



Spring 2011 Newsletter

In 2010, 18 families were served through the Bridges Outreach program.

The mission of the Lakeshore Interfaith Hospitality Network of Manitowoc County is to mobilize volunteers and resources to help families at risk of homelessness move toward self-sufficiency.

Bridges Outreach Program Success Story

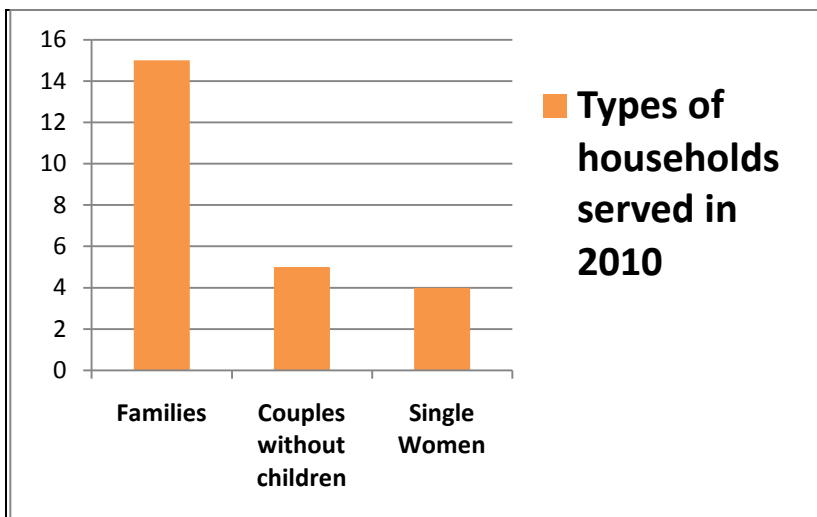
I first learned about LIHN in March of 2010 when I was on the brink of not having a place to live. I am unemployed and there are not many landlords that will rent to someone without a stable income and there was a two year waiting list for the low income apartments. I met with the former director Jessica at that time; we sat down to talk about my situation. Throughout the next couple of months, I was helped with gas cards which was a huge help to me because I am a student at Lakeshore Technical College in Cleveland. The gas cards helped me save more of my money for my rent and monthly bills. I was also aided in talking to Lakeshore CAP with receiving help on finding an apartment and helping me with the first month's rent and security deposit.

During the periods of time where I was in a decent place with all of my expenses we were still in contact, just to see how things were going, how school was going, if there was anything I needed, and I was always told "don't ever hesitate to call, we are here for you if you ever need us."

The things I like most about LIHN are they are always there for you in any way they can be, everyone is warm and comforting, I never feel like I am being judged, and it is always nice when you're not treated like just another number, but a good friend that cares what is going on in your life.

As of today, I have been working with the program on and off for the last ten months. In the past few months, I have received help in the form of gas cards, help with Christmas gifts for my son and me, and some home necessities. All of these were a big help to me and helped me to be able to save some money for my rent and monthly bills. I am so thankful for everything LIHN has done for my son and I in our times of need and I will never forget LIHN, the great people I have worked with, and all the wonderful help I have received from them. Again, thank you.

Hope House 2010 Statistics



Number of shelter nights provided: 2,564

Number of individuals served: 75

Great Gospel Gathering...Save the date!



The fifth annual Great Gospel Gathering concert is sure to rock the walls of Zimmer Auditorium at Roncalli High

School on Sunday March 27th, 3-5p.m. This event is produced by Mary Drohman, with Jim and Susie Miller as choir directors, and Biff and Sheila Hansen as hosts. The \$5 tickets to the concert may be purchased in advance at Roncalli High School, Schroeders in Two Rivers, or Roorbachs in Manitowoc. Tickets will also be available at the door on concert day. Marj La Brecque is heading up the dessert and coffee social following the event, included in ticket fee. A 50/50 raffle will be held to benefit Hope House with the drawing at the close of the concert.

Please call Hope House at 920-686-1436 if you would like to help with this concert or have any questions.

Annual Rummage Sale Date Set

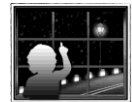
The 2011 Spring Rummage/Plant Sale and Brat Fry will be held at Hamann Construction on Friday, May 13, 9am-6pm and Saturday, May 14, 9am-2pm. Please bring your gently used household items, toys, bikes, furniture, etc. to Hamann Construction May 9 through May 12. If you have any items that you cannot hold until then please call Barb Katz at 920-682-1724. Also, please plan to divide your perennials and bring the extras on May 12th to be sold in the plant section. *No clothing, mattresses, or computers please...Thank you!*

This year due to state regulations we are not able to send raffle tickets in the mail. Anyone wishing to still donate in lieu of purchasing raffle tickets may do so by using the enclosed envelope.



Flicker of Hope a Success

The Flicker of Hope fundraiser is the largest fundraiser that Hope House puts on. Once again, it was a big success. It was held at the Capitol Civic Center this past December 5, 2010. A good time was enjoyed by all especially those who got the silent auction items. All proceeds went to benefit our guests at Hope House.



Flicker of Hope
Lakeshore Interfaith Hospitality Network

Many thanks to our Flicker of Hope corporate sponsors who help make our fundraising events possible.



A Message from the Hope House Board President



Dear Friends of Hope House,

I am sure that you will agree that we have a while to wait before we celebrate “spring is sprung!” There is no waiting, however, to say that “Hope House is sprung” and living its Mission in many meaningful, life-giving ways serving the homeless of Manitowoc County.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Hope House staff a special thanks to each and every one of you who have contributed your talent, time and treasure these past months.

It is a real privilege to work with the Hope House Staff, Ka Yang, Director, Michelle Lau, Office Manager and Quita Young, AmeriCorps Staff, who know the meaning of TEAM while ministering to the Hope House guests.

Quoting Sir Winston Churchill,

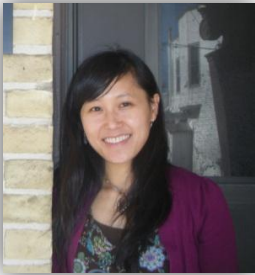
“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give”,

I believe that this quote describes each and every one of you who gives so generously and intentionally to our many Hope House endeavors.

The second “Flicker of Hope” fundraiser in December 2010 gave us another opportunity to meet many friends of Hope House. Our Great Gospel Gathering this year is scheduled for Sunday, March 27th at Roncalli High School. Hope to see you there. Please continue to keep Hope House and its Mission in your prayers. In the spirit of Mother Teresa, let us remember that we put “our love into action by way of our service.” Your help, your service is at the heart of our heartfelt gratitude and deep joy!

Sister Camilla Wolfgram, OSF
Board President

A Letter from the Director



Hello, my name is Ka Yang. I am excited to be given this opportunity to serve a great organization where I can make a difference in the lives of families in our community. I look forward to connecting with each coordinator, volunteer, and community agency as we work together to empower families to achieve or sustain independence and self-sufficiency.

I want to take this opportunity to personally acknowledge and thank all the churches, volunteers and board members who have shown great commitment and undying support to Hope House. In my short tenure with Hope House, I have been blown away by demonstrations of incredible kindness and generosity. You are the pillars of this organization and invaluable in every way to the success of Hope House.

As I am fairly new at Hope House, I would like to share a little about myself. I attended UW-Manitowoc and received an associate degree and shortly thereafter, transferred to UW-Eau Claire, where I earned my bachelor’s degree in social work. While in Eau Claire, I worked for Head Start as a Family Services Specialist. In the summer of 2008, I moved back to Manitowoc and accepted a position with Lakeshore CAP. Then within the last year, I decided to attend UW-Madison, where I completed my Master’s Degree in Social Work with a concentration in Mental Health.

On a personal note, my family moved to Manitowoc in the early 1990s. I come from a big family with four sisters and three brothers. I currently live at home with my parents, brother and sister-in-law. I enjoy spending time with my family, watching my favorite program, reading, and gardening in the summer with my mom. My family has been active in the Hmong Cornerstone Alliance Church for many years and takes great pride in supporting the church.

Over the next few months I look forward to continue working with all of you to serve families in our community.

Ka Yang
Network Director

LIHN
1110 South 10th Street
Manitowoc, WI 54220

Host Sites

Emanuel United Methodist
Faith Church
First Lutheran Church
Franciscan Sisters
Grace Congregational United Church of Christ
Lakeshore Pax Christi
Lakeshore United Methodist
Lighthouse Assembly of God
St. Francis of Assisi
St. Thomas the Apostle Community
Trinity Alliance
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Supporting Sites:

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran
First Presbyterian Church
Redeemer Lutheran
Salvation Army
St. Paul Lutheran Church
St. Peter the Fisherman
United Church of Christ
Zion United Methodist

Board Members:

Sister Camilla Wolfgram-President
Barbara Katz-Vice President
Gary Opichka, CPA-Treasurer
Tara Westergard-Secretary
Attorney Rick Mozinski
Deacon Bob Beehner
Pastor Kim Henning
Marj La Brecque
Bob Gregurich
Nancy Slattery
Todd Musial
Amy Fricke-Weigel

Hope House Staff:

Ka Yang, Network Director
Michelle Lau, Office Manager
Quita Young, Advocate/Outreach Worker

WISH LIST:

Gas Cards
Toiletries
Laundry Detergent