



Front Door Agency
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THE FRONT DOOR MESSENGER

FROM OUR DOOR TO YOURS . . .

What's New?

Front Door celebrates 25 years of service to the Greater Nashua area.



Corrin and Tara graduate from their educational programs.



Mental Health Counseling Services now available.



Front Door expands housing capacity to 26 units.



A free Financial Literacy Program will be offered in September.



The Penny Pickers will be out a little bit earlier this year—October 13, 14, 20 & 21.



Gourmet Festival & Auction held in March raised over \$102,000!



Golf Tournament in June at the Nashua Country Club was a success despite the rain.

January 2012

marked our 25th year of providing critical services to the disadvantaged in the Greater Nashua area. It was the perfect time to celebrate this milestone with the unveiling of our new name and brand—from the **Nashua Pastoral Care Center to the Front Door Agency**. Many of our supporters participated as we celebrated the past, recognized several of our longtime supporters, and began our journey to the next 25 years of service to the community. The Crowne Plaza provided the perfect venue for the dinner, awards, and the night of comedy that followed. The guests that evening were fortunate to listen to a former client and graduate, Nicole Campbell, tell her remarkable story



of what brought her to our Transitional Housing Program, her experience there for over two years, and what is has meant to her and the self-sufficient life she is leading today.

Thank you to the entire Greater Nashua community for providing your support over the past 25 years as we have promoted self-sufficiency and joined the effort to end homelessness in our community, and we extend a very special thanks to Melanson, Heath & Company for sponsoring our 25th Anniversary celebration.

They're Coming!



Penny Pickers

Mark your Calendars—Penny Picker Weekends

October 13 & 14, 2012
October 27 & 28, 2012

We need lots of volunteers to make this event successful. Please call 886-2866 if you would like more information or if you would like to sign up to participate. All we need is your time!

www.frontdooragency.org



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A Transformation . . . From Homelessness to Self-Sufficiency



Tara

The Transitional Housing Program of the Front Door Agency provides an outstanding opportunity for young families to transform their lives. This very strong, structured program, along with its housing component, provides the ideal environment for those young single mothers who want to permanently change their lives for the better and create a happy, healthy, and self-sufficient life for their family. This program is designed into three progressive phases, begin-

ning with the Phase I Norwell Group Home, where the women and their case manager put into place the necessary services and supports to address the individual issues each client is dealing with. The women transition into Phase II where they live more independently in one of our 10 apartments, while still receiving strong case management services. They remain here until they finish their educational programs and continue their journey to self-sufficiency. Phase III is now available to those who successfully reach their goals and need a little more support with housing.

Join us in congratulating two of our Transitional Housing clients, Tara and Corrin, for successfully completing our program and reaching their educational goals.

Tara received her Associate's degree in Human Services from the Nashua Community College and is already enrolled at Springfield College for the fall semester to pursue her bachelor's degree. Corrin just graduated with her LPN from St. Joseph School of Nursing, passed her Boards, and will be pursuing her RN. Both women have been living in our newest addition to our Transitional Housing Program—Phase III. Well done ladies!



Please consider the Front Door Agency in your estate planning



News From Our Front Door To Yours

Opportunities Expand Along with the Agency's Programs

Mental Health Counseling



Betsy Portash, Licensed Mental Health Counselor, is now providing therapeutic counseling services at the Front Door. This additional service is extremely beneficial for our clients as treatment will be easily accessible, removing yet another barrier to self-sufficiency. Services include: Crisis intervention, depression, anxiety-panic disorder, phobias, post-traumatic stress disorder, bereavement/grief counseling, adult children of alcoholics, adult children of dysfunctional families, job loss, coping with job burnout, and drug and alcohol assessments.

We accept NH Medicaid, Anthem, and offer very affordable personal payment options for those uninsured. Services are also available for the community at large. Call our office to make an appointment today.

Affordable Housing



The Front Door just purchased a 6-unit apartment complex on Shattuck Street in Nashua. This increases our affordable housing stock to 26 units.

It is our plan to eventually integrate these units into Phase III of our Transitional Housing Program, which offers housing of a more permanent nature to our Transitional Housing graduates.

Phase III became operational last spring with the purchase and renovation of a 2-unit property on Amherst Street, Nashua, that the Agency was fortunate enough to acquire with funding from the Federal government in collaboration with the City of Nashua.

Financial Literacy

Financial Literacy, a 5-week program offering personal financial management skills free to the general public, will be offered by the Front Door Agency in September. Topics will include, budgeting, saving, banking services, and the importance of understanding credit. Please call the office at 886-2866 for additional information or to register for the session. Childcare will be available.



Gourmet Festival & Auction Raises Over \$102,000!!



The 24th Annual Gourmet Festival & Auction was held at the Nashua Country Club on March 18 and was a huge success. Almost 300 guests enjoyed the fabulous food presented by the following chefs and restaurants: MT's Local Kitchen, Surf, Buckley's Great Steaks; Nashua Country Club; Villa Banca; Saffron Bistro; Sodexo; Celebration's Distinctive Catering; Stella Blu; Two Chefs Are Better Than One Catering; Creative Cakes by Debby; Frederick's Pastries; Swan Chocolate; King

David Coffee Roasters; Pine State Beverage Company; The Cozy Tea Cart; Moonlight Meadery. Guests bid on the silent auction items during the first few hours, and the evening culminated with a live auction in the ballroom conducted by John Terrio. The success of this event is due to the incredible generosity of our Corporate Partners, sponsors, the individuals and businesses who donated, as well as the volunteers who gave their time. We could not do this without you. Thank you!

And the Rain Came Down . . .



Despite the less than perfect weather conditions, everyone had a great time at the Front Door Annual Golf Tournament held at the Nashua Country Club on June 4. Just under \$26,000 was raised, and we would like to thank our Corporate Partners, sponsors, golfers and volunteers. Breakfast began at 7:30, followed by a shot-gun start at 9 am. A silent auction was held after the tournament, along with the BBQ lunch and awards ceremony. Every golfer went home with a raffle prize.

Message from Maryse . . .



Maryse Wirbal

Twenty-five years ago the Nashua Pastoral Care Center came into existence, addressing some very critical needs in this community. I am very proud to share with you that I have been with this organization for over half of that time, serving as CEO for the last 14 years. The support we have received from all of our constituencies addressing these needs has been phenomenal; and as a result, we have experienced tremendous growth and success. We have many reasons to celebrate.

Effective leadership is key to our success. I would like to sincerely thank the following Board members who are stepping off of the Board for all of their dedication and many contributions: Amy Wheeler-Teas, Bob Hayes, Deb Christiansen, Lesley Bouvier, and Judy Brown. Please join me in welcoming our new Directors: Robert Kennedy, BAE; Chris Malloy, Community Events; and David McGinley. They were inducted onto the Board in June and will begin serving their terms in September.

Hopefully by now everyone is aware that we changed our name to the **Front Door Agency**. This was the result of a very thoughtful strategic process that reflected on the best of who we are and looked at where we wanted to be in the future. Under a new brand, The Front Door will continue to welcome those who are in crisis and let the transformation of their life begin.

As you can see throughout this newsletter, many exciting enhancements have recently occurred: expansion of affordable housing stock, introduction of mental health services program, and collaboration with Bridges Domestic & Sexual Violence Support Agency. We constantly strive to stay mission-focused and understand the needs of those most vulnerable in our community. Achieving these goals and helping transform lives down the path of self-sufficiency is only accomplished through the generosity of the community. Throughout this newsletter you can see the wonderful success our fundraising endeavors and development efforts have achieved.

Homelessness is a community problem, one that together we can help provide solutions for and break the cycle of poverty. Please consider joining us this summer by making a tax deductible donation supporting our programs, or by volunteering today.

I wish you and your family a safe, enjoyable rest of the summer.

Thank You to All of Our Supporters



Barbara Chase is generously donating her time each week assisting Cindy DellaCamera, the Business Manager at the Front Door.



Matthew Russo, representing TD Bank, presents a \$10,000 check in support of the Front Door's Transitional Housing Program to Maryse Wirbal, CEO.



The Mixed Border in Hollis generously donated \$1,000 to the Transitional Housing Program. This represents a portion of their proceeds over the Mother's Day weekend.

The following grants were received between October 1, 2011 and July 1, 2012

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Citizens Bank Foundation | Rotary Club of Nashua West |
| City of Nashua | State of New Hampshire |
| Hollis Brookline Rotary Club | TD Bank Foundation |
| NH Charitable Foundation | Town of Hudson |
| Rite Aid Foundation | Town of Merrimack |
| RiverStone Resources, LLC | United Way of Greater Nashua |

REMEMBERING A VERY SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL . . .



1939—2012
Dr. Ronald Kraus

It is with tremendous sadness that we said goodbye to a wonderful, genuine, and compassionate individual who lost his battle to cancer this past July . . . Dr. Ronald Kraus.

Ron was a strong supporter of the Front Door Agency and its mission. He was so dedicated to ensuring that the women in our Transitional Housing Program always had the opportunity to gain financial independence and self-sufficiency through education, and he was committed to ensuring that their children had the opportunity for a better life. He led our agency in our Endowment Campaign in 2003, helping us raise nearly \$500,000 to secure our future. He served as President for the organization in 2008-2009, and he led the agency in its latest strategic planning process that led to ultimately changing our name and brand.

Ron was a true mentor, a genuine friend, community leader, and just a remarkable man. Ron, we will miss you!

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