

# BETHANY HOUSE NEWSLETTER

November 2021



## STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are proud to announce our new director, Kweli Sams who started with us in April. Kweli is a passionate, tenacious person that brings over 20 years of Human Service experience along with a master's degree in criminal justice administration. She has been

personally affected by homelessness at a very young age and as a result was led to Bethany House. Her mission is to assist, learn and teach women in poverty the essential tools they need in an effort to become independent. She would like to thank the Bethany Team for allowing her the opportunity to pour her personal and professional experience in helping women in need of support.

In addition, we would like to welcome Leslie Maxwell to our Bethany family as a new staff member!

## EXCITING OUTREACH HAPPENING AT BETHANY HOUSE

This Summer and Fall brought a couple of wonderful opportunities to Bethany House that we had not tried before. In the Spring a very industrious Eagle Scout candidate, John Vincent, agreed to make 4 raised bed gardens for us. Digging in the soil and producing food and beautiful flowers are in keeping with Dorothy Day's image of the Catholic Worker House; a place where people can get closer to the earth, understanding it's potential. Also, with the help of our faithful partners from St. Joseph's in Penfield, we gave away about 100 hot dogs along with a goodie bag! The event was well received and we hope to do it again in the Spring.



## INTERNS

Bethany House is fortunate enough to get interns from local colleges that become very helpful in helping the house to run smoothly. Currently, we have Danielle from Monroe Community College, Morgan from Nazareth, and Madi and Anika from the University of Rochester. We are fortunate they have chosen to learn more about Bethany's mission and spread the good news of what the house offers to others. Thank you for all that you do!

## SPRING FUNDRAISER

Spring fundraiser help needed! Bethany House has one fundraiser each year which is essential for our budget. We are looking for a few volunteers to serve on a committee with Kweli and the Board for this important event. If you are interested, please call Kweli at 454-4197. Thank you!!!

## GRATITUDE OVERFLOWING

Bethany House could not survive and thrive without the help of so many. We are grateful to our donors who continue to answer the call. We have been able to take care of major flooding issues in the basement, plumbing issues on the second and third floors and so much more. So many of you respond to every request on social media, allowing us to keep our food pantry robust and care for our guests. You give so frequently; it is hard to keep up with the wish lists - a good problem to have! We also have had a huge response from our volunteers. With your help, our food pantry runs smoothly three days a week, the house is clean and the yard kept up. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



## QUOTES FROM STAFF AND GUESTS



“HOPE”



“SOBRIETY IS THE WAY OUT”



“YOU CAN CHANGE ANYTHING THAT YOU PUT YOUR MIND TO. IT’S ALL UP TO YOU”



“FACING OBSTACLES OF HOMELESSNESS”



“BLESSED AND HIGHLY FAVORED”

## OUR SERVICES

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 a 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 the donations of time, talents, and resources.

### Bethany House Needs:

Diapers, baby wipes, feminine hygiene products, personal care items, cleaning supplies, paper products and items for our food baskets (green beans, boxed macaroni and cheese, cake mix, frosting etc. Please support us through United Way (1156) and ROC the Day.

**Call us:** 585 454-4197

**Like and follow us:**

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/BethanyHouseofHospitality>

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/bethanyhouseroc/>

**Donations can be made online at our website:** <https://www.bethanyhouserocny.org/donate.html>

**“Love casts out fear, but we have to get over the fear in order to get close enough to love them.” - Dorothy Day**