

# "Moving People From Homelessness to Hope"

#### **WINTER 2015**

# WAYS TO GIVE THROUGHOUT THIS YEAR:

- Volunteer with us by serving a meal or packing sack lunches
- 2. Organize a basic needs drive (see back cover)
- Provide hope to our guests through financial support

# **CONTACT**INFORMATION

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### Tis the Season to Say THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who offered their time and talents to the St. Francis House this holiday season. You allowed us to provide Christmas gifts to a record breaking 61 families, as well as all our single male and female guests. We are truly humbled by the countless donors who sponsored angel trees, basic needs drives, and clothing drives on behalf of the St. Francis House.

We are extremely thankful to be a part of this generous community who genuinely cares about their citizens' well-being. Thank YOU for allowing us to continue our mission of providing hope to the homeless. We could not exist without you.

Due to people like you, 2014 was a truly amazing year for the St. Francis House. We would be honored to receive your support in 2015 and continue to grow in our mission of helping the lives of the homeless.





## **HELPFUL** DONATIONS

Coffee Coffee Creamer/Sugar **Butter/Margarine Cold Cereals Chips for Sack Lunches Sliced Cheese Cooking Spays Dishwasher Tablets Grated Cheeses** Fresh Produce **Plastic Sandwich Bags Aluminum Foil Napkins Laundry Soap Cleaning Supplies** Postage Stamps **Diapers** Gift Cards (grocery, Walmart, phone, etc.) Office Supplies (copy paper, etc.) Over the Counter **Medications Brown lunch bags Paper Towels Toilet Paper** Bleach **Coffee Filters** Sugar

### **BOARD** MEMBERS

John Richardson,
Lacey Kolba,
Tonya Kruger,
Pam Hilber,
Angie Bakke,
Leigh Jerzak,
Matt Gage,
Matt Althoff,
Justin Smith,
Teri Katzenberger,
Kory Holt,
Jen Rothenbuehler
Julie Becker Executive Director

A poem written by a St. Francis House guest. His story of recovery and redemption.

#### **Guardian Angel**

by Coye Nohava

Last night I had a dream. It left a tale to tell. I dreamed I saw an Angel, but the poor thing, he wasn't looking well.

His Body was bruised and battered. His wings were ripped and torn. This angel could barely walk. He looked so tired and worn.

So I walked right up to him and asked, "Angel how could this be?" He turned and paused a bit then spoke these words to me,

"I am your Guardian Angel, a great task, as you can see. You've run amuck most of your life and this is what it's done to me.

These bruises are from shielding you in times of crazy thrills. The drunken bouts, the drugs you've done, I've often paid the bills.

My wings are tattered and torn. This my friend is from protecting you from the very day you were born. Each scar has its own story on how the wound was inflicted, but most got here after you became addicted.

You've broken hearts. You've broken lives, so many things you've destroyed. You've made me wish more than once that I was unemployed.

But God has sent me, and I would never leave you alone, but just remember as you dodge death in and out of jail. I'm getting weary, very old and frail."

I couldn't believe all I had just heard, let alone how much he seemed to care. I wept upon his shoulder then left him in despair. The next morning I sat and pondered, should I really try?

I knew the answer when somewhere in the distance I swore I heard that frail old angel cry.

# Guests Succeed by following our strict programming of:



#### Jada's Story of Success

My name is Jada. I started doing drugs as a kid. When I turned 18, I started doing meth about every single day until I became incarcerated at 24-years old. I received a twelve-anda-half-year sentence doing nine of the years straight.

I was given the chance to do parole, but was unsure about the opportunity.

I was brought to the St. Francis House as a part of my recovery program.

It was rather stressful at first having to apply for eight jobs every single day on foot and not knowing the Sioux Falls area. The search was made harder by my felony with most businesses having a no-felony policy. I was just about ready to



Jada telling his story to a group of volunteers at the St. Francis House.

give-up and go get high until they caught me. Then, one day I came back to the St. Francis House and I had a message that someone wanted to hire me.

I have been on a path of success since coming to the St. Francis House, in thanks to the program, and the guidance of my case manager.

My case manager kept me on the right path and heard all my problems. I have a really good paying job now and am working

on a degree from South East Tech.

I am now living in my OWN furnished apartment and have two vehicles thanks to all the money I was able to save during my six-month-stay at the St. Francis House.

Even though I have left the program, I still stop by to say hello and they are always offering me food and clothes.

I would have to contribute my successes to the St. Francis House's program. They have been wonderful.

## Four Newsletters Aren't Enough?

Are you interested in the daily happenings of the St. Francis House? Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, or visit our webpage to receive up-to-date information.



St. Francis House





@St FrancisHouse www.stfrancishouse.com

#### In Memory Of:

**Darlene Graves Kevin Gross** Pam Kneip **Raymond Jensen** Frank Lindstrom **Ervin Oberloh Deb Freking Galen Stoops** Richard (David) Johnson Gen Lehnen **Marie Coomes Johnson** Paul T. Harrington **Paul Lee Dolores Suhr** Mina Mohns Jack Sturdevant **Dana Carreon** Francis A. Harvey Kathleen "Kathy" Thoreson "Buck" Chandler Suzann Breen Glenn Dunkelberger Lloyd Reeves **Leona Ehburg Doug Langenfeld Shirley Paulin Ronnie Robinson Mark Skalland** Kolon Bradfield **June Rogers Karl Graeber Connie Peterson** Jill McCormick Ann Batt **Kay Saladin LeRoy Sundem** Mason Warren Lukker Kay V. Jacobson **Edwin & Janice Baatz Dorothy Dankey** Ryan Fait **Alice Schroeder Bob Batenhorst** Sarah Opel **Neil Winkler** L. Sande **Albert Stenseas Jav Snook Mike Murphy** 

#### In Honor Of:

**Lucile Aschoff Carol Lerdal** Julie Becker Alan & Kristin Brandyberry **Ralph Lindner** Ione Wirth June & Alfred Johnson **Family** 



Main Shelter



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Quad-Multi Family Housing



Sherman House



**Dudley Duplex** 



Tri-Plex

### We are ALWAYS Seeking Donations of:



PAPER TOWLS



CLEANING SUPPLIES



EGGS





LAUNDRY SOAP



MILK



DISH SOAP





**STAMPS** 



TOILET PAPER



**ALUMINUM FOIL** 

If you need it in your home, we need it in ours ...