

# BETHANY HOUSE NEWSLETTER

## STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are so proud to announce that Velvet Johnson has been promoted to house manager, and Chantel Reese has been promoted to our volunteer coordinator. Lisa Reeves is continuing as live-in staff, but she has recently accepted a fulltime job at the University of Rochester. We are incredibly proud of these women! All three were former guests of the house, and all three are in recovery. They inspire the guests of our house daily, encouraging them and demonstrating what a transformed life can lead to. We are truly blessed that they are with us.



## BETHANY HOUSE MINISTRY

Grateful for your support!

This has been an incredible year so far caring and serving those that are marginalized. Already, we have housed 64 women and children in our shelter, distributed over 3000 food bags in our food pantry to our local community, and helped 19 women with

rental assistance so they could keep or secure safe housing. We are honored to care for these women and children, and recognize that we couldn't do it without the generosity of our supporters! Thank you for all you do that allows us to directly serve the most vulnerable women of our community.

## BETHANY HOUSE RECEIVES A FACELIFT

It was a busy summer for us as the house had a major overhaul. We did a full replacement of the gutters and part of the roof, we replaced all of the carpet in the house, added new a new front door and security system, and added all new mattresses to each of our guest rooms. The house looks great, and we could not have done all of the work without the support of generous donors! We invite you to stop in anytime and see for yourself!

## TWENTY YEAR PARTNERSHIP! Bethany House and University of Notre Dame

Each year, we have the privilege of being a part of Notre Dame's summer service-learning program. We host a student in exchange for her service, commitment to social change, and the opportunity for both parties to learn from each other. This year Sara Ferraro joined us, and we are all better people because of her presence. She immersed herself in all Bethany House has to offer, and as a result, walked away with long lasting relationships with both staff and guests. Her intelligence, kindness, sense of humor and positive attitude was a gift. Sara reflected on her experience: "I am blessed to be at Bethany House, and I am so grateful for Notre Dame's Center for Social Concerns that has granted me this eight-week immersion through the Summer Service-Learning Program. One of my greatest

takeaways from Bethany House is the power of hospitality. I will truly miss the women I have met and worked with here. They made me feel at home from day one. A community thrives on people with big hearts and open arms, and Rochester is blessed to have a place like Bethany House full of people who fit that description to a tee."



## WELCOME INVIA INTERNS SOPHIE AND SELINA



Bethany House is fortunate enough to partner with a unique German service program, Invia. Each year, a young woman from Germany comes and lives at Bethany House and provides a year of service in exchange for room and board. It is mutually beneficial, and creates a positive experience for both the guests and staff. This year is even more special because it is the first time we have two young women from the same program that joined us in August! Sophie Schmoltz is from Cologne, and Selina Thureau is from Bochum. We are thrilled to have the additional help, and are happy that they have each other to navigate their new surroundings and to travel together during their time off. Welcome to both of them!

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that in addition to being a homeless shelter for women and children, we are also a food pantry, diaper and formula bank, and personal and feminine hygiene bank? All of our services are free of charge, and we don't restrict based on income or zip code. We are totally independent organization and receive no government or Rochester Diocese funding. We are so fortunate to help the community in so many ways, thanks to all of you! We would love to have you join us for Wednesday prayer service at 5:30pm followed by a community meal.

Needs of the house: diapers, baby wipes, feminine hygiene products, personal care items (shampoo, soap, deodorant, etc.), cleaning supplies, paper products. Please support us through United Way (1156) and ROC the Day. Like us on Facebook <https://www.bethanyhouserocny.org/> and Instagram @bethanyhouseroc

**Save the date: Annual Christmas party December 14 and Bunco April 16**