

House of Hope, Inc.
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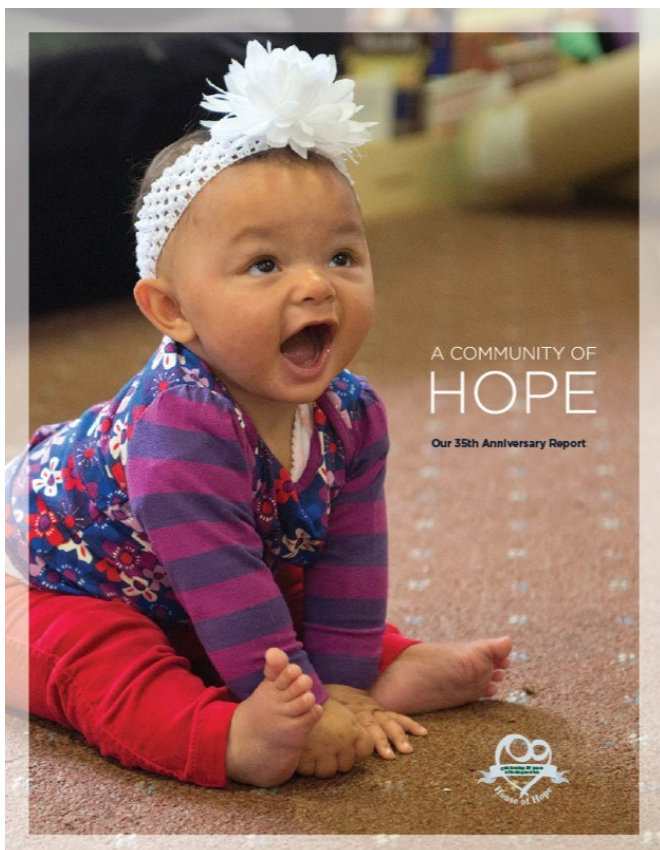
Fall/Winter 2021

Dear Friends and HOH Family,

It is my privilege to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And also, Hanukkah, Winter Solstice and Kwanzaa Greetings! So many winter celebrations depend upon the symbol of light as we muddle thru the long, dark and cold days of this season. For the families and employees at House of Hope your love, kindness and generosity covers us like a comforting blanket of snow throughout the year, and never are we more grateful than at Christmas. All of our families in shelter and in our housing will be supported with food, gift cards and toys. House of Hope's kindness is made possible by your compassion and generosity. Please continue to support us in any way that you can. Please pray for the safety of our staff and homeless families. And please stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,
Deb Chausse, Executive Director

THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY HARVEST OF HOPE



By the end of 2021, many of us hoped to be "back to normal" by now!

In lieu of gathering in person for a community celebration of House of Hope, we decided to publish an Anniversary Report to celebrate "35 Years of Harvesting Hope" on Thursday, October 28, 2021. This report shares our incredible experience with our community: our Harvests, history, community volunteerism, generous donors, corporate partners, foundations, state support, municipality support, and others who have helped us to reach our goal of serving over 90 families daily, resulting in shelter and permanent housing for thousands of families who have lost their homes over the years.

House of Hope first opened its doors on Christmas eve, December 24, 1985. That is how the story began, at a time when the nation struggled through a deep recession and homelessness exploded. Once perceived as an affliction of men with mental health and/or substance abuse issues, the trauma of homelessness now encompassed a different demographic—women and children.

House of Hope sent a hardcopy publication to all sponsors and event donors and now a digital presentation is available at our website at <https://houseofhopelowell.org/harvest-of-hope/> to celebrate the dedicated Harvest community who have brought success to House of Hope for 35 years. Check it out!

It is our hope that we created a publication that inspires you and furthers our shared passion, at a time when your help is so very needed.

ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR OUR KIDS!

It has been all hands on deck! House of Hope Housing has begun the holiday season distributing turkeys, gift cards, cleaning supplies, and many needed items to our tenants. Staff also celebrated with holiday themed crafts, snacks, and music with the tenants. All tenants were invited to bring their families to the community rooms located within our properties where staff provided "make your own turkey" magnets, a colorful leaf activity, as well as coloring supplies to make turkeys from tracing your hand! Staff and parents assisted the children in doing these crafts, with many parents doing their own crafts alongside their children. These gatherings proved to be a huge success with staff and families alike having a great time!



OUR UNSUNG HERO



Congratulations Marianne Staid, M. Ed. for winning the **Lowell Non Profit Alliance Unsung Hero Award!** The Award recognizes a staff member who possesses an unlimited amount of **compassion, energy, and positivity with a deep understanding and dedication to the mission of the organization.** Marianne has been with HOH for over 15 years and currently is

our Shelter Coordinator. Marianne has led and created 6-week parenting groups with a curriculum that focuses on educating parents on the early development needs of their children. Julie Lemire, Director of Operations, says "Marianne has an open door policy with everyone. She is a very easy person to talk with and always has great feedback, suggestions, and offers resolutions to tough cases we discuss."

She has a strong passion for the well-being of children, so she is lovingly called the "Mother of the Shelter".



THE HOPE CHEST

Each day we typically sell nearly 100 items! Come on down to shop! Our hours of operation are 11am - 5pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. **We are in need of boys clothing donations size 24 months and up through teens**, if you can donate, you can email edna.gustafson@houseofhopelowell.org to schedule an appointment to drop off your donation. We love your support! Follow us on Facebook! @HopeChestLowell.



HOH WINTER NEEDS LIST

For online shoppers, please go to House of Hope's easy

Amazon Wish List https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1NRN90BYY43ZP/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex or WALMART

LIST <https://www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood/welcome>. These gifts can be shipped directly to the shelter! Include your name & address so we can thank you!

Granola bars
Fruit snacks
Instant Mashed Potatoes
Individually wrapped bags of chips/cookies/crackers

Juice Boxes
Coffee
Cereal

Toilet paper
Paper towels
Toilet Bowl cleaner

Windex
Magic erasers
Boxes of tissues
Men's Deodorant

White dish towels
Full size bottles Hair conditioner
Men & Women's body wash
Women's Deodorant



Most needed Gift Cards for teens and parents are Walmart/Target/Market Basket/CVS/RiteAid/ Barnes & Noble/Dollar Tree/Five Below/VISA/Mastercard/Walgreens

For more information please email Edna at edna.gustafson@houseofhopelowell.org or call 978-458-2870.

One of the real joys of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to say "Thank You" and to wish you all the very best for the New Year!