



Nashua Pastoral Care Center
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Spring 2010

The Care Center CHRONICLE

Changing Lives . . . One Family at a Time

Celebrating Moms Everywhere . . . Meet One Mom Who Overcame Many Struggles to Find Success



Megan and her daughter Brynne just left the Care Center's Transitional Housing Program after living with us for two years. Megan would like to share her story with you, and it has a very happy ending!

After losing her way in her early 20s, Megan became pregnant and put her baby up for adoption - the hardest thing she ever had to do. Megan moved back in with her parents, enrolled at Hesser College to study graphic arts, and was working part time at Starbucks. As a result of some very poor choices, she became pregnant once again. Her parents told her that when the baby was born, she would have to find some place else to live. Unable to afford to rent her own place, Megan knew she had to find some way to live and take care of her baby. After giving one child up for adoption, she knew she could never do that again.

Every, it was difficult for Megan to adjust to the structure of the program and to living in a group home environment. "There were so many rules, and it was frustrating learning to cohabitate with the other families. I will say, though, that over time it got easier. I knew that I was going to become a mother, and I realized that I had to change and not give up this time. One of the good things about living at the

"It is all about attitude - it is a hard program; but if you want to improve yourself and make a better life for you and your child, it is worth it."

Norwell was that there was always someone there to talk to. Between the staff and other mothers, the support system was great."

During the time between moving in and

Please consider making a donation to the Care Center's Transitional Housing Program in honor of or in memory of that special "mother" in your life

Megan's sister told her about the Care Center's Transitional Housing Program, and Megan called right away. After her initial interviews and completing all of the tasks required for entry into the program, Megan was accepted and came to live at the Norwell Home in April of 2008. Because Megan was in school and working part time, two of the program require-

giving birth, Megan was able to continue with school, work, and devote time to participating in therapy that was so critical because she needed to understand why she had been making very poor choices and how she was going to change to meet her new responsibilities. The timing was perfect for Megan; she wanted to change. As Megan herself said, "It is all about atti-

tude - it is a hard program; but if you want to improve yourself and make a better life for you and your child, it is worth it." While in Transitional Housing Megan participated in our Financial Literacy Program, received assistance through our Crisis Advocacy & Resource Education Program with some basic necessities such as transportation, food, and diapers, and was able to participate in our annual Holiday Program for two years. Megan was able to move into Phase II of our program last fall, which meant she and her daughter could live more independently in one of our apartments while she continued with very close case management.

While in the program Megan got back in touch with someone she had been very close to when she was just out of high school. They had dated for a few years and then lost contact. They became friends again, and he was very supportive of Megan's participation in Transitional Housing. A new romance blossomed, and Megan got engaged over Valentine's Day. She just moved out of the program, is now working full time at Savers in Nashua, and is planning her wedding. It is also in her plan to complete her degree in graphic arts in the very near future. She said she and Brynne are very happy. Her time in our program was like "an amusement park ride - ups and downs. It was definitely a positive experience, and I love the program."



Register for
the Care Center's
Annual Golf
Tournament

Monday, June 7, 2010

Nashua Country Club

7:30 am—Registration and Breakfast

9 am Shotgun Start

BBQ Luncheon to follow Tournament



Call Mary Webb at 886-2866 or
Email at mwebb@nashuanpcc.org



NPCC Board of Directors 2009—2010

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The Perfect Ingredients for a Delightful Evening at this Year's Gourmet Festival



Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's Gourmet Festival and Auction a huge success. \$92,000 was raised to support the Care Center's Programs.

Thank you!

Partners * Event Sponsors * Auction Donors
Nashua Country Club * Sweet Shot Photographer
Good Vibrations Entertainment
Morgan Linens * Gourmet Committee
Attendees * Volunteers * Staff



The main ingredient—our fantastic chefs!



Message from Maryse . . .



As I write this, the weather outside has reached record temperatures; and the flowers are now in bloom. Thankfully spring is in the air! It has been a very difficult winter, and all indications are that the next several months, and even years, will be even more tumultuous for families already struggling and for agencies trying to support those in need. Unfortunately, the Care Center is not immune to the economy and is facing significant reductions in government funding; however, with our mission being to help families in crisis transition to self-sufficiency, we are seeing more and more families in crisis.

2-1-1 New Hampshire reports that from June 1, 2008, - June 1, 2009, 6,431 unduplicated calls were received requesting assistance with housing and utilities, and another 4,849 calls were seeking resources to provide temporary financial aid. These are two areas in which the Care Center makes a difference. During this same time period, we were out of funds to support these families 53 percent of the time. We are very thankful to have received American Recovery and Reinvestment Funding to help us through this initial transition; however, that only provided a short-term solution to a long-term problem.

On a positive note, the Care Center and Southern NH Services opened its doors to the new Early Head Start Childcare Program to serve children infant to three. Within a few days from opening at its temporary site at the First Church, it reached capacity; however, applications continue to be accepted for the Home-Based Program.

Our Holiday/Santa Fund Program experienced incredible community spirit with people, businesses, civic groups, and youth all coming together allowing us to provide an abundance of new gifts, clothing, and food to over 1,132 children this past Christmas.

We are a recipient of a Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant from the NH Center for Nonprofits. This grant will provide staff, board members, and volunteers with a range of workshops, forums, trainings and one-on-one technical assistance that will ultimately help us to better achieve our mission and vision. This grant comes at a perfect time as we embark upon our next strategic plan.

I invite you to join us in continuing to make a difference in the lives of so many families in the Greater Nashua area in need of support. You will find a variety of upcoming events and ways you can help in this newsletter.

Thank you for your support!

We hope you enjoy our second newsletter in black and white. Although we love color, we are making every effort to utilize our resources wisely.

Please consider the Nashua Pastoral Care Center in your estate planning

NPCC Staff News



Kim Rodrigues, Director of Business Operations for the Care Center, is leaving after 12 years. She and her husband Jim are moving to Atlanta, Georgia, where Jim has taken a new position. Kim has been an integral part of the Care Center's growth and success over the years, and she will be

sorely missed by the entire staff and Board of Directors. We sincerely wish Kim and Jim the best of luck!

Cindy DellaCamera, who has been functioning as the Administrative Assistant will become the Business Manager upon Kim's departure.

Nancy Paige joined the Care Center staff as our Administrative Assistant at the beginning of March. Nancy grew up in Manchester, attended Manchester West High School, and graduated from New Hampshire College with a degree in business administration. She met her husband, Eric, while working at Bartlett Management here in Nashua. Eric and Nancy have been married for 14 years and have three children ages 13, 10, and 8. When Nancy is not busy with hockey (for all 3!), baseball and lacrosse, she enjoys cooking and reading. Welcome Nancy!



NPCC Board Member News

NPCC wishes to recognize the following Board members whose terms are ending in June. We thank them for their service.



Lisa Law

12 years of service, member of Gourmet Committee, Fundraising Committee



Corine Murphy

6 years of service, member of Gourmet Committee, Fundraising Committee



Jennifer Schick

3 years of service, member of Fundraising Committee, Penny Picker Committee

Thank you to Donna Collins and Rick Phillips, who left earlier in the year.



Program Updates . . . How We Make a Difference

The mission of the Care Center is to offer support and provide services to assist individuals and families transition from crisis to self-sufficiency.

Prevention & Intervention of Homelessness

Ellen, a single mother with two children, recently came in to meet with Jessica, our Coordinator of Outreach Services. Ellen lost her job working in a dental office, where she had been employed for six years. They were downsizing. Ellen was now almost two months behind in her rent and had a Notice to Quit from her landlord. Her unemployment benefits would be kicking in shortly, but she was facing eviction in the meantime. She also had a disconnect notice for her electricity. This is how Ellen was helped by this program:

- Jess advocated for her with Corpus Christi, and between the two agencies, Ellen was able to become current with her rent. Going forward she will be able to handle the rent payment with her unemployment benefits.
- Jess was able to stop the utility shutoff with a payment to PSNH, which enabled Ellen to initiate a payment plan with them.

Crisis Advocacy & Resource Education

John needed dental work done. He called here and made an appointment to obtain a referral to the Dental Connection, the dental clinic here in Nashua. It turned out that he needed oral surgery. This is how John was helped by this program:

- John received a referral from the Care Center to be seen at the Dental Connection.
- Jessica was able to recommend to Triangle Credit Union that John receive an emergency loan to get the dental work done. The Care Center partners with Triangle to qualify individuals for this emergency loan program.

Financial Literacy

The next session will be in the fall. More information will follow.

The Care Center's Comedy Night

At Boynton's Taproom
55 Dow St. (3rd Floor) Manchester, NH
Saturday, May 8, @ 8 p.m.

Tickets: \$20 per person
Can be purchased online at
www.boyntonstaproom.com or at the door

The night's proceeds will benefit the programs of the Care Center

For more information call Mary Webb at 886-2866
or email at mwebb@nashuanpcc.org



Featuring:
Eddie Brill from
the Late Show with
David Letterman
and
Rick Beretta
Josh Gondelman

How To Make a Difference

Shop for a Cause

Support the Care Center on Thursday, June 18, 2010, by shopping at the following down town Nashua stores:

Beconings
DesignWares
One World Trading

The Care Center will receive a portion of the profits from that evening. More details to follow.

TD Bank's Affinity Program

Don't forget to join if you are a TD Bank customer. TD Bank will make an annual contribution to the Care Center based on the average balance of our members' accounts. Just let the bank know you want to participate. Our account number is **BH**.

Items Needed at NPCC

- Twin bed sheets
- Towels
- Toiletry items
- Diapers
- Gas Cards
- Grocery store gift cards
- Pharmacy gift cards

Thank you to Those Who Have Made a Difference

The following grants were received from November 1, 2009, through April 1, 2010

- Barker Foundation
- City of Nashua
- Hunt Community
- New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- People's United Community Foundation
- State of New Hampshire
- United Way of Greater Nashua

Thank you to all who have donated!

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