

Have you considered becoming a monthly donor?

WHAT YOUR \$8.00 <i>MONTHLY</i> GIFT CAN PROVIDE	WHAT YOUR \$10.00 <i>MONTHLY</i> GIFT CAN PROVIDE	WHAT YOUR \$50 <i>MONTHLY</i> GIFT CAN PROVIDE	WHAT YOUR \$200 <i>MONTHLY</i> GIFT CAN PROVIDE
eight meals for our guests or a combination lock for a guest staying at A Friend's Place emergency shelter or a pack of new socks	ten meals for our guests or a copy of a birth certificate for someone without ID or ten rain ponchos for peo- ple living on the street	50 meals for our guests or one month utilities for a newly-housed family or four nights of emergency shelter for one adult or bus tickets for 50 individu- als trying to get to work	200 meals for our guests or two weeks of emergency shelter for one adult or bus tickets for a couple of individuals trying to get to work every day

When you become a monthly donor, your gift is combined with other monthly gifts to help provide Shalom with a steady and reliable stream of income that allows us to plan for a sustainable future.

For as little as \$8/month, you can increase the power of your gift and put more of your dollars into Shalom programs such as A Friend's Place, Rapid Re-Housing, guest daily personal services, Hunger Relief, effective case management, and so much more.

Contact Dorothy Granger at (812) 334-5734 X123 to discuss ways to increase the power of your gift.

You may also make a gift online with your credit card at: www.shalomcommunitycenter.org. or mail a check to: Shalom Community Center, PO Box 451, Bloomington, IN 47402-0451.

Please note that automatic, ongoing monthly contributions can change or stop at any time that you say.

Shalom—For All Who Seek Home

Our Mission

Shalom Community Center is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to aiding and empowering people experiencing homelessness and poverty. As a resource center for people who are living in poverty and experiencing its ultimate expressions, Shalom provides day and overnight shelter, hunger relief, life essentials, case management, street outreach, housing support, including Rapid Re-Housing and permanent supportive housing, employment assistance, and access to many government and social service agencies.

Our Vision

Shalom Community Center envisions a community that honors every person's fundamental right to sustenance, a safe home, quality health care, and meaningful work.



To Contact Us:

PO Box 451
Bloomington, IN 47402-0451
(812) 334-5734
shalom@shalomcommunitycenter.org
www.shalomcommunitycenter.org



On the Front Lines of Hunger and Homelessness

DIGNITY

The Newsletter of Shalom Community Center

Summer 2018

"Shalom Changed My Life!"

"Before I came to Shalom, my life was just a struggle. I never had my own place. I moved from couch to couch...And then when I had my son, I just knew I had to do something. When you are on your own, and homeless with a child, you don't really have a choice."

Fleeing an abusive relationship, Dominique took shelter at Wheeler Mission's Center for Women and Children. There, she learned about Shalom Community Center and our Rapid Re-Housing program. Rapid Re-Housing Coordinator Amy Harrison met with Dominique and

worked steadily to help her and her son Nyles find a home of their own.

Dominique said, "When there was a setback, Amy always told me, 'Don't you worry about it, we're going to get you a place, don't worry.' She kept my head up. She was on her job!"

Dominique says that she would have kept trying to get into an apartment but admits that, without Shalom, it would have taken much, much longer and been much more challenging.

"Yeah, I'm grateful to have been a witness to all that, to be a part of it.



Dominique and her son, Nyles

I am grateful for having known Shalom. Shalom changed my life."

Housing is the Heart of It

Housing is the heart of homeless services. It is too easy for us to get stuck "managing" homelessness rather than ending it. That's why Shalom has so actively

pushed our programs to seek housing "first" and then surround our residents with the supports they need to thrive. In 2017, Shalom helped house 884 people, our highest in our history, thanks to the amazing support of countless people like you.

Rapid Re-Housing is one of our strongest program additions. Starting in 2014, the grant-funded program has steadily grown to be our single most successful housing program by the numbers. Last year, Rapid Re-Housing housed 201 people, including 88 children. Amazingly, thanks in large part to Rapid Re-Housing, Shalom houses more families experiencing homelessness

in Monroe County than any other homeless services provider. But, the best part of the program is how it partners with all the shelters and street outreach services in our community.

The program works by combining financial assistance for rent, utilities, application fees, moving costs, back debt, and more with the supportive services of our Rapid Re-Housing team, aiming for stability in as little as three months (and no longer than twelve). Two great employees take the lead on this program, providing housing search and placement, case management, life

Con't, page 2



**Rev. Forrest Gilmore
Executive Director**

A Letter from a Mother

My son Matt,* moved to Bloomington quite awhile ago to attend IU. He has been struggling with schizophrenia and has been homeless in Bloomington for a few years now. A couple months ago Matt called me and told me that he was no longer "malnourished and starving" because he found Shalom, where he can get "real food," not like at the food pantries. I guess he means he can get hot meals at Shalom Center. After his call, I went to the Shalom web site and checked out your mission and the work you are doing. I really like what you are trying to accomplish.

I wish that Matt would take advantage of all you have to offer, but I'm afraid that because of his paranoia and some delusions, that he will not. I even wonder if he would stop going to your center if he knew that you and I were in contact.

Ironically, Matt has a friend who is an attorney who provides some outside services to people at Shalom and that is probably how he got to Shalom. I should say that they were personal friends before Matt became so ill. Barbara has continued to try and help him over the years, but Matt doesn't trust her anymore. He doesn't trust a lot of people anymore. Matt doesn't believe that there is anything wrong with him.

When Matt was young, he was a sensitive person, intelligent, kind, and loving. It has been very hard on our family and his friends to see what this illness has done to him.

Thank you for the work you do there in Bloomington with the homeless. Thank you for checking up on Matt when I need to know.

**Names have been changed*

Amy Harrison Rapid Rehousing Coordinator



"I look forward to going to work each day, knowing that I can make a little difference in even one person's life. Having someone come to Shalom dejected and to give them options to get their life back on track is truly rewarding. Also, working with people

Housing Heart (cont.)

skills training, budgeting support, and more. Amy Harrison serves as the Coordinator of the program with Jill Perkins as Caseworker. Together, they work very hard to make sure as many people as possible find their way back home.

Shockingly, federal funding cuts have led to a 38% drop in funding this year, a loss of more than \$92,000, risking layoffs and putting the incredible impact of this program at risk. Thanks to an emergency grant from an anonymous family foundation, we can at least prevent any layoffs and have some time to build our funding back up from other sources. If you would like to offer a gift to the Rapid Re-Housing program, please contact Dorothy Granger at (812) 334-5734, x123 or dorothy@shalomcommunitycenter.org.

who believe so passionately in our mission is a bonus."

Amy Harrison started working at Shalom in July of 2015 as the Administrator and in December of 2017, she assumed the leadership of Rapid Re-Housing as the Coordinator.

With her strong administrative skills and social services background, including a BS in Social Work, the role seemed a perfect fit.

Rapid Re-Housing is a fast-paced program where staff may have a caseload of 50 families at a time, all either looking for housing or having just moved into one.

Amy is typically the first face guests see, providing hope, guidance, and empowerment to families as they move out of homelessness and back into their own homes.

Can't Miss Events

August 30, 5:00-6:00pm
Shalom Tour
620 S Walnut St.

September 8, 9am-4pm
Street Retreat
620 S Walnut St.

October 30, 6:00-9:00pm
Fireside Gala at the Woolery Mill
Tickets available

**For Questions and Sign-Up,
please contact
dorothy@shalomcommunitycenter.org**

SAVE THE DATE

**Tuesday, October 30th
6:00pm—9:00pm**



Fireside Gala at the Woolery Mill A fundraiser benefitting Shalom Community Center

EVENING'S ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- * Tapas provided by One World
- * Appetizers and desserts provided by "celebrity chefs"
- * Cash bar
- * Musical entertainment and storytelling provided by special guests
- * Silent auction of one-of-a-kind items including handmade walking sticks, IU athletic package, weekend cruise, etc.
- * Fund-a-need live auction featuring Brother William from WFIU's popular jazz series, *Just You and Me*

TICKETS

**\$60.00 PER PERSON
in advance**

There are a number of event sponsorships still available! If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact dorothy@shalomcommunitycenter.org.

HEARTH SPONSOR \$5,000

- * company name on all invites and all promotional materials,
- * name on Sponsor Board at event with special mention from emcee,
- * active link to company on Shalom website for one year,
- * two dedicated FB posts focused on company support and business through end of 2018,
- * eight event tickets

FLAME SPONSOR \$1,000

- * company name on marketing posters and flyers
- * company name on Sponsor Board at event with personal shout out from emcee,
- * one dedicated FB post focused on company support and business through end of 2018,
- * four event tickets

SPARK SPONSOR \$500

- * name on Sponsor Board at event
- * two event tickets

EMBER SPONSOR \$250

- * name on Sponsor Board at event
- * one event ticket