

HANNAH'S HOUSE

JANUARY 2011

A Christ-centered non-denominational maternity home for homeless women

P.O. Box 27595 ` Lansing, MI ` 48909 ` 517-482-5856

hannahshouselansing@gmail.com ` www.hannahshouselansing.org

THE FUTURE OF HANNAH'S HOUSE

In July of 2010, Hannah's House celebrated 15 years of service to our community. During the time our doors have been open, about 180 women have been given the chance to turn their lives around. We've helped in many ways. We've partnered with other community agencies to find the women safe, permanent housing and jobs when their time at Hannah's House is finished. We've been there in the hospital for women who would otherwise give birth without any friends or family present. We've given spiritual guidance to women who have felt lost and hopeless by introducing them to the love they can find in Jesus Christ and His people. We feel we've played an important part in making the Lansing community a better place to live.

Through the years we have counted on our precious donors to help us do this work. Whether they've given monetary gifts, or blessed us with diapers and baby items, we could not have done our work without the consistent help of our dedicated donors. We find however, that our donor base has grown smaller. Due to job losses and people leaving Michigan to live in other states, some of our faithful givers have disappeared. Add to this the fact that our state has cut its budget for helping those in need, and you have even more homeless, pregnant women who are at risk for having to live on the street. Hannah's House usually has a long waiting list of young women who need help. However, we can't help as many as we would like because we are a small operation. We find no joy in turning away women who need us, but how can we help more women when we can barely make ends meet to serve the three women and babies that we can house. It is the dream of Hannah's House Board and staff to be able to serve six women and babies at a time. That is not a huge amount, but it would make a big difference in the lives of those we are able to take in. We would like the chance to impact more women so we can do our work of:

- Helping them learn to depend on God for their spiritual and material needs
- Helping them get more education so they can be self supporting
- Helping them learn to budget and effectively handle their money
- Helping them learn how to parent their children
- Helping them become reconciled to their families
- Helping them to let go of self-defeating behaviors

In order to do this work, we need one thing. We need a number of faithful donors who believe in our work and would support us on a monthly basis. With this security to meet our current needs, we could then begin a capital campaign to raise money to acquire a larger house where we could help more women. It really isn't such a monumental task if we could count on your help. If everyone on our mailing list gave \$5 per month, we would have more than enough to meet our current needs and expand the ministry. Working together, we can do it! Won't you prayerfully consider becoming a monthly donor to Hannah's House in 2011. If a monthly gift is too much for you, we would be grateful for a gift of any amount. Help Hannah's House have a bright future. Don't let this ministry end. There are homeless, pregnant women and babies who are depending on us to help. Thank you for your help and may God bless you in this new year.

THE LITTLE HOUSE WITH A BIG HEART !

HANNAH'S HOUSE UPDATE

There are two new residents at Hannah's House. Both of them came to us in November 2010.

Breanne is a 21 year old LCC student who is working on an associate's degree so that she can support herself and her baby in the future. Breanne makes us laugh with some of her strange food cravings. We think the weirdest one is her love for pickles topped with Ranch dressing. She is due in June and doesn't know yet whether her baby is a boy or girl.



Breanne



Carol

Carol came a long way to live at Hannah's House. She was homeless in Florida when she found a Christian ministry there. They were full and could not take her in, so they searched the Internet until they found Hannah's House. When we heard Carol's story we suspended our usual practice of mainly helping women from Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties. We did our intake interview by phone and the Florida ministry bought her a bus ticket to Lansing. Carol is 18 years old and her baby is due in February. She is expecting a baby boy.

Becca, who has been with us for awhile, had a very difficult pregnancy. In early December, she stated that she was "done" and wanted the baby to come right away. However, that didn't happen. Becca was past her due date and still waiting for her baby girl to be born as of December 22. Becca has decided to name her daughter Jocelyn and will call her Josie for short.



Rebecca

HANNAH'S HOUSE RECEIVES GRANT

Hannah's House recently received a grant from the Junior League of Lansing. The Junior League provided Hannah's House with \$500 so that we could purchase a new freezer. The Junior League's Community Response Grant helps organizations that focus on helping women and children at risk. That is also the Junior League's mission.

We were in quite a spot when our old freezer stopped working. Not only did we lose some food, we didn't have enough room to store extra meat or frozen items. We usually buy these items when they go on sale and store them in the freezer for when we can't get sale prices. This is another way that Hannah's House keeps costs down. Also, some of our mothers breast feed their children and without a freezer we would have nowhere to store their extra milk.

So we were ecstatic when we received the news from the Junior League that they would help us meet this need.

Hannah's House would like to thank the Junior League of Lansing for their help, and commend them for the good work they do in our city. It's all of us working together that make Lansing such a great place to live.

PART-TIME HOUSEMOTHER WANTED

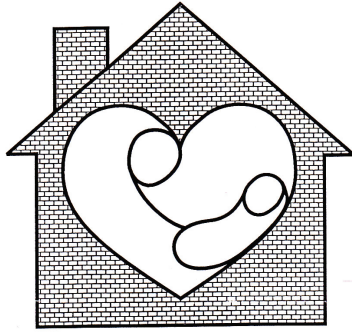


One of our current part-time housemothers will soon leave us and we need to find a replacement for her. Barb Armstrong, who has been with Hannah's House for more than 10 years, has decided to retire.

The part-time housemother would work every other weekend, from 2 p.m. on Friday until 5 p.m. on Sunday, with time off on Sundays to attend church. She would be required to spend the night on Friday and Saturday. Her duties would include preparing a meal for the residents on Friday or Saturday, doing light cleaning as needed, and doing daily devotions with the residents. She is basically required to run the house in place of the full-time housemother who works weekdays.

We require a dedicated Christian woman who has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a heart for helping hurting women. She must be able to take charge with grace and compassion when one of the women goes into labor or needs advice about how to care for her baby, but also know when to let the girls just relax. She should be mission minded and realize that the job is first of all a ministry.

If you or anyone you know meets the qualifications, please contact executive director Stephanie K. Johnson at (517) 482-5856 or e-mail her at hannahshouselansing@gmail.com



HANNAH'S HOUSE
PO BOX 27595
LANSING, MI 48909-0595

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #228
LANSING, MI

THANK YOU

Hannah's House would like to thank all of our friends who participated in the November 2010 fundraiser.

Everyone who went to the Olga's Kitchen Restaurant in the Lansing Mall to eat during November 12-14, 2010 helped raise money for Hannah's House.

Every bit of funding we get is vital, so thank you again for taking time out to help Hannah's House, and get a great meal at Olga's Kitchen.

We would also like to thank the staff at Olga's Kitchen for making our participation in this fundraiser so easy. They were great to work with and we're sure they made your visit to the restaurant pleasurable.



PRAYER REQUESTS



Pray for Carol, she has been through a great deal and needs a special touch from God.

Pray for Breanne as she works to complete her schooling.

Pray for Becca, that she learns how to be a great mother to her baby girl.

Pray for the health and growth of the babies of all three of our residents.

Pray for our new board member Judy. She has family members who are dealing with serious health problems.

Pray for our board president, Peggy, whose mother recently passed away.

Pray that Hannah's House will receive financial blessings.

THE LITTLE HOUSE WITH A BIG HEART !