



Celebrating 25 Years

Safety. Support. Hope.
hopehouse.net



Hope House WINTER 2008 News

Hope House kicks off our 25th Anniversary Year

Friday, January 25, 2008
11AM to 1PM

Join us as we kick off our 25th Anniversary year at Independence Square Cinema located at 114 West Maple in Independence. A BBQ lunch will be available for a \$10 donation.

Selected stores on the Square will give Hope House 25% of proceeds from noon until 2PM so celebrate with us, then have fun shopping for a good cause!

Hope House is a safety net

We are very excited to announce that our web site address has changed from hopehouse-ejc.org to

hopehouse.net

Our new address is much easier to remember and reflects the fact that our services are a safety net for all families affected by domestic violence.

We're also updating the look and information on our site, so make sure to bookmark our new address and check back often!

Celebrating 25 Years!

In June of 1982 it was obvious that Eastern Jackson County needed emergency housing for battered women and children. There were only two shelters in the metro area. Both were 30 minutes or more away and transportation was not provided.

Independence Mayor Barbara Potts led a group of concerned city leaders and citizens to find a way to help women who were victims of domestic violence. By August of 1982, an anonymous benefactor offered to provide a rent-free 4 bedroom house in Independence that could safely shelter 15 women and children. At midnight on January 1, 1983, Hope House was born. 4 1/2 hours later, a woman and her children were accepted as our first clients.



After just one year of operation, we provided safe shelter for 570 women and 240 children. Approximately 949 hotline calls were received that first year. In 1987, we moved to larger 4 bedroom/2 bath shelter donated by the RLDS Church. The new facility was able to shelter 25 women and their children.

Less than 10 years later, Hope House embarked on a capital campaign to raise funds to expand the Independence shelter. In June of 1995, the new Hope House campus opened including a 10,000 square foot living center, a children's therapeutic center, an adult therapeutic center, a building for prevention education and administrative offices. Hope House could now shelter 52 women and children and offer a vastly increased array of outreach and therapeutic services.

In May of 2002, the Lee's Summit campus opened. With two shelter locations, Hope House could now shelter 104 women and children in need.

25 years from our start, it's unfortunate that there's still a need for a place like Hope House. But we're "celebrating 25 years" because we are thankful that we are here to help our community live free of abuse.

Design generously provided by Lindsey Riechers, onegoodegg@gmail.com

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A Tarnished Star

One of our therapists, Rita, was recently given a gift of a rustic-looking star ornament along with this essay* written by a “thrivor” named Harriet. A “thrivor” is a former shelter client who is now free of abuse and is thriving in her new life!

A tarnished star is an oxymoron. A star shines bright, yet to be tarnished means to be dull, lusterless and maybe even rusty. These words mean different things, but can be used together to describe this gift.

“Domestic Violence” is also an oxymoron. When we think of the term domestic, we think of home, unity and everything good that is family. Putting it together with violence, we do not associate this term with family. It is a reality for some though, and the families that experience domestic violence do not have a home that feels good.

Like the tarnished star, we think that the outward appearance is obvious to everyone. Maybe the rust is like a black eye or bruises that are outward evidence of the physical abuse. Yet, that rusty star is still shining bright inside. There are still the desires to be happy, be loved and be respected. These desires radiate the light within the star to shine. The luster is still bright, but perhaps hidden underneath shame, fear or low self-esteem.

We all seek to be a shining star and work hard to find our luster underneath the tarnish. Perhaps we need to look at our tarnished outward appearance as a “gift”. Our emotional scars that seem to dull that luster are just a reminder that we really do shine inside and out.

We really have achieved great successes. Who can say that they have problem-solved a financial difficulty, when there was no money and still survived? Who can relate with the family that had to change their plans, no matter how important, just to accommodate the motives of an abuser, and still help the family thrive? Who can remember the control and isolation from others, but were able to find friends at Hope House?

These are success stories that should make our stars beam with pride and let the light shine, even through rust. As Rita would say, “Hold Yourself in the Light!” and SHINE! Have a happy holiday season.

*used with permission

Hope House News, published by Hope House, is the official publication of Hope House, Inc., an agency providing shelter and services for battered women and their children.

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HOPE HOUSE

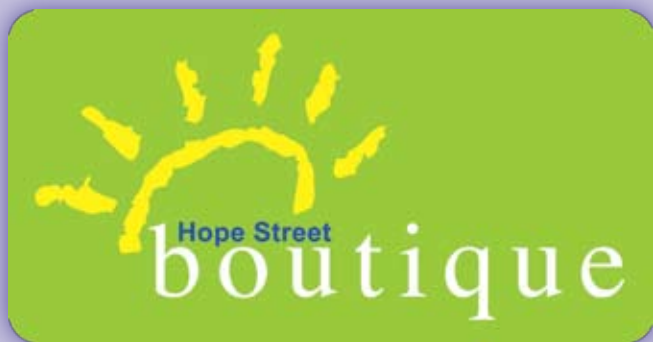
PO Box 577
Lee’s Summit, MO 64063

Phone: 816.461.4188
Hotline: 816.461.HOPE (4673)
Metro Hotline: 816.HOTLINE (468-5463)
Visit our website at hopehouse.net

Mary Anne Metheny, President & CEO
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HOPE HOUSE IS A
MEMBER AGENCY OF





A NEW WAY TO HELP

Hope House has always accepted donations of clothes and personal care items for our clients. But now there's an easy new way you can show you care: buy a gift card and make it out to Hope Street Boutique!

Some of our clients arrive at Hope House with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Hope Street Boutique is our in-shelter "store" where they can pick up clothing, shampoo and conditioner, cold medicines... anything to help make their stay with us more comfortable.

Save yourself time when you give this holiday season and throughout the new year! A gift card from a clothing store, a drug store or even WalMart, made out to Hope Street Boutique, can help us make sure that our shelves are filled with whatever our clients need most.



Big news arrives by mail

Our accounting department was amazed when they opened a communication from UMB Bank in 2007 to discover that Hope House was the beneficiary of a six-figure gift in excess of a quarter-million dollars through the estate of long-time Independence residents Forrest L. and Marjorie N. Martin.

The Martins crafted a legacy gift through their estate. The trust they created has been applied to the operating reserve at Hope House. This will ensure continuance and quality of services to the tens of thousands of individuals we reach each year.

If you would like more information on making "the ultimate gift" to Hope House, please complete the information below, or contact Nancy DuVall, Chief Development Officer, at 816.257.9328, email nduvall@hopehouse.net.

- Please provide me with more information about estate planning.
- I have a question. Please call me.
Best time to call: _____ A.M./P.M.
- I have not previously informed you, but I have already included Hope House in my estate plan.
- I would like to schedule a visit to discuss charitable gift planning.

PLEASE PRINT.

Name

Address

City, State

ZIP

Telephone (with area code)

Email

THIS INFORMATION IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

Save the dates for these fun events & support Hope House!



Claire de lune Bra Exchange

What: Bring in a gently-used bra and trade it in for \$10 off of a new bra! All "trade-ins" will be donated to Hope House for the Hope Street Boutique.

When: January 4 through February 10, 2008

Where: Claire de lune in Hawthorne Plaza on 119th and Roe in Overland Park.



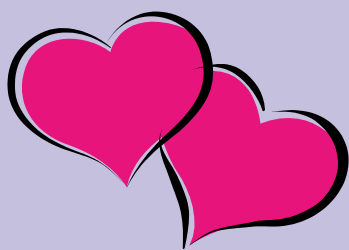
Local politician makes "head-lines"

What: Make the winning bid and you can shave Lee's Summit Councilman Nick Sweargin's head!

Watch the Hope House website for more details!

When: Saturday, March 1, 2008 from 3 to 5PM

Where: John's Barber Shop at 217 SE Douglas in Lee's Summit.



13th Annual Have A Heart Jazz & Blues Benefit

What: This rockin' benefit is hosted by Mama Ray and features the best jazz and blues performers in KC

When: Sunday, March 2, 2008 from noon to 8PM

Where: B.B.'s Lawnside BBQ at 1205 E. 85th Street in KCMO



Going Once, Going Twice, SOLD!

To donate auction items to any of these events, please contact the Special Events Manager at 816.257.9334 or email specialevents@hopehouse.net. Your donations are tax deductible.

To learn more about upcoming events or what you can do to help Hope House, visit our website at our new address: hopehouse.net



Spring Fling

We're Betting on Hope!

**Saturday, March 22, 2008
Hilton Garden Inn**

19677 East Jackson Drive
Independence, MO

Gaming for prizes — Theme Cuisine —
Cocktails — Live Auction — Dancing

**Go to our website hopehouse.net
to download the R.S.V.P. form**

Event Co-Chairpersons: Emagrace Colley (Haldex)
Becky Freetly-Graber (Candid Marketing Group)



Margaritaville (Presenting Sponsor): \$5,000

- Company logo printed on gaming cash
- Large sign with company logo at registration
- Opportunity to distribute promotional materials or premium items at event
- Recognition on all printed materials
- Opportunity to speak at the event
- 14 tickets to the event, 28 drink tickets and \$2,800 gaming cash

Changes in Latitudes: \$3,000 (2 Available)

- Island-style signage incorporating your company's name in bar area during event
- Bartenders in company uniform or company logo attire
- Recognition in printed program
- Opportunity to display promotional materials or premium items in bar area
- 12 tickets to the event, 24 drink tickets and \$2,400 gaming cash

Cheeseburger in Paradise: \$2,000 *Sold! Thanks to Haldex Corporation*

- Recognition on large signage in buffet area during event
- Recognition in printed program
- Opportunity to display promotional materials or premium items in buffet area
- 10 tickets to the event, 20 drink tickets and \$2,000 gaming cash

License to Chill: \$2,000

- Recognition on large signage in stage area with company logo
- Input on entertainment choice
- Recognition in printed program
- Opportunity to display promotional materials or premium items at event
- 10 tickets to the event, 20 drink tickets and \$2,000 gaming cash

Come Monday: \$500 (12 Available)

- Recognition on signage at one gaming table
- Dealer at your table dressed in company uniform or company logo attire
- 6 tickets to the event, 12 drink tickets and \$1,200 gaming cash

Parrothead (single tickets): \$45

- Includes \$200 gaming cash, 2 drink tickets, entertainment and a chance to win prizes



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P.O. Box 577
Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Urgent Needs:

Canned fruit
and vegetables

Toilet paper

Paper towels

In-kind Spotlight



Our spotlight this month is on Gary and Trish Walker. When we realized that we were going to have a serious shortage of turkeys for our Thanksgiving food baskets, Gary and Trish came to the rescue.

Not only did they donate 60 turkeys, but they also delivered all the fixings that go with them to

make a true
Thanksgiving feast!



We are very grateful for all the in-kind gifts we receive, big and small! Our clients are trying to start new lives and your support makes it possible.

Gary Walker (middle) brought along Brock Barnett (left) and Sherman Brown (right) to help unload the truck of holiday goodies and share in the joy of helping others.

Only Make Believe



Hope House is partnering with Starlight Theatre and New York City's *Only Make Believe* to bring live interactive

theatre directly to the youngest residents of Hope House. Two special presentations of the program will be offered in the Lee's Summit shelter in January and February, 2008.

Professional actors will perform a series of one-hour workshops that include a trunk load of colorful costumes, props and backdrops used to lead children on their theatrical journey.

The program provides children an escape from the mental, physical and emotional burdens that they live with every day.

Only Make Believe debuted in Kansas City in November at Children's Mercy amidst many giggles and smiles. We look forward to the same reaction when it appears here!