The Life House Women's Shelter *and* Grace Lutheran Church

The Wave Report - Quarter Report January 1 through March 31, 2023.

The Cottage
We are pleased to share that The Cottage transitioned to its permanent location at Pathways Community Center on March 13, 2023. Our newly renovated space accommodates 30 twin size beds with space for six additional beds in overflow. There are restrooms and showers on-site. In addition, we hired a new Cottage Coordinator, Amber Hinson, to assist with the intake, referral and resource components of caring well for the women staying. We are averaging 25-30 single women a night. We will soon have laundry access onsite once our washer and dryers are installed.

The Shelter
The Shelter regularly accommodates 12 women and 3 children on average each night. The women work towards a plan that moves them forward to self-sufficiency which includes securing IDs, birth certificates, social security cards, job training and placement, money management, housing research, and so on. Grace Lutheran members have helped to coordinate service project needs and plans. As a result, The Shelter has gained a new sidewalk on the front, shutters, and window sills. The Shelter is regularly maintained with on-going efforts by Dawn Hartman. We have helped to transition three women from this location into housing.

Transportation

Ron Hartmann is active in providing transportation needs for the women of this organization. More help from Grace Lutheran could help in Year 2 of this partnership.

The Home

The Home opened February 14, 2023 and is currently sheltering 9 women and 4 children. An open house was held the week of February 6-10 with nearly 220 people touring. It continues to serve as a beautiful addition to the organization. We have helped two women transition from this location into housing.

Local Hotels usage

While we waited for the permanent Cottage location to be completed, we provided nightly vouchers for the hotel in January, February, and March. This accounted for an average of 5 women a night for nearly 90 nights with a monthly expense of $7,000. We are thankful to reduce the number of vouchers needed with The new Cottage location accommodating more beds.

Donations

We have an on-going wishlist of items that are needed for The Life House on Amazon. These items serve the clients directly as well as provide for the shelter locations. This is a a great way for congregants to serve by purchasing items from the wishlist.