip. Thanks to the generosity of Fr. Stephen Gemme, pastor of St. Bernadette, who donated a bus, the group was able to travel together to and from Boston. Fr. Michael Roy, pastor of Sacred Heart also joined in the walk, which drew a large crowd of families, students, and seminarians to the Boston Common.

In her own words...

Former resident K shares her VH success story:

My name is K. I am thirty six years old. In September of 2009 I had the pleasure of entering the Visitation Home as a client there. At first I was a little unsure of how I would adapt to the structure of the program, but soon I realized I was right where God would have me to be.

My eight month stay at the Visitation House proved beneficial in numerous ways. There was structure and rules in place. However, I found them not stifling me but empowering me to develop new areas of growth.

The groups were very helpful to my growth as a person. One of the groups that was most helpful was the computer classes I was required to attend. I had taken Microsoft Word and Excel. Both classes were ten weeks long. The skills I acquired were useful because I am in college and I write a large amount of papers. Also the chores and responsibility that was given to me was a great experience. I was able to learn more consistency and discipline in my life, as well as time management and organizational skills.

The leadership at Visitation House are extremely nice and go beyond what they are required to do. All of the staff have encouraged me and always guided me when I needed guidance. During the holidays and my birthday I was given a lot of gifts for my baby and me. At first I was skeptical about spending the holidays in a structured program. However, Visitation House made it warm and caring and now I am sometimes sad that I cannot be there during the holiday because I know of the fun that is about to take place.

Even though I was very comfortable at the Visitation House, my number on the housing list was coming soon. When I got the letter from housing to go look at the apartment they had for me, I was excited nonetheless. As soon as the staff knew I was exiting the Visitation Home, they willingly joined together to make my transition a success. My whole apartment is furnished by Visitation House. Occasionally I still call to see if they have a baby item I may need before I purchase it myself. They almost always do.

My stay was truly a positive life changing experience I will never forget.



Halloween 2010

Welcome!

Matilda



Shawn



Jonathan



Two New Additions to the Visitation House Family



Sherry Robbins joined Visitation House on September 2, 2010 as our new Social Service Manager and is now responsible for intake and orientation of new residents as well as ongoing guidance and support, including the coordination of various life skills programs.



Kim Fitzpatrick joined Visitation House on October 4th, 2010 as our new House Manager. In this position, Kim will be responsible for all areas of house management including staffing, meal planning, and upkeep of our 32 room facility, as well as coordinating volunteers and providing support to our residents.

Ways to Give



- your time and talent and treasure
- in memory of a loved one
- in honor of friends or family
- in celebration of special occasions, e.g., 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
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) from your checking account. Please call Eve Lindquist, Executive Director at 508-798-0762 to arrange

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.
- Our monthly operating expenses are \$22,000 per month.

Christmas is a time of giving and of sharing our faith with friends and family and with those in need.

So, dear Lord, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus this holy season, we ask you to bless us all and help us to continue to serve others in Your name.

The residents, staff, and board of directors of Visitation House wish you and your family

A Very Merry Christmas &

A Holy New Year!



Visitation House Wish List



- Gift cards for supermarkets, department stores, office supply and home improvement stores
- Laundry detergent, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues

*Thank you
for your support!*

Faith in Action... A special thank you

Here are a few of the volunteers and donors who help our moms and babies.



St. Mary's in Shrewsbury C.C.D. class Notre Dame student Debbie Le Doux

Thanks also to:

- Holy Cross S.P.U.D. students
- St. Mary's School students in Shrewsbury
- Pat DesRoches from Sacred Heart of Jesus in Webster
- Fr. Michael Roy—our Chaplain from Sacred Heart of Jesus in Webster
- Lee Crowley from St. Luke's in Westboro
- Jim Hudson—our web designer from St. Mary's in Shrewsbury
- Horizons for the Homeless—for furnishing toys in our playroom and for babysitting
- The Order of Malta—for their generous donation



We need your help!

Capital improvements and renovations that are in the works:

- New roof—\$23,000.
- New kitchen flooring—\$2,500.
- 20% has been raised, looking for financial assistance for the remainder.



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