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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to be writing to you once again about Mary's Home.

When a new Executive Director was hired in January of 2020, I stayed on in a supportive role until September when I retired. Although it sounded like a great idea at the time, my heart was still with Mary's Home, and I believe it always will be. In March of 2021, I returned as I was elected to serve as President of the Board.

When COVID came upon us, Mary's Home went through its own difficulties but fortunately, it never had to close its doors. Mary's Home continued to support the women under its roof and helped each woman through a difficult period. Imagine being pregnant and living in a shelter during the early part of the pandemic, not knowing what was going to happen if you contacted the virus and how it would affect your pregnancy. Thankfully, all our moms gave birth to healthy, happy babies!

Mary's Home continues to face challenges due to the pandemic. We are diligent with our COVID preventive policies and procedures and very thorough concerning the women we accept into our program. We have had to be very flexible with staff time-away and like many other organizations, have experienced higher than normal staff turnover. Additionally, our programs have switched to more virtual than face-to-face. And our volunteer program has been suspended. Hopefully, volunteers will be brought back into the fold soon.

The residents of Mary's Home are also navigating the new environment. Those entering the workforce after the birth of their child, are faced with increased work interruptions due to COVID outbreaks at work and daycare, which adversely affects their incomes. The affordable housing environment has changed dramatically both in the availability and the financial qualifications. Mary's Home offers its residents continued support by lengthening stays at the Home thanks to you, our faithful donors. Former residents have experienced success in attaining their goals toward self-sufficiency despite the obstacles placed before them. You will read more about their successes in this newsletter.

The staff and Board are hopeful and excited about the future of Mary's Home as every hurdle we have come up against, has given us additional wisdom and strength. God continues to bless Mary's Home and we are extremely confident that we will continue to serve women in need for many decades to come.

*Gina Thompson*

## RESIDENT NEWS

**Julie** made the choice to come to Mary's Home and work with an adoption agency to place her child for adoption. She has selected a young couple from Texas to parent her child. Julie is excited to be meeting with the couple in October for the first time! They will welcome their son in December. Julie has secured employment and will be reunited with her other child and transitioning into her own apartment in January.

**Kendolyn** is working full-time as a dietary aid at a nursing home. She and her son will be transitioning into her own apartment the end of October. While at Mary's Home, she completed the CNA course and will be taking her state exam soon. She has worked hard to become self-sufficient and we are excited for her next journey!



**Nneka** is a new resident and her baby girl is due in February. She has earned her Medical Assistant Certification and was recently hired by Treasure Coast Urgent Care in Stuart. She has been working on Mary's Home's in-house curriculum. This is Nneka's first pregnancy and she is eager to learn about what to expect during the stages of her pregnancy and about child birthing and breastfeeding. She belongs to a wonderful church and enjoys worship dancing.

We appreciate all the support over the years from Treasure Coast Urgent Care, they are true blessings to all of us at Mary's Home.

## Recent Graduate of Mary's Home

Sam lived at Mary's Home for over a year and has a baby boy. While living at Mary's Home, she worked full-time and earned her certification in Computer Technology at Indian River State College. She and her son left Mary's Home in June of this year and have reunited with her family in Texas. She is doing well with the transition and checks in with us on a regular basis.

**New Residents** We are currently working with two pregnant women in hopes that they will be moving into Mary's Home soon!

**\*\*STAYED TUNED\*\***  
**MAY 2022**

**Moms4Moms**

Celebrating Moms for the month of May

**BRIDGE WALK**

We're expecting.....to see you there

**We can't reveal the details just yet (sorry!)**

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

We are happy to congratulate a past resident on her employment success!

Shaun moved into Mary's Home in 2013 and successfully received her GED while volunteering in the community at a child care facility. She moved back with her family before the birth of her son, Karson.

He is now 7 years old and has started the 2nd grade! We recently spoke with Shaun and she shared the wonderful news that she has taken a new job as an Executive Director at KinderCare Learning Center. We are excited for Shaun and wish her much success in her new position!



# RESIDENT PROGRAMS

## BrightCourse .....

Mary's Home has always focused on a curriculum tailored to a resident's individual needs. Mary's Home now uses an online program called BrightCourse. This curriculum is evidence-based and tailored, as needed, to fit specific needs of an individual. Courses are assigned to our residents in areas including life skills, pregnancy, parenting, budgeting and Bible study. The videos show real life experiences. The lessons are extensively reviewed for accuracy by physicians and content experts. After each video, worksheets and questions provide discussion sessions with each resident.

## NEW! Housing Readiness Program .....

Affordable housing has always been difficult to find on the Treasure Coast of Florida but the pandemic has made it almost non-existent. The few options there are come with long wait lists and our residents do not always qualify.

To better prepare residents with their housing search when they are prepared to move into the community, a Housing Readiness Program has been added to the curriculum. The program will cover three areas: 1) as part of the intake process, we will obtain the resident's credit report and flag any issues that might come up when they are applying for housing; 2) educate the resident on how and where to research affordable housing in Martin and surrounding Counties and where to find available low income housing stipend/ vouchers and; 3) instruct and assist the residents in completion and filing of the rental applications.

## LINDSAY LIFETIME OF GIVING FUND

After 38 years of serving others through their life vocation, Jan and Noel Lindsay are retiring from the ministry they founded. They have followed God's will and saved thousands of lives by founding and implementing Mary's Home.



As an everlasting tribute to our beloved founders, Mary's Home has established the Lindsay Lifetime of Giving Fund to help ensure the future success and sustainability of our essential programs and important mission of Saving Lives, Two at a Time. It would not be possible to carry out Mary's Home mission without the ongoing support of our community.

The families whose lives have been saved and changed by Jan and Noel's passion and vision are thriving today thanks to the support of you, our generous donors, friends, and community. All gifts received for the Lindsay Lifetime of Giving Fund will further enable us to continue to offer life and hope to moms in need and will make a difference for generations to come.

***If you would like to contribute toward the Lindsay Lifetime of Giving Fund, please go to [www.MarysHome.org](http://www.MarysHome.org) and click on "Lindsay Lifetime of Giving Fund."***

## May & Vincent Smyth *Guardian Angel Dedication*

Earlier this year, Mary's Home honored May and Vincent Smyth for their dedication and support of Mary's Home's Women-In-Transition Program ("WIT"). In 2018, May and Vincent started the Mary's Angel Giving Circle to create an endowment fund which will ensure the long-term success of the WIT program.

***If you would like more information about our Women-In-Transition program and Mary's Angels Giving Circle, please visit our website at [www.maryshome.org](http://www.maryshome.org).***



**SAVE THE DATE !**

**MARY'S HOME  
11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
FASHION SHOW &  
LUNCHEON**

**Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**Willoughby Golf Club**

# DONATE

Please consider a donation of any size to Mary's Home to help keep secure the lives of our moms and babies during this unprecedented time. Thank you.

All donations can be mailed to:

Mary's Home • P.O. Box 958, Stuart, FL 34995

www.maryshome.org (772)-223-5000



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## AMAZON LIST

Please consider adding Mary's Home as your chosen charity for Amazon Smile! For every purchase you make, we get a small portion. We also have created an Amazon list with all our current needs for the home. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity!

Choose **MARY'S HOME** for your Amazon Smile charity

## FACILITY NEEDS

Our yard around the home needs some TLC. Our planting beds can use some mulch and a few able bodies to spread it around the beds.

 facebook.com/maryshometc

# Special Thanks

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to Michael and Diane Dadko for their unending support as ambassadors for Mary's Home.

Special thank you to Candace Lopes from Skin Serenity Spa in Stuart for donating personal items for our residents, much needed household supplies and backpacks filled with school supplies for children of Mary's Home! We are always so appreciative for all her support and love!



Many thanks to Habitat for Humanity in Stuart for their continued support. They have helped us over the years with many projects in the house. Recently they installed a new kitchen door for us.



Thank you to St. Joseph Middle School Students who held a diaper drive at St. Joseph School and collected a truck filled with much needed diapers! We appreciate all the hard work and organizing by the both the students and teachers!

A special THANK YOU to the St. Bernadette Columbiettes in Port St. Lucie for the donation of gift cards and the beautiful handmade rosaries from the Rosary Makers!



Heartfelt thanks to Rev. Fr. Daniel Daza-Jaller, Director of Vocations who arranged a day of volunteering at Mary's Home with the Seminarians of the Diocese of Palm Beach. And many thanks to Rev. Fr. Frank D'Amato from St. Jude Catholic Church in Tequesta, along with the Seminarians, who helped with much needed chores around our home. We are truly grateful for this partnership and look forward to seeing them again. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to serve the Lord and extend a hand to surrounding communities.

Thank you to Nicole and Mike and everyone from Faith Without Walls Church in Port St. Lucie for giving us much-needed items on our wish list. As Mike said, "you can't be a blessing, if you can't bless someone else."



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