

House of Hope, Inc.
812 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA. 01854

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House of Hope Newsletter

812 Merrimack Street, Lowell MA 01854

(978) 458-2870

www.houseofhopelowell.org

Spring/Summer 2021

Dear Friends,



**"HOPE is a verb
with it's sleeves
rolled up."**

- David Orr

HOUSE OF HOPE employees rolled up their sleeves:

- ◇ to put on their masks, wash their hands and lather them with hand sanitizer;
- ◇ to have their temperature taken when walking into any of our buildings;
- ◇ to go to work, to be present, to serve every day in a congregate care environment;
- ◇ to move furniture and repurpose space to create social distancing;
- ◇ to wash and sanitize frequently touched surfaces;
- ◇ to help our children with remote learning and safe play activities;
- ◇ to serve three meals a day, every day;
- ◇ to apply for and access every level of financial support possible; and
- ◇ to get vaccinated.

*House of Hope employees have been rolling up their sleeves and caring for our homeless families for 455 days of this pandemic and will continue to do so for as long as it takes. We have made **HOPE** a verb and I could not be more proud.*

Fondly,

Deb Chausse
Executive Director



**You are invited to the
32nd Annual Teal Invitational
Golf Tournament!**
Monday, July 19, 2021 8:30AM
Cost \$130

Four Oaks Country Club
Dracut, MA.
To Sponsor a Hole,
Donate a Prize or
Purchase a Foursome, email
mteal@bostoncapital.com
Before June 21, 2021



THE BET

"So, out of the blue, my six year old son, Landen, tells me he wants to help the homeless when he grows up," his mother, Ariaah said. "You don't have to wait until you're grown up to help those in need." Well Landen didn't believe his mother, so Ariaah made him a bet. She told him, "If you raise \$100, I will give you another \$100 to donate." He skeptically agreed.

Fundraising during a pandemic is a bit tricky, so Ariaah figured making a video for social media would be the safest and most effective way to do it. She took a very simple video recording of Landen asking for donations and telling people his goal. Within 1 hour he met that goal. He told his aunts, uncles and other family members, and word continued to spread. Needless to say, Landen was over the moon about the success of his fundraiser.

His mother said, "Landen chose House of Hope because he couldn't believe that HOH helped kids, too. He had no idea that kids could be without a home and I think that really struck a chord with him. We dropped off the \$570 check and the women who received it made him feel so great about what he did you could see it all over his face."

As they pulled out of the parking lot, Landen said "OK Mom, what can we do next to help people?!"



JOB READY!



As the oldest of 6 children, Amanda Cruz was used to being put to work in the kitchen. She started her Learn 2 Work Internship in April and next week she is hoping to achieve her ServSafe Certificate. She had worked in a restaurant before, but here she is learning more because she is working directly with our chef in a "scratch kitchen", so she is really learning how to cook from scratch. HOH's Learn 2 Work Internship Program is 3 months long and with a little help from Paul Dubuque, the Kitchen Manager/Instructor, she has a job lined up at the end of the internship!

According to Chef Paul, "Amanda is doing fabulously well because she has a great attitude and comes here every day ready to learn and ready to work."

Amanda's goal is to become a chef herself one day, "I want to be a chef, I'm artsy and I love fine dining".

April was also a big month for Amanda because she moved out of House of Hope shelter and into her 2-bedroom permanent apartment at one of our HOH Housing properties.

Amanda has 2 boys and they are in school and daycare while she works. Her oldest turned 9 years old recently and Amanda says, "He is happier and calmer now that he has his own home again, his own place." She is saving for a car now and her next goal is to get her license.

YOU MAKE HOPE HAPPEN!



A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all of the House of Hope supporters who have helped us to get through this COVID pandemic!

- City of Lowell ESG COVID Grant
- City of Lowell CDBG - COVID Round 2
- City of Lowell ESG - COVID Round 2

- Cummings Foundation
- DHCD HomeWorks Fund
- Eastern Bank Foundation
- Franklin Square House Foundation
- Greater Lowell Community Foundation:
- COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund
- Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund
- US SBA Paycheck Protection Program
- 100+ Women Who Care Metrowest Boston Fund

PLUS A BIG THANK YOU to all of the individual donors who have kept us going every day!



A smiling Camila, decorating pancakes during school vacation week

HOH NEEDS LIST

Tissue Boxes
Bleach
Juice Boxes

Granola Bars
Pudding & Jell-O cups
Fabric Shower curtains

New Lightweight Clothing (0-3 Months / 2T—5T Boys)
Book Lights
Bed Pillows

Individual bags of chips/pretzels/cookies/crackers
Market Basket Gift Cards

For online shoppers, please go to HOH's easy Amazon Wish List at <https://a.co/gKPsTp9> or WALMART LIST <https://www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood/welcom>. Please ship items directly to HOH at 520 Fletcher St, Lowell Ma 01854.

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

