



CENTRAL KENTUCKY AREA SERVICES
SERVING FAYETTE, SCOTT & JESSAMINE COUNTIES

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April 4, 2017

Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention

c/o Mr. Charlie Lanter

101 E. Vine Street

Lexington, KY 40507

Dear OHPI Board Members,

The Salvation Army's Emergency Homeless Shelter is a safe haven for homeless women and single parent families in Lexington. Our doors are open 24 hours a day, 365 days per year and we are ready to help whenever homelessness strikes. Our program is unique from many others in the area. We go above and beyond meeting basic needs to provide the comprehensive support needed for these vulnerable individuals to permanently overcome the struggles they face and become stably housed.

Because we are the largest provider of homeless services to women and single-parent families in the area, we are able to measure our program's success by looking at the number of individuals who return to our shelter, in need of future assistance. In 2016, 96% of those we served did not return to our shelter with a repeat episode of homelessness. With the knowledge and support they gain through our program, families are building a solid foundation for stable and self-sufficient future.

Unfortunately, as housing costs continue to rise in our city, many women and families just can not keep up. Over the past few years, the need in our community has grown while the resources we have to meet that need have not. Simply put, the number of individuals seeking support at our shelter is more than the number of beds we have to house them.

On most nights throughout the past year, between thirty and forty-five individuals have slept on temporary mattresses while waiting for a permanent bed to become available. We have truly utilized every inch of space available, converting areas such as our computer lab, lobby, and hallways to sleeping space at night. Though we currently do not turn eligible individuals away for lack of space, we worry that we are running out of options for the placement of temporary beds. In addition, we know that the population we serve suffers from a lack of stability and a temporary mattress on the floor does not provide them with the stable foundation they need to rebuild their lives.

With your help, we would like to take a significant step to address this need by converting our existing transitional housing building (called the Way House) into an extension of our Emergency Shelter. Our Way House currently houses women who have obtained income and are ready to begin the process of transitioning back into the community but are still in need of additional support. As other transitional housing programs have been initiated in Lexington, the need for this program has declined and this space has been significantly under-utilized in recent years.

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MAJOR RANDALL DAVIS (R)

PLEASE RETAIN THIS LETTER
FOR YOUR TAX PURPOSES.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE BLUEGRASS



With a few modifications, it can be remodeled to house single women in dorm style rooms as a part of our Emergency Shelter. These changes will allow us to add thirty-eight beds to our shelter, eighteen of which were previously a part of our transitional housing and an additional twenty that will be completely new -- the result of a more efficient layout including bunk beds. No one who is currently housed through our transitional housing program will be displaced in this transition. Those who have not already found housing through other programs will remain housed here as a part of our Emergency Shelter until they do.

To complete this project, the following will be needed:

- 10 Metal Bunkbeds with Guard Rails and Ladders -- \$5,445.00
- 10 Double Wardrobes (to be shared by two individuals) -- \$4,885.00
- 20 Mattresses -- \$2,250.00
- Shipping and Handling (for all furniture) -- \$950.00
- Bathroom Remodel (new showers, toilets, and sinks and all necessary plumbing to accommodate the expanded capacity and make the bathroom entirely ADA accessible) -- \$61,137.00*

** Approximately 20% of our shelter guests (or about 40 guests per night) are in need of ADA accessible bathroom facilities. We currently only have one bathroom with only one stall and shower that are ADA accessible. A less expensive option for the bathroom remodel would be to make a few modifications to make the entry, one shower, and two toilets ADA accessible. This option would help, but would not entirely meet our needs for expanded capacity and ADA accessibility. The cost of this option is \$26,340.00.*

Total Cost of Project: **\$74,667.00**

These costs are a significant addition to our budget and will require support above and beyond our normal income to complete. We are asking for your assistance, at whatever level you are able, as a key partner in our efforts to end homelessness in Lexington. We will be seeking additional funds from individuals in our community to help us complete this project. Historically we have been fortunate to have strong support from local citizens with more than 75% of our annual financial resources coming from individual donors. This need is above and beyond our regular budget, however, and the city's support will help us make a strong statement to our community that this project is worth funding. Thank you in advance for considering our request and for any support you can provide.

Sincerely,



Major Thomas L. Hinzman
Central Kentucky Area Services Coordinator