**Coming this Fall**

In November, an empty, weed-filled lot at 24 Walnut Street in Morristown will be the new home for two homeless families.

We are proud to be building in an area of Morristown with the greatest need and the greatest potential for improvement. Our homes impact the neighborhood but also the people living in them. Like all of our construction/rehabbing projects we revitalize the neighborhood with attractive, well-maintained housing and landscaped lawns. We also stabilize the neighborhood by increasing property values and decreasing residential turnover. These are just the visual benefits.

Countless studies – and our own experience – demonstrate that stable, affordable housing has a transformational impact on families’ lives. By paying just 30% of their income for rent, parents now have money for life’s other basics (things we sometimes take for granted) like fresh groceries to prepare healthy meals for their children and being pro-active with the families’ healthcare rather than relying on emergency services.

Eight people will be able to have a place to call home, a starting place for their hopes and dreams.

**From our Shelter to College, Thanks To You**

It seems like almost every day, the Emergency Shelter or the Transitional Housing Program reveal another family’s success story. Here are two.

Two remarkable young women and their moms were living in the Emergency Shelter. Eventually they moved to our Transitional Housing. They dreamt of having their own homes, a stable family life, and maybe even attending college.

Today, thanks to the generosity of our donors and the endless hard work of our staff and volunteers, their dreams have come true.

Today, their families are living stable, self-sufficient family lives and both girls are going to college.

Harvard University and Drew University. Amazing.

But each of them traveled a long, difficult journey to get there.

During their time at Homeless Solutions the shelter became their home and the staff, volunteers and donors became their family. The girls had an outstanding support system during their college search process. The staff linked them with unique leadership experiences and educational opportunities in their desired fields. They also served as the liaisons with the schools and even accompanied them on some college tours.

And the Dr. Elizabeth S. Hall “You’re the Best” Education Fund enabled the girls to attend an SAT prep course and several volunteers provided endless hours of consultation, tutoring, and even wrote recommendation letters.

It’s been a life changing experience for these families and we are so grateful to everyone that made it possible. They now have a future filled with boundless possibilities.

Interested in learning more about the Dr. Elizabeth S. Hall “You’re the Best” Education Fund? Contact StephanieCicale@hsnj.org for more information.
Young Professionals Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

On May 5th, over 50 Young Professionals that live or work in Morris County met at Sona Thirteen to network and learn about ways to get involved with Homeless Solutions. The happy hour included lawn mustard, an empanada bar and awesome raffles! HSI’s Young Professionals offer fun, casual networking opportunities for a group of under-40 community-minded individuals.

HSI Volunteer and Young Professional member Kim Moreno described the evening, “This group creates a unique opportunity to network and grow relationships with those also concerned about the needs of our community. Connecting with a group that is both supportive of professional development and advocacy around HSI’s mission creates a great opportunity for Young Professionals in the area.”

Join this quickly growing group to learn more about connecting with those passionate about raising awareness and fundraising for those in need in our community. Contact Lacey@hsinj.org.

Volunteer Appreciation Celebration

Last year, over 550 volunteers dedicated their time and efforts to Homeless Solutions. On May 9th, HSI got a chance to thank some of those faithful individuals that make our organization run at our bi-annual Volunteer Appreciation Celebration.

The evening’s theme, “There’s No Place Like Home,” was inspired by artwork created by our Shelter and Transitional housing guests. Our volunteers won the artwork through a ticket raffle as a thank you for their service. When our program guests and participants learned that their artwork would be given to volunteers, they were excited for the opportunity to give back to those that have given so much to them.

Guests were greeted with a live band and a gallery-style display of more than 30 pieces of art plus door prizes. Tamala Reynolds, HSI’s Volunteer Manager for 17 years, shared a heartfelt thank you and introduced our new video which features success stories of our guests, reminding the volunteers of their impact.

“We ceremony or event can ever express how much our volunteers and their service means to us, but we hope they felt the love and appreciation for all that they do for us each and every day,” said Tamala.

A special thank-you to the Page Hill Foundation and Nina Nemeth for providing the art supplies, along with Katharina Petroseke and Claudia Sabino for helping our community guests feel welcomed at the event.

“A former guest how Homeless Solutions changed her life. She shared her gratitude for the programs that helped her and her family out of homelessness and enabled them to find higher paying jobs.

The theme, “Building a Better Tomorrow,” focused on our new low-income housing properties with favors encouraging guests to write messages to future residents. Hundreds of heartfelt notes were displayed throughout the evening for the future families that will live in these new properties beginning construction in 2017.

The night was also filled with touching speeches from Honorees Jack & Joslin Ruffle, Jeff and JoAnn Jacobs, and a flute of excitement with the Wine Pull, Cash Raffle, over 100 Silent Auction items, a spirited Live Auction and full dance floor! Thank you to our generous attendees, incredible Bash committee chair: HSI Trustee Megan Young, sponsors and many volunteers who made the event possible.

Save the Date for next year – Friday, March 2, 2018

A Record Breaking Bash!

The 17th Annual Dream Builder’s Bash shattered an ambitious fundraising goal and last year’s all-time high record! HSI’s largest event brought together over 375 attendees to raise $300,000 for our shelter and housing programs throughout Morris County.

To many, the most memorable part of the evening was a personal story told by a former guest how Homeless Solutions changed her life. She shared her gratitude for the programs that helped her and her family out of homelessness and enabled them to find higher paying jobs.

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Save the Date for next year – Friday, March 2, 2018

The Power of Partnership

HSI proudly accepts a $15,000 grant from Provident Foundation, L-I, HSI Chief Development Officer: Stephanie Ciuba, HSI CEO Dan McGuire, Provident Bank Foundation Executive Director June Karem, MHA Executive Director Len Schwartz, President Bank Branch Manager Melcia Ciccia, HSI Safe Haven Sr. Case Manager Dianne Davis, HSI Director of Programs & Services Wesley Guayer and HSI Men’s Case Manager, Christina Rains.

Sometimes the stars align in just the right way.

Which may help explain the innovative partnership that Homeless Solutions, Inc. (HSI) has launched with our colleagues at the Mental Health Association of New Jersey (MHA), County College of Morris, and Rutgers University.

The goal is to certify Case Managers from HSI and MHA in alcohol and drug addiction counseling.

The purpose is simple. At a time when the heroin/opioid pandemic is sweeping New Jersey, there are too few addiction counselors to address everyone’s needs.

The training is as intensive as it is extensive. The year-long workshop series is followed by two years of observed field work, followed by written and oral exams. It’s like getting a graduate degree, except this is much more challenging because we’re working with a very vulnerable population.

The catalyst is a visionary $15,000 Major Grant from Provident Bank Foundation. That in turn led to complementary funding from a concerned private donor and Rutgers University.

A licensed alcohol and drug counselor from the County College of Morris is leading the weekly training workshops. Rutgers University is providing critical guidance in potential dissemination of the program to other sites.

The result of this partnership will be a healthier New Jersey where we can all work and raise our families.

On behalf of everyone taking the course and all of the guests that we can better serve – many thanks to all of our partners and funders for their generous support of this essential program.

Welcome New Board Member

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest Trustee Ed Moriarty who joined our Board of Trustees on April 27, 2017.

Moriarty has served in a variety of roles with Morgan Stanley, including Chief Operating Officer of Morgan Stanley Investment Management.

Prior to this, he held executive financial management positions at Bank of America and Merrill Lynch. Moriarty has also served on a variety of non-profit boards, including those at Elon University, Catholic Churches of New York, and GSI’s Bernards Committee.

Moriarty holds a B.A degree from Hamilton College and an MBA from the Darden School at the University of Virginia. He and his wife, Jill, live in Far Hills, NJ. Ed will serve on HSI’s Development and childcare committees.

Tribute Gifts to Homeless Solutions

February 1, 2017 – May 31, 2017

IN HONOR OF

Nancy & Alejandro’s Graduation

Claire & Fred Winski

Stephanie Ciuba

Jean Swearingen

John Duffy

Nexstar Family

Ihsa Ferrera’s Birthday

Yvonne Kraemer-Cohen

Elizabeth S. Hall

Eleanor Weitzman

Gates Haem

Nexstar Family

Jean Holmes’ Retirement

Mattilda Chazin

Penelope Hogan

Dr. Ed. & Rev. Joan Johnston

Sally Lerman

Sophie Kasson’s Bat Mitzvah

Dina Burg

Meredith Racine

Amy Saffran

Alicia Saffran

Steven Saffran

Laura Goff

Jennifer Kasson Menzi

Jan Saffran

Timothy MacMichael

Robert Booth

Peter & Pat Morutore

Robert & Nancy Schulman

Kimberly Poole’s FOS Graduation

Page Hill Foundation

Josh & Jack Ruffle

Lucie & Gary Drachek

Tom Behrens’ Birthday

William Hammond

George & Ursula Gaffney

Megan Young

Susan & Jim Putman

IN MEMORY OF

Mrs. Griswold

Delia O’Dowd

Beatrice V. Jenkins-Holloman

Scott W. Holloman

Patricia & Bernard Lackamp

Anthony & Theresa Padovano

Liam

Jean J. Callahan

Scott Mahon

William & Rosemary Mahon

Frank Massy

John Muth

Neal Sanford Weitzman

Elizer Weitzman
Homeless Solutions is thrilled to share the news that in October the Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency’s Special Needs funding to help finance our development at 81 MLK Avenue in Morristown. This project includes six affordable, environmentally friendly apartments for low-income households to avoid or emerge from homelessness. Somerset Hills Bank, a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, partnered with HSI to submit the funding application.

Somerset Hills Bank is excited to participate with Homeless Solutions, Home Loan Bank of New York, and supportive housing to homeless and low-income people.

OUR MISSION:
To offer shelter, services and supportive housing to homeless and low-income people.

GRAN FONDO NJ BIKE RIDE
September 10th in Morristown
Cheer on our 'Riding for Homes' Team
For volunteer opportunities, contact Tamala at tamalareynolds@hsinj.org

THE 10TH ANNUAL
WOMEN'S DAY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16TH
HAMILTON FARM GOLF CLUB, BEDMINSTER

This unique, signature event for women will include a morning exercise or golf, followed by a gourmet lunch and ticket auction. Invitations will be sent via email mid June. Please contact Lacey: laceyberdela@hsinj.org for details.

Board of Trustees
Sarah M. Canberg
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Michael Gayda
George Goldman
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Mary LeBlanc
Diane Mann
Edmond N. Moriarty III
Sally Muscarella
Jim Nason
Buddy Scott
Tom Uhlmam
Darla Wilkinson
Megan Young

Wish List
- toilet paper
- paper towels
- paper plates
- facial tissues
- dinner napkins

Homeless Solutions
A Hand UP, Not a Hand OUT