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The official registration and financial information of Mothers' Home, Inc. may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Mothers' Home, Inc. is a recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization and a United Way Donor Choice Agency: ID#7357. Photo of Brigid Risko, photo in masthead by Aino Photography.

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NEWS

FALL 2023



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Darby, PA 19023

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy Fall! I hope you enjoyed a restful summer and found time to relax with family and friends. With the slower days of summer behind us, activities are picking up at Mothers' Home. Before we know it, we will be planning our Thanksgiving and Christmas festivities!



We have so much to be grateful for, as over the last several months, we have seen an outpouring of support from the community. Our annual Golf Outing at the beautiful Paxon Hollow Country Club was a huge success! We are very thankful to all of our sponsors, golfers, dinner attendees and auction donors. It was a beautiful day for golf and a very successful fundraiser for Mothers' Home. Heartfelt thanks to Mike Fromhold and Brooke Keith who work tirelessly to ensure a perfect day for everyone. Funds raised allowed us to provide much needed training for our staff. Additional training in CPR and Trauma Informed Care is planned for the Fall, as well as team building events for our staff.

Save the date for next year's outing: May 13, 2024 (the day after Mother's Day). I hope to see you there!

Our residents continue to work hard every day to improve their situations and provide a healthy start for their newborns. In this edition, you will meet Le'angel who lived at Mothers' Home from May 2019-September 2020 during the height of COVID. Le'angel worked hard, stayed in school and was able to purchase her first home after moving out on her own. Her story will inspire you and affirm that your donations have a positive impact on the lives of our residents and their children.

I am so grateful for your continued support, as we rely heavily on our donors to be able to provide a safe haven for our Moms and babies. So, thank you and I hope you enjoy the beautiful Fall days ahead.

- Brigid Risko, Executive Director
brisko@mothershome.org

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GOLF OUTING 2023 SPONSORS

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Michael Gottsch, Cheryl Campbell, Tom & Kim Carroll,
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Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual Golf Outing fundraiser!

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Le'angel

Le'angel lived at Mothers' Home from May 2019 until September 2020. Her son was born October 2019. She had spent 60 days at a DAP emergency shelter, then referred to a transitional shelter, but it was full. They referred her to Mothers' Home. She was pregnant and fleeing an abusive relationship with no options for family support. After going through the interview process at Mothers' Home, Le'angel was welcomed into the program. She continued to attend college for nursing while staying at Mothers' Home. These are her words and feelings:

"People think shelters are crummy, but Mothers' Home was a home. It provided a home for me and my baby. He learned to crawl and walk there. We did Mom and baby yoga together and many other classes. I learned about breast feeding/lactation and breastfed for a whole year. I now advocate for it in my job in the mom/baby unit at a local hospital. My case workers organized and helped me. Otherwise, you would get distracted and upset and emotional. Weekly case meetings kept me on track. They helped me make a plan to keep up on my schoolwork, stay organized and keep me on track. I also learned about credit while there. The teacher told me how to repair my credit. I was able to get my credit score up to 720. I was able to save money, pay off debt and fix my credit and eventually buy my home. I was able to purchase my first house in 2020. The staff helped me with resources to furnish my home and helped with closing. When Tom, the maintenance supervisor at Mothers' Home, found out that the homeowner did not leave a refrigerator as promised, he found a mini fridge for us. The staff was amazing and helped me all along the way. When I was looking for shelter, I spoke to Kaye, the Residential Supervisor, who said "You don't know me, but you're going to get through this. You're going to be steered in the right direction." At my intake interview, I recognized Kaye's voice. It was so welcoming and I knew that she wanted to steer me in the right direction.

Mothers' Home was my last stop on the train. I wouldn't be in as good a place as I'm in now. If I couldn't have gotten into Mothers' Home, I probably would have gone back to my abusive ex, as there was nothing else I could've done.

Life after Mothers' Home doesn't stop. They still help me with resources. I can call and ask for help. It doesn't end after you move out. They do not disconnect you. They are still with you every step of the way."

New Additions

REUEL - 9/13/22

HONEY - 12/14/22

SAHAN - 12/20/22

BRAYDEN - 1/14/23

SEVYN - 5/26/23

RAGAN - 5/30/23



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Saint Francis of Assisi in Springfield hosted a March Madness basketball tournament to benefit Mothers' Home. Varsity champs were SEA white team, and JV champs, St Annie's. Thanks to Matt McGuire and the St Francis of Assisi CYO, coaches, donors, parents and players!



Catholic Heart Workcamp service project at Mothers' Home



Pot luck dinner and barbeque with New Life United Ministry and the Mustard Seeds.



Nurturing Smiles visit to Mothers' Home providing maternal dental education, fluoride treatments and oral cancer screenings. Nurturing Smiles provide essential care and support to pregnant women housed in local residential shelters.



CHOP doctors giving a class on sensory needs for babies, and the need to explore the world around them. Each Mom created a sensory mat for their baby.

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TO MOTHERS' HOME

Another magnificent way to support Mother's Home, even beyond your lifetime, is a bequest to Mother's Home as part of your estate plan. A simple statement in your will is generally sufficient, such as "I leave to Mother's Home, Darby, Pennsylvania the sum of \$_____ for its charitable works on behalf of pregnant women and their children." If you have any questions, please contact us and one of the attorneys who support Mother's Home can provide answers to your questions. Thank you!

