

It has been a productive season here at Hannah's House! Although we have not yet been able to reopen to residents, this time has been one of prayer and preparation to ready us for welcoming a new group of moms.

Preparing the House

A group of families from New Hope Church in East Lansing – some 30 persons strong – came and gave us a hand on a September Saturday. If you were in the neighborhood, you might have seen:

- A mom coaching her young son to count out 12 diapers, rubber band them together, and mark a big size 3 on the top diaper. And then, do it all over again – bundling diapers to share with families in need!
- A group of boys working hard to re-paint our bench on the front porch. Whether planned or not, most of the guys were wearing a bit of blue by the time the bench was painted!
- Two dads making the rounds to each of the bedrooms replacing window blinds so they may block the hot sun.
- Groups of moms and kids spread out on the front lawn sorting baby clothes to be put away in our attic store room – so young families in need can dress their little ones.
- Repairing a bookcase for our kids' books and cutting shelves to size for the hall linen closet.
- Two women successfully mastering a monster rug shampooer in one of our upstairs bedrooms.



Staffing Our House

We are grateful that God is drawing house managers to us. There are a few candidates in the works! However, we are still searching for our full team. Please keep Hannah's House in your prayers this fall, that we might fill our staff and reopen to the women in our community. We are unable to re-open until we're fully staffed.

If you or someone you know might be interested in working with us, please reach out! We are looking for women available to work 24 to 48 hour shifts, staying in the house with the women. House managers provide mentorship, case management, spiritual guidance and supportive friendship. We all benefit together from daily devotions and prayer, weekly Bible studies, and Sunday worship. It's one of the best positions of service you could ever hope to have!

Renewing Our Minds

The Lord has brought to our attention some relevant training webinars and videos that we plan to use as staff to have a better understanding of some of the challenges our residents face. We want to be well prepared to support their growth in spiritual and emotional maturity. The webinars are on topics such as *Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)*, *Understanding Sexual Violence* and *Faith Based Organizations and Domestic Violence*. Other teaching videos focusing on stages of pregnancy, nutrition, budgeting, and infant care, can help us support our residents to be strong women and tender mothers.

Tending Our Hearts

As we move into October, we can face our fears for the future and lean on the power of God, praying that He will show us the way forward. Isaiah 40:31 says, "*But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*" It is in this spirit that we move forward.

Inviting the Support of Our Friends

Finally, our annual **International Dessert and Silent Auction Event** is coming up very soon! We will be hosting the event at Trinity Church, 3355 Duncel Rd in Lansing, from 1-3 P.M. on Saturday, October 12th. We hope you will come out to take a look at some fantastic items and sample some delicious desserts.

To purchase tickets, scan the QR code on the enclosed flier. Tickets are available the day of the Event, but it will help us better prepare for you if we know ahead of time that you're planning to be with us!

To showcase your favorite dessert, go to our website and sign up to bring (a mere!) 100 sample size portions of your favorite (International) dessert. You will be blessed **as** a baker, and all of us will be blessed **by** your baking!

As always, we deeply appreciate your continued support and prayers.

In Christ,

Jenn Elwood
Coordinator of Development

Susan Ayers
Executive Director