



At Our Door

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Editorial Information

To submit stories or fundraising event information for the newsletter contact, Kathie Clark, Public Relations & Communications at kclark@lazarushouse.org or call (978) 269-5210.



Bridget Shaheen accepts \$10,000 in gift certificates from TJX Companies representative Robin Townsend. Left to right: Bridget Shaheen, Executive Director; Robin Townsend, District LP Manager at TJ Maxx; Kelly Townsend, Volunteer Coordinator

Golf Tournament Update

Dry-tee off, entertaining activities, celebrities, great food and more . . . are in the plans for the May event.

It was a waterlogged affair at the Andover Country Club last year. A beaver dam removal caused flooding on almost half the course. Then, on the rescheduled date in August, a torrential rainfall. This year only sunshine and a dry tee-off are in the plans for the Monday, May 3 golf tournament!

For the past 15 years the Lazarus House Golf Tournament has been a premier event for more than 200 participants. It continues to grow with a record \$200,000 raised in 2009 despite the water. Players will have the opportunity to win prizes, enter a putting green contest to win \$5,000, and in the

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Hard Work Earns a Better Life

An ambitious desire to help others is what brought Alexandra Roque to Lazarus House Ministries. She has volunteered in the soup kitchen washing tables and chairs, restocked the thrift store, covered the front desk in the Center, and enjoyed giving turkeys away at Thanksgiving. However, in September 2009 Alexandra came to Lazarus House for a different reason. She wanted a better future — one that would take her out of a life in poverty and working in dead end jobs. Alexandra signed up for the English as a Second Language (ESL) program and has since continued on in her educational and life-changing journey.

“One thing that people don’t know about Alexandra is that every morning before her ESL class she stopped by the soup kitchen to help out. She also volunteers for the neighborhood food distribution and has spent evenings on the soup truck handing out sandwiches. She doesn’t do it for the thanks, but is a born volunteer with a natural desire to give back,” remarked Ann Shields, ESL Program Coordinator.

Little did Alexandra realize that her volunteer time at Lazarus House was about to open a door to making her

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Red Sox Private Luxury Suite

for you and 18 of your friends!

Raffle Ticket Price: \$100

Raffle Prize Includes: \$1,200 Food & Beverage Allowance,
Limo Service to Game (within MA only),
Section R-17, First Base Side,

Boston Red Sox vs. Detroit Tigers

August 1, 2010

Purchase raffle tickets online by credit card go to www.lazarushouse.org and click on Red Sox Raffle or call Bridget Sheehy, Event Mgr at (978) 269-5206.

**ONLY 750
RAFFLE
TICKETS
AVAILABLE!**

A Letter from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Spring is in the air!!! We all look forward with gratitude to the passing of winter. We also look ahead to the onset of warmer weather and all that it entails. The change of seasons also means that more of our brothers and sisters will be able to avail themselves of our Food Distribu-

tion and nutritious meals at our Soup Kitchen. Winter is simply too harsh for many of our elderly and disabled friends to be able to maneuver the city streets even though it often means suffering the pangs of hunger.

Hunger and homelessness are only symptoms and results of a much more encompassing problem — poverty. So physical hunger is not the only hunger we are addressing. Our guests also hunger for education, for stability in their lives, for an opportunity to give their children better lives and for the dignity of earning a living.

And we want to thank YOU for helping us bridge the gap between surviving today (through our food and housing services) and building a future (through our education and career prep programs)! Our goal is to remove overwhelming obstacles so that our guests are able to move forward in putting their lives together. As you look through the pages of this newsletter may you become as hope-filled and excited as we are at the opportunity for the overwhelming joy of making a difference — one day at a time, one person at a time, one family at a time. How blest we are to be able to serve in your name.

May God continue to bless you and fill you with the Easter joy of knowing that what you do empowers people to rise up from the burden of poverty to lives filled with possibilities.

With a grateful heart,

Bridget

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evening Dan Roach, WBZ Sports Newscaster will return as auctioneer for bidding on some amazing auction items.

Player cost is \$250 and includes meals, green fees, and golf cart. Register online at www.lazarushouse.org. If you would like to learn more about Sponsorship opportunities or have any questions about the tournament contact, Bridget Sheehy, Event Manager at (978) 269-5206.

Recurring Gifts Sustain Life-Changing Programs at Lazarus

Frank Holden has been making a difference at Lazarus House since New Years Day, 1992. He got involved by volunteering at the emergency shelter cooking meals for the guests. More than 18 years later, Frank continues this practice one evening a month. He commented, “It’s easy to forget what the world is really about when working in the fast-paced high tech industry. Helping at Lazarus House allows me to stay in focus on the day-to-day realities of life.”

While active in his local church Frank would bring the youth group to Lazarus house to work the 8 pm to

midnight shift doing laundry, talking with the guests and handing out sandwiches to anyone who comes to the shelter seeking a meal. One time he brought the youth group on the Soup truck and the kids were amazed when they

“ . . . the kids were amazed when they discovered that there were people living under a bridge . . . ”

discovered that there were people living under a bridge within minutes of their suburban neighborhood!

In addition to his time Frank also provides financial support as a recurring donor by making a monthly contribution. Please consider joining Frank and nearly 100 other recurring monthly donors who help ensure consistent funding of our mission. To set up an automatic recurring contribution contact Ray Joyce, Development Director at (978) 269-5212.


We're
Searching for
Volunteers

**Contact Kelly
Townsend, Volunteer
Coordinator at
(978) 269-5217**

Emergency shelter
laundry volunteer from
6:30-9 pm any evening.

Soup kitchen helpers on
Sunday morning from
7-9:30 am.

A mentor for adult
guests at Lazarus House,
any evening 8 - 11 pm.

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dream job a reality. That was the day when Ann handed her an application that would change her life. Notre Dame Education Center, located in Lawrence, was accepting students for their Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program. This curriculum uses both classroom instruction and clinical experience. The goal is to train and place quality, caring people into the long-term care environment.

“Oh my God,” Alexandra excitedly remembered, “when Ann put that paper in front of me, well, she knew that my dream job was working with the elderly in a nursing home or hospital. I think to work with the elderly you need to feel compassion for them and they need to feel love.”



Along with the Work Force Prep team, Ann helped Alexandra through the entire process, assisting with the application, setting up study dates, and explaining the difficult medical terminology. Lazarus House Ministries paid for the certification class.

Alexandra recalled, “The hardest part of it all was the test. It was difficult to study with all that was going on in my life – and some of the English words were hard to understand. I read the entire book and studied *very hard* for the test: I studied days at Lazarus, nights at home. Then, great news, I got a 91 on the test!”

With her five best friends from high school acting as her cheerleaders, she continued to gain confidence. “My friends told me all the time to keep studying and get a good job,” said Alexandra. “They all have babies so need to stay home and can’t go to school, but they are very supportive and tell me they are proud.”

Amy White, Primary Instructor of Nursing at the Notre Dame Education Center noted that the work didn’t come easy for Alexandra, she had to study very hard, and did! Amy also watched her work with the elderly in the clinical component of the program and thinks that she will make a wonderful nurses assistant.

Alexandra knew that without Lazarus House and the support she received from the staff, she would still be searching for a better quality of life.

With quiet emotion, Alexandra pointed out, “Ann has been there every day since I came to Lazarus House; she’s like my second mom. She called to make sure I studied, and even took me out to dinner when I passed the test!”

“This experience has been a good opportunity for me. I found out that at Lazarus House if you want help and are willing to work hard, they are always going to be there for you. No matter how hard something is, they seem to get it for you. The best part is that in the end I felt happy about my accomplishments. Now everybody . . . my friends, family, and the people of Lazarus House . . . they are all very proud of me, too!”

Alexandra Roque is hoping to enroll in an LPN program at a local community college and continues the steps to making an independent life for herself.

Donation Needs!

Hi!

Last weekend my mom and I volunteered to help out with the soup truck at Lazarus House. Neither of us had done it before and we both envisioned that we would just be tagging along with all the regulars. However, when we got to the shelter, we realized that WE were the soup truck. Much to our surprise, the one woman in charge of the operation appointed my mom as driver and myself as navigator. It was a really cool experience and everyone we handed out food to was very appreciative.

One thing we noticed was that these people are in desperate needs of coats and blankets. We had five coats and one blanket to give out and they went fast. So if you have any old coats or blankets just laying around your house, Lazarus House would be more than happy to take them off your hands! Thanks a bunch!

Meredith (age 17)

Meredith Bird has been involved with Lazarus House since the age of seven. She walked in the very first Hike for Hope and is a Junior in high school at St. Paul’s School.

Item Donations needed in our thrift stores:

- Spring jackets and water-proof outerwear
- Socks
- Used small appliances: toasters, microwaves
- Housewares: dishes, pots silverware, pans

Drop off donations Monday - Saturday 9 am - 3:30 pm at any of the thrift shops in Lawrence: 412 Hampshire St; 229 So. Union St; and 121 Essex St.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT #575
Manchester, NH

Coordinators Heidi Richio, Vocational Programs Director, Wil-
berard, Carpentry Instructor both of Greater Lawrence Techni-
cal School and Bridget Sheehy, Event Manager of Lazarus
House stand in front of the float shanty structure that will depict
the potato famine and hunger issues in the city of Lawrence.



Lazarus House
Ministries, Inc. and
Greater Lawrence
Technical School are
working together to
create a parade float,
"Hunger Then, Hun-
ger Now" for the St.
Patrick's Day Parade
in Lawrence on Sunday,
March 21, 2010. Food
donations will be
collected along the parade
route by Lazarus House and
the Salvation Army.

Lawrence, MA 01842



Staff Notes

New Hires

Bridget Erin Sheehy, Events Manager

Bridget grew up in the Lawrence/Methuen area and attended the University of Massachusetts at Lowell where she majored in English and Legal Studies. In 2008, she received a Masters degree from John F. Kennedy in the San Francisco Bay area. She has an extensive Event Management background most recently working as Event Planner at Journeys of Hope Gala during Salem Haunted Happenings.

Kathie Clark, part-time PR & Communications

Kathie has worked for more than 17 years in marketing and public relations. She specializes in communication strategies, implementation and analysis for both the nonprofit and public sectors. She has extensive writing and editing experience, and will bring a social media presence to Lazarus House.

Recognition

Eveyn Quezada, Education Coordinator

received the HIV Caregiver Award sponsored by Merrimack Valley Health Education and the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center.

Fundraising Events & Grant Donations

The *Fienstein Foundation* will match a portion of all food and dollar donations received by Lazarus House between March 1 - April 30, 2010. Please consider a contribution during this time frame - ***The \$1 Million Dollar Challenge***. You can participate by: donating via our website, www.lazarushouse.org; donating food to our emergency shelter at 48 Holly Street; or send a check to Lazarus House Ministries, Inc., PO Box 408, Lawrence, MA 01842

XtraRefunds is having a weekend fundraiser on Saturday, March 26, 9 am - 5 pm, and Sunday, March 27, 12 - 5 pm at 102 Winthrop Street in Lawrence. A percentage of the fees for each tax return filed on these dates will be donated to Lazarus House. Call XtraRefunds at (978) 416-4107 to schedule an appointment or walk-in.

The Tewksbury Business Association is hosting a fundraising comedy night with Joey Voices on April 17, 2010 at 7:30 pm at the Tewksbury VFW. \$30 per ticket. Proceeds benefit Lazarus House.

Amelia Peabody Foundation	\$40,000
Winning Home, Inc.	\$40,000
Clipper Ship Foundation	\$15,000
Yvon Cormier Charitable Foundation	\$15,000
Demoulas Foundation	\$12,000
Margaret M. Collins Charitable Foundation	\$10,000
Joseph R. Levis Foundation	\$10,000
New Balance Foundation	\$10,000
Highland Street Foundation	\$10,000
Rodman Celebration for Kids	\$10,000