



“Moving People From Homelessness to Hope”

Winter 2012

**CELEBRATING
25 YEARS OF
PROVIDING
SERVICES
TO OUR
COMMUNITY**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Celebrating 25 years of providing services to our community.

The St. Francis House opened its doors to the homeless of Sioux Falls on March 15, 1987. Primarily, through the efforts of two leaders, the late Bishop Paul Dudley and Pastor David Holmes, the vision of opening a homeless shelter grew from a dream into reality. During the past two decades, the St. Francis House has served every year approximately 425 people who have issues with addictions, disabilities, mental health and physical health. Due to the increasing need to provide shelter specifically for families, the St. Francis House established the Dudley Family Duplex in 2003 and began serving homeless families with children. In January, 2009, we took ownership of a three unit complex providing transitional housing to three more families. Later that year, the St. Francis House began the construction of a four unit building directly east of the main shelter. Four families moved into these units in December, 2009. All single beds and family units are at full occupancy every day of the year.



Initial Board Members of the St. Francis House:

Msgr. James Doyle,
 Val Beckman,
 David Billion Sr.,
 Sandy Eanes:
 Director, Jo Gross,
 Dr. James Ingvaldstad,
 Vada Thomas,
 John Wenande,
 & Evelyn Wills



HELPFUL DONATIONS

Coffee
Coffee Creamer/Sugar
Butter/Margarine
Cold Cereals
Bags of 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

GUEST QUOTES

"The roof of our trailer fell in and we were not able to stay in the trailer. We did not even know St. Francis House existed, but were told by someone to call the house."

- Family Unit Guest

"I am so grateful to be a free man and be able to move to Colorado due to a job offer."

- Hope Member Guest

"Thank you for the new home and also for the socks!"

-Young Child staying in Family Unit

Testimonial

My name is Stacie and I am the mother of four children. My daughter is 7, my oldest son is 5 and I have twins that are 2 years old.

Before I moved into the St. Francis House, I was living in my grandma's one bedroom house. My children were not living with me at the time, because I was going through some court issues. During the court proceedings, I was told that in order to get my children back I needed to have financial stability (a job), a place big enough for my family to live, show that I can protect my children from harm. I needed a safety plan, to prove to the court I was drug and alcohol free. I had to cooperate with the state and federal officers for questioning about my husband, that led up to our house being raided.

After a year of dealing with the court system and my children being in foster care, I had all those goals accomplished except a big enough place to live. I called the St. Francis House and talked to Carolee about my situation. She called me back about a week later and said that there was an opening. So 24 hours later, I was moved into a two bedroom unit at the St. Francis House. All my court dates were done a month after moving in and my children were reunited with me!

While living at the St. Francis House, I had to breathilize every evening. It was part of the house rules. They helped me save money, so I did not have to pay my probation officer to breathilize at her office. I am working at an \$8.00/hour job, so money is really tight. Thank goodness for the donations given to the St. Francis House because I have needed help with diapers, wipes, paper products and personal hygiene items. The kids have also grown out of clothes and so I have received clothes for them and they got new shoes before school started this past fall. When I get paid half of my paycheck goes into my savings account at the St. Francis House, which I will get back when it is time for me to move into my own place. When Christmas came, someone adopted my family and we received gifts and clothes that made for a wonderful Christmas. It brought tears to my eyes knowing that my family would have a wonderful Christmas this year, especially knowing everything they have went through this past year and a half. I just want to thank my family/friends at the St. Francis House for their moral support and helping me make a better life for my children and all of you reading this letter, because you have truly helped me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

ST. FRANCIS HOUSE
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF PROVIDING
SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY

A Heart Filled Thank You!

The St. Francis House has been blessed this past holiday season by our community and the surrounding communities. Our families were adopted by groups and/or families calling the St. Francis House to specifically adopt one of our families and their children. Groups also donated toys to our guests who have children, but are not living with them. Parents were able to select toys and blankets for their children so they did not arrive empty handed at Christmas. Our shelves were replenished with canned goods, coffee, paper products, office supplies and personal hygiene items.

New Website:

Just like our local roads this summer and fall, the St. Francis House's website has recently been under construction as a result of a wonderful gift from the Randy Kouri Family Foundation, we were able to introduce our new logo and give our website a fresh look. Our website offers information to the community on the services that we provide our guests, volunteering opportunities and recent media opportunities. Feel free to

check out our new Donate Button, which allows our donors to make their donations on-line using a credit card or bank card. We continue to be blessed by Midcontinent Communications with their generous gift of the production of our new public service announcement. This spot features one of our single moms who stayed with us, participated in our program successfully and has now transitioned into her own apartment in the community.



In Memory Of:

Morine Persing
George Flora
Benard "Doc" Donelan
Dorothy Engelkes
Kevin Anderson
John P. Abbott
Brian Meierbachtol
Nick Pyper
Richard English
Dalton Williams
Steven Carlson
Dean Reif
Sylvin "Syl" Schetnan

In Honor Of:

Ione Wirth
Tom Fitzpatrick
Steve & Pat Linquist
Eugene & Betsy Kuntz
Nick Puper
Project Donnie
Armida Alexander

Board Members:

Gloria Paulin,
Stephanie Marin, Tom Wingert, Tom Schmidt, Sr. Mary Thomas, Sarah Sachen, Travis Benson, Justin Smith, Anja Hoekman, Jennifer Morrison, Kory Holt

SAVE THE DATE

2012 9th Annual Live & Silent Auction

Monday, September 24th at the Sioux Falls Convention Center



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage
P A I D
Permit # 7283
Sioux Falls, SD



Quad-Multi Family Housing



Main Shelter



Dudley Duplex



Tri-Plex

Hy-Vee - Operation "Helpful Smile" February 1st-February 7th:

Each week, a different pre-determined area non-profit organization receives a monetary donation from Hy-Vee. Donation boxes placed at the check stands of our Sioux Falls Hy-Vee Stores collect customer contributions for each weeks chosen organization. Hy-Vee, with the help our program sponsors, matches these customer contributions up to \$1,000.00 each week. The better each group promotes, spreads the word and encourages customer contributions, the greater the donation the organization will receive.

Our week is February 1st – February 7th, 2012

**THANK YOU SO MUCH
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**