

SUMMER 2023

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## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### DEAR FRIENDS,

I am so excited to share with you what has been happening at Mary's Home! We have plenty to be thankful for.

Currently, we have four women and three beautiful baby girls in our home. Two of our babies were born on the same day - a first for Mary's Home! We are expecting a fourth baby in December. Two of the residents are working full time and two are working part time while going to school. Our residents have landed internships and jobs in our community, and we are thankful for our community partners.

We are also happy to share with you that two of our residents have qualified for our Women-In-Transition (WIT) Program when they graduate from Mary's Home.

WIT was established to help expand our impact by providing our in-house graduates financial assistance with their monthly living expenses for one year after they graduate. The program helps provide a sustained quality of housing, care and educational services to our mothers and babies.

The ultimate goal of the program is to prevent women from becoming homeless again and returning to unfavorable relationships or addiction when faced with the struggles of covering escalating costs for rent, health care benefits and day care on their entry level pay.

The lack of affordable housing makes it nearly impossible for our women to find safe and stable housing in Martin County. The average rent for a one bedroom in Martin County is \$1,800, while the average pay rate for our graduates is \$15 an hour or \$2,600 a month. After rent, this leaves a resident with approximately \$800 a month for other expenses. The lack of affordable housing will also affect the length of time a woman remains at Mary's Home. The average length of stay for our women has been one year, however, we may see that number increase as housing continues to be difficult for them to find.

With inflation driving up prices for necessities such as housing, food, gasoline, and household/baby items, our graduates will face difficult choices about where to cut back on their spending. We are finding that women transitioning to living independently are one emergency away from becoming homeless again.

Our hope is that the monthly living expense assistance and continued support from Mary's Home will help them live with a sense of security and increase the likelihood of long-term success.

We are so proud of our new mothers and their accomplishments. Please pray for them and their infants as they become independent and strive to begin a new life for themselves and their children.

*Alean Timm*



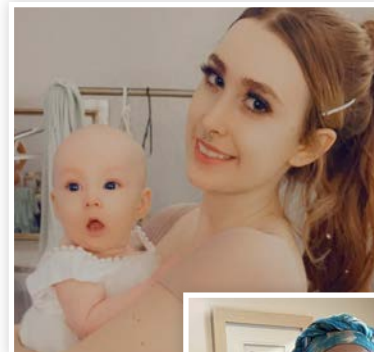
# RESIDENT NEWS

**Nneka** came to Mary's Home with her Medical Assistant Certification and five years of experience. Nneka interviewed for a full-time position at a local doctor's office and was hired on the spot. She is very happy in her current position and plans on furthering her career in the medical field. Nneka has been looking for an apartment for some time. Due to the lack of affordable housing, she is finding it difficult to find a place to live. Nuveya is 17 months and almost half of her mom's height. **Way to grow, Nuveya!**

**Vanisha** passed her Medical Assistant Certification exam in May and was offered an internship at Stuart Cardiology. She hopes to get a full-time position when she graduates in July. Vanisha plans on working for a year and then enrolling in a LPN program. Zendaya is a very happy baby and always has a smile on her face. **Take a bow, Vanisha!**

**Kaitlyn** came to Mary's Home in October. She graduated from Florida Virtual School and in May and is working part time at Reed Day Care as an Assistant Teacher. Kaitlyn plans to pursue her dream of going to nursing school. She recently started her apartment search. Beautiful baby Emerlie is growing so fast. She was born in December and is already 25 inches tall. **Awesome job, Kaitlyn!**

**Kimberly** came to us in May with her Medical Assistant Certification and ten years of experience. She interviewed with South Florida Orthopedics and was hired on the spot. She is training in various departments in their Port St. Lucie office. Once she completes her training, Kimberly will work in the Stuart office. Her baby is due in November. **Way to go, Kimberly!**



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Please Welcome Kelly Buckley, our new Outreach and Event Coordinator. Kelly has over 10 years of experience in community service-based roles and specializes in resource management and projects. Kelly will use this experience to effectively plan and support our outreach opportunities and keep the community engaged with the needs of Mary Home as well as plan our annual events.

## HOLY REDEEMER

Thank you, Fr., Dunne, the staff, and parishioners for our 2nd annual Baby Bottle Drive, which raised over \$11,000.00!

**The Women's Guild** for hosting a Baby Shower for our residents and babies!

**The Men's Group** for all the volunteers that have been helping with various projects at Mary's Home!!

## FRIENDS AT LOBLOLLY

Thank you to FAL for their support in helping our residents towards self-sufficiency.

## NOTRE DAME CLUB OF STUART

For hosting the Project Mom - Women's Connect event at Mary's Home!

## KENDRA SCOTT

For a two day give back shopping event, which raised over \$500.00!

## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL WOMEN HELPING WOMEN AWARD

Thank you to Soroptimist International of Stuart for recognizing Mary's Home with the Women Helping Women Award. The grant award presented to Mary's Home at their Annual Award Celebration on May 24th. The grant will help us assist a resident to reach her educational goals.





# SPOTLIGHT

## RIVERVIEW COSMETIC & IMPLANT DENTISTRY

Riverview Cosmetic and Implant Dentistry has been passionate supporters for Mary's Home since our inception. Dr. Fedele served as a board member and when his term ended, he joined our Advisory Council.

Dr. Fedele and Dr. Hooks are very generous with their time and their resources as they provide all dental care to our residents free of charge. In addition to providing dental care to our residents, they gave one of our Women-In-Transition graduates an opportunity to intern at their office as part of her dental certification requirement. I'm happy to report that she's been offered a full-time job when she graduates.

Also, Dr. Fedele and Dr. Hooks were the Event Sponsor for our Fashion Show & Luncheon two years in a row as well as supporting us throughout the year with all our other fundraising events.

We are blessed to have them as part of Mary's Home extended family.



# VOLUNTEER NEWS

## BOY SCOUT'S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Boy Scout Rafael Angel Castillo chose Mary's Home for his Eagle Scout Project. He is very dedicated to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) organization and volunteers in the community.

Last summer, while volunteering with Holy Redeemer Church, Rafael visited Mary's Home to help with a yard work project. Rafael said that being involved with Mary's Home and seeing the impact and sustainability provided to homeless, pregnant women made him want to do more to help. He decided to do his Eagle Scout Project with Mary's Home because he wanted to contribute to a community driven organization. He assembled and installed a shelving system for our new shed.

**Thank you, Rafael!**



## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON



Our Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon sold out for a second year in a row with 270 guests in attendance. Lynda Hartley-Urban, the fashion show coordinator, worked with local stores to put on a fabulous fashion show. This event was huge success thanks to our fashion committee co-chaired by Kim Gaudet. We couldn't have pulled it off without our

loyal sponsors, local businesses that donate items for our silent auction and ticket raffle, Mary's Home staff, our volunteers, vendors, the fashions provided by local boutiques and Willoughby Golf Club.

Guests marveled over hearing the inspirational stories from a current resident and a graduate from our Women-In-Transition program.



### CRADLE & ALL

Riverview Cosmetic and Implant Dentistry, Dr. Mark Fedele & Dr. Matthew Hooks

### PRECIOUS BABY

Celebrities Fore Kids, Inc., Mrs. Marlene Filer Sailfish Wealth Management, Michael & Diane Dadko Mr. Michael Hayes In Loving Memory of Jane Rainis Supercharged Entertainment (Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sangermano)

### RAINBOW

Michelina's Italian Restaurant & Catering, Michele Jones Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Smyth Mr. & Mrs. Peter Thompson

**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to our FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON Sponsors from all of us at Mary's Home. WE APPRECIATE YOU!**

### SWEET DREAMS

Allstate Insurance, Cheryl Lott-Lampard Nicholas & Jacqui Grubbs NisAir Air Conditioning, Christine Mulrooney Mr. & Mrs. William Sheehey Marie Wilkins The Tully Group, Tina Tully Sandhill Cove Properties, Inc., Jill Burton Linda MacKenzie-Ranc

### TEDDY BEAR

Michelle Bracken Skin Serenity Spa, Candace Lopes Waterpointe Realty Group, Janice Norman R.V. Johnson, Kelly Johnson Palm Tree Day Spa, Coco Weigand Knights of Columbus, Jonathan Knaus Denise Freihofer Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Sonier

# Mary's Home

Christmas in July



Save the date!  
July 10-21

Christmas is coming early here at Mary's Home. Please join us for an inaugural online event to benefit our women and babies. Your generosity allows us to continue Saving Lives, Two at a Time...

Stay Tuned!



Mary's Home

Saving Lives, Two at a Time

P.O. Box 958, Stuart, FL 34995

www.maryshome.org

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
West Palm Beach FL  
Permit #611

## SAVE THE DATE



13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
FASHION SHOW &  
LUNCHEON

Monday, February 12, 2024  
Willoughby Golf Club, Stuart

For more news and photos,  
please visit us on Facebook and Instagram.

To sign up for our newsletter, please send  
your mailing and email address to  
Kim@maryshome.org and include  
"Newsletter" in the subject line.

If you are interested in volunteering or would  
like a tour (individual or group), please  
contact Kim at 772-223-5000.

 facebook.com/maryshometc

 instagram.com/maryshometc

## Thank You

Thank you to our Volunteers, Community Organizations  
and Local Businesses who have supported us through the  
year! You have helped to make a difference in the lives  
of our mothers and babies. We could not do what we  
do without our community support.

To Steve and Ashley Vitale for sponsoring  
"We've Made Room at the Inn",  
our Stuart Christmas Parade float and their  
unending support for our mothers and their babies.

**VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO...**

United Way of Martin County

The Willits Foundation

Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities

JC Foundation

Bernard A. Egan Foundation

JAS Family Foundation

Rommel Wilson Memorial Fund

George and Maja Adolfson Memorial Fund

Christ Memorial Chapel