



Shelter News

March 2010

Sleep Outfitters Donates New Mattress

Officials at Innovative Mattress Solutions, LLC announced a new local partnership with the Franklin Co. Women's Shelter. They donated and delivered eight twin-sized mattresses on Friday, January 15.

Kimberly Brown Knopf, Louisville native and owner of Innovative Mattress Solutions / Sleep Outfitters, said "We are proud to help in this small way to provide comfort to the women this organization helps. The shelter's work is critical to the Frankfort /



Franklin County area. We know that if we can help these ladies sleep a little better, they will be better able to handle the stresses of their personal situations."

The Sleep Outfitters Frankfort showroom, located in the Wal-mart Shopping Center, features a large selection of name brand mattress sets from Sealy, Serta, Stearns & Foster, Simmons and Tempur-Pedic. More information on Sleep Outfitters, may be obtained on the web at www.sleepoutfitters.com.

Making Adjustments to Meet the Needs

The Women's Shelter began the new year with a process of transformation in order to better meet the needs of the community and staff. The original idea for the women's shelter was to provide emergency shelter for women similar to the men's shelter. The original concept was modified when 303 East Third Street became available to us as the physical location of the shelter. In order to comply with funding requirements of the location, the shelter became a transitional living center (TLC) when we opened in 2008.

When women enter our TLC, they enter a program with case management and services. The physical bed is only a small part of the program. Women in TLC can stay up to one year. It gives women who are really motivated and ready for change room to grow and become self-sufficient.

The shelter has provided emergency shelter via 1-2 day hotel room stays. This system does meet the crisis needs of some clients, for example clients who call our hot-line at 10:00 PM without a place to sleep. The cost of a hotel room stay prohibits us from providing more than a few days at a time, which has left a large group of clients without a place to go, who needed 2-3 weeks of housing.

The shelter is proud to announce that we are helping address this gap in the community by establishing two beds, in-house, that are considered emergency shelter beds. Women will be able to stay up to 30 days. This will allow a longer period of time for these clients to get on their feet and get to a more stable housing situation. In addition, we will be better able to serve these women and address their

needs as they be will on site instead of in a hotel room across town. We will continue to house seven women at a time in TLC in addition to the two new emergency beds.

The Shelter has also been working to refine our staffing structure, adding new people and clearly defining roles. As a result, we have outgrown the original office and work space. We have remodeled the office, adding desks and work space as well as new shelving units and organizers for supplies.

This transformation has required a lot of time and energy as well as patience from staff, volunteers, and board members. As always, we are grateful for the community support and opportunity to serve community members in need.



Tickets \$10

Special Benefit for the Shelter
Paula Sue Clifton
One Woman Show Portraying

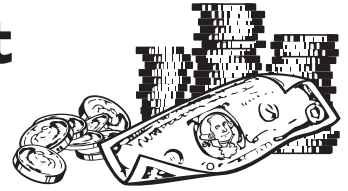
Mary Magdela

Sunday, April 11
First Christian Church
316 Ann St.

Refreshments 1:45 Show Time: 2:30

On the Financial Front

General Contributions Over \$100
(November 2009 - February 2010)



Altrusa International
Mildred Aukerman
Marisa Aull
Michael Bauer
Charles Cotton
Betty Cowherd
Richard & Janice Ernst
First Presbyterian Church
Franklin County Democratic Women's Club
Margaret Friel
Robert Gabbard
Katherine Knight
Robert Lancaster

Pat Lynch
Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 475
Veronica McNalley
Kathleen Pellegrino
Peaks Mill Christian Friendship Circle
David & Sharon Robinson
Mary Sheridan
Bruce Siria
South Frankfort Presbyterian Church
Swallowfield Church of Christ
Marie Tychonievich
David Weaver

Sizzler Wrap-up

A Sizzling New Year

Over 240 party goers enjoyed music by Swing Street, food by The Dragon Pub, and door prizes given by many local supporters at this year's shelter sizzler. Joyce Albro and Gene Taylor won the 37 inch HD-TV. Many volunteer hours went into this successful fund raising event with over \$10,000 raised for the shelter. However, because of rising costs, the massive labor effort, and competition from the hotel, the Board is considering other fund raising efforts for the coming year. The board and the finance committee are always looking for new ideas and help for successful fund raising.



New Benefit for the Shelter

On Sunday, April 11 at First Christian Church, Paula Sue Clifton will present a one-woman show on the Biblical character, Mary Magdalene. Mrs. Clifton is a dramatist, speaker and writer. She has written and presented many shows over the years. Paula Sue relies on her

faith in the Lord and her years of experience to lead and guide her to minister to the needs of her audience

All proceeds will benefit the Franklin County Women's Shelter. Several years ago, Mrs. Clifton opened her lovely home for luncheons that benefited the shelter.

Doors will open at 1:45 for coffee and refreshments with the performance to begin at 2:30. Free childcare services will be provided by First Christian Church. Donations of \$10 or more will be accepted. Reservations encouraged by email fcwomenshelter@gmail.com or call the shelter 352-2843.

Recent Grant Award and Gift

In January of 2010, the shelter was awarded a \$3,500 grant from the Kings Daughters and Sons Foundation of Kentucky, Inc. to acquire new computers for the staff. We have purchased three Mini Macs, (one will be used as a server) a Mac Book Laptop, a laser all-in-one printer scanner, a digital camera and an external hard drive backup system. Macs were chosen because they are less prone to viruses from the internet and they have a more stable operating system.

Zita Hardin, a friend of the shelter, recently donated two refurbished PC laptops. Along with the two laptops the shelter already owned they will be used to establish a computer lab for clients. This will give them an opportunity to practice and hone their computer skills, better equipping them for the workplace. They will also be able to use the lab to search and apply for employment and volunteer opportunities.

We want to thank our trusted computer wiz Tim Schell for helping us decide what to purchase and for helping with the setup of our new computer system. Tim works for Kentucky Housing Corporation and helps us during his down time.

The Perfect Gift for Any Occasion



If you are having trouble finding the perfect gift for someone or if you want to remember someone who has passed away, make a donation in their name to the shelter. All donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated. We will be more than glad to send you or the gift recipient a card.

News from the Shelter: Comings & Goings

Parting Board Members and Officers

At the January annual meeting, new officers and board members were elected for the next three years. All the previous officers had completed their terms of office.

We say goodbye and many thanks to **Elaine Cook** who served as treasurer and board member during the complicated beginning days of the organization. She also conceived and headed up our Halloween fund raiser, Monsters on the Mall. Elaine is leaving both her treasurer's post and board position.

Sharon Surbeck is also leaving the board. With her background in social work, she was a valued advisor during the shelter's formative years and was always very involved with fund raising activities.

Betty Cowherd is leaving her position as Vice President but will continue to serve on the board. She was the first volunteer to carry the hot-line phone and continues in that role, using her experience as a nurse to guide her.

Jill Robinson, our initial president, is also vacating her office, but will remain as a board member and active supporter of the shelter. Without Jill's guidance and tenacity the shelter would never have become a reality.

We are greatly indebted to all these women for the time and effort they gave to help bring the shelter to fruition and to become a success.

The new officers are:

Barbara Hadley Smith-President
Gail Robinson-Vice President
Sandy Lee-Secretary
Yvonne Hill-Treasurer

New Board Members



Yvonne Hill has lived in the Frankfort area since 1975 where she has worked in the banking industry for 20 plus years. She is currently employed

by MainSource Bank as a mortgage loan originator. Some of her outside activities include attending First Church of God of Frankfort, serving as treasurer for Rep. Derrick Graham and being a commissioner of the Farmdale Water District. She and her husband Bobby live on South Benson Road where they enjoy gardening and spending time with their grandchildren.



Melisa Sexton is filling a newly created board position; that of a person who has experienced homelessness. Two years ago Melisa found herself divorced, homeless

and diagnosed with breast cancer. She and her two teenage daughters moved into the shelter where they lived while she underwent surgeries. The shelter staff helped to get her life back together. When she recovered, she returned to her job at Elder-Beerman where she is currently employed.

This summer she will be attending college to pursue a nursing degree. Melisa wanted to "give something back" for how the shelter helped her and the board position will allow her to do just that. "Thanks to everyone for giving me the opportunity to show my appreciation and to allow me to be involved in the future of the shelter," she said.



Julie Garland, a lifelong resident of Frankfort, has a BA in English from The University of Kentucky. She is currently Executive Assistant to First Lady Jane Beshear.

In her role as part of the Governor's office she is active in many statewide programs. She is currently serving as chairperson for the annual "First Lady's Derby Celebration of Hope", a celebration for breast cancer survivors across the Commonwealth.

Julie has served as an officer for the Frankfort Younger Women's Club as well as served on the board for the "Picnic in the Park". She is the daughter of Danny and Marci Garland, John Paul and Marcey Broderson, and is the mother of Emma Grace Stevenson.



Charlotte Flanary grew up in Pike County, raised her children in Johnson County and currently lives in Anderson County. She and her husband, Pat, have three children

and four grandchildren. A long-time advocate of the disadvantaged and underrepresented, she answered President Obama's call to action in 2009 and began volunteering at the women's shelter along with her sister, Dianne. Having spent years working in accounting positions, she currently works for the Kentucky Democratic Party which allows her to blend her work life with her passion for progressive issues. Charlotte serves on the Anderson County Democratic Executive Committee and is active in two democratic women's clubs.



New KSU Intern

Chamari Havard is FCWS’s newest intern from KSU. A native of St. Louis, Chamari is a senior social work student.

She is the Vice President of the Social Work club and involved in mentoring services at KSU. She has been working with children who have one or both parents incarcerated. After graduation she plans to remain in Kentucky and obtain her

Masters in Social Work from University of Louisville or Kentucky State. Her ultimate goal is to open a non-profit organization for women and children with HIV/AIDS

Chamari will be with us until graduation in May. She said, “I am looking forward to gaining experience in administration from Josie and case work from Felicia.” We are pleased to have another well-qualified student to help with the shelter mission.

**Franklin County Women’s Shelter
Board of Directors**

Barbara Hadley Smith — President
Gail Robinson — Vice President
Yvonne Hill — Treasurer
Sandy Lee — Secretary

Marti Booth	Alene Ransdell
Charlotte Flanary	Jill E. Robinson
Julie Garland	Melisa Sexton
Tonya Kenner	Glenn Spaulding
Sandy Lee	Brent Sweger
Zach Moore	Debbie Wilson
Jean Pettway	Carroll Young

Franklin County Women’s Shelter
303 E Third St.
Frankfort, KY 40601

Return Service Requested

Shelter 2009 Statistics

1. Total number of calls received	435
2. Clients assisted with emergency housing in motel rooms	51
3. Number of callers provided with referrals to other shelters/organizations	92
4. Clients assisted with food boxes, or hygiene products:	40
5. Clients assisted with household items and or furniture	27
6. Clients provided with utility/ rent assistance	54
7. Domestic violence victims	61
8. Clients placed on our waiting list	41
9. Clients residing at our transitional living Center (TLC)	
women	32
children	7

Average length of stay of clients in our TLC is 71 days with the range of stay being 7 days to 314.

Volunteers Always Needed

Our greatest need is for volunteers to work night, evening, weekend and week day office shifts. Other volunteer opportunities include group meal preparation, teaching lifeskills and hobby classes. Training is required for all volunteers. **Contact Doris Thurber at 352-2843 to get involved.**

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