

New Beginnings

Our house plans include much more than most.



A whole-way house.

Volume 2, Issue 1
December 2009

A Season for Caring

As we move into this season of giving, we at Summit House want to thank our *Friends of Summit House*, everyone who has been generous and helped support this valuable program in the past. We rely on donations from the community to provide the valuable services necessary to help change the lives of mothers and children.

The NC state budget crises has trickled-down and affected so many that are needy in our state. In past years, the NC General Assembly has generously appropriated close to 75% of the overall Summit House operating budget. This year that appropriation was cut 10%. This is still a very generous appropriation as most

other programs were cut 25% or much, much more.

Even with this incredible support, Summit House still needs to raise an additional \$210,000 this year. We are asking for your help.

Please consider making a donation to continue supporting this worthy cause. Every contribution will help Summit House con-

tinue to change the lives of mothers and children. You can use the form on page 4 to mail in your donation today; online donations can be made at summithouse.org.

Thank you so much. The families, staff and board of Summit House wish you and those you hold dear a happy holiday season and a healthy new year!!



Santa at Summit House

Luquire George Andrews Introducing the new face of Summit House

This is it!!! The new look of Summit House is unveiled! Thanks to the generosity of LGA and the design brilliance of the team assigned to Summit House, this new logo and tag line were created! They also created an incredible brochure that presents our program succinctly and beautifully.

This is an incredible gift of time, talent and pure genius! Our hats off and a round of applause for our design team!!



LGA Design Team from left to right: Steve Dunkley, Ashley Sherry, Jon Cain, Bobbi Adderton, Christine Eubanks, Margaret Bond. Not pictured: Katie Holden.

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January — December 2009

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Summit House Graduate Gives Back

Willie Pickens – called Dee by residents and staff – is a Summit House graduate of 1989. She embodies the success of the Summit House program with her ongoing sobriety and her personal achievements.

As she says, “When I came to Summit House, I felt like there was nothing left for me. My family had turned their backs on me and this was the last resort. Now, I was at Summit House because it was do this program or do time.”

Like many of our residents, Dee struggled with the demands of the Summit House program and the commitment it took to complete each phase.

“I thought that it would be easier to actually do the time, than to make all the changes in my life that they wanted me to make. It took me a while to figure out that Summit House was helping me, not hurting me, and that it was the best solution for me and my children.”

Once she dedicated herself to the program, Dee graduated and, while it wasn't all perfect from that point on, she persevered. “Summit House brought my family back together. It was a stepping stone back to my life. It was the best choice for me. And the best choice for my children,” said Dee.



Graduate continued page 5



“A Friend of Summit House” Annual Fundraising Campaign

A *Friend of Summit House* is a Very Important Partner! Our board and staff help raise critical funds through current and potential Friends of Summit House, like you! These critical funds keep vital programs and services available to families.

Friends of Summit House help: get abused mothers the treatment they need s feed families s provide transportation for education s provide diapers and baby needs s provide household essentials s keep families together s change women’s and children’s lives.

While at this residential, court-ordered program, the mother is serving time where she’s needed most...with her children. She has accepted the challenge necessary to turn her life around, to keep her children, and to avoid incarceration while completing this intensive, structured program. After graduation, Summit House mothers have a 93% success rate of staying out of prison; that compares very favorably to the state’s prison system rate of 64%.

Summit House: A Whole-Way House

The commitment from the board, staff, community, and most importantly, the Summit House families, is a whole-way, 360° commitment; nothing is done halfway. The Board commits time, personal finances, oversight, and individual resources. The staff’s commitment to success is exhibited in each member’s professionalism and empathy. The community commits to provide support and acceptance. As expected, the biggest commitment comes from the mothers and children in the program. They go the whole-way; anything less would result in the mothers going to prison and her children going to foster care, or to an unstable environment that will still cost taxpayer dollars. Requirements to graduate include: completing her high school education, a 12-step substance abuse treatment program, and life and parenting skills classes s obtaining a job that pays more than minimum wage s saving \$1,500 to help start her new life. Upon graduation, families move back into the community, becoming tax payers not tax spenders. Summit House has saved NC taxpayers over \$750,000 net annually. With the 2009-2010 North Carolina state budget cuts, this year’s actual net taxpayer savings could be well over \$1 million.

93% of Summit House graduates are productive, taxpaying citizens!

Summit House is a White House Presidential Award Winner

I would like to support Summit House with the following contribution:

“Friends of Summit House Wall” Nameplates

Family Nameplate \$2,000 Corporate Nameplate \$5,000

Name _____ Company _____

My gift is \$ _____ Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Contact Number _____ E-mail _____ Office Contact: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

General Campaign Giving Options:

- ___ \$15 a month ___ \$25 a month ___ \$50 per month ___ \$100 per month
- One Time Gift: \$ _____ enclosed (cash/check) Please make checks payable to Summit House
- Please send me an invoice for my pledge
- Please charge my credit card: ___ Monthly ___ One time

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ 3 digit code _____

Summit House Central Pmt Office: PO Box 13568, Greensboro, NC 27415, 336-375-9344

Donate online at www.summithouse.org





A whole-way house.

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Moms serving time where they're needed most...with their children

About Summit House

Summit House, a residential alternative-to-prison program for mothers convicted of a non-violent crime and their minor children, is a non-profit that serves all 100 North Carolina counties and saves state tax payers over \$1 million net annually. With locations in the Triangle*, Piedmont and Charlotte, Summit House empowers convicted mothers to break the multigenerational cycle of poverty, violence, and substance abuse that is their history, and to create a new life for themselves and their children. Summit House strives to keep families together by maximizing healthy bonding between mothers and children. The organization is committed to working with women who have the desire and dedication to change their lives through counseling, life and job skills training, and substance-abuse counseling, rather than sit out a prison sentence

More information about Summit House can be accessed through www.summithouse.org.

* The Triangle home is in transition to a new location

Joseph M. Bryan Foundation of Greater Greensboro

The Bryan Foundation graciously donated \$150,000 for the Summit House Piedmont's capital campaign to support the construction of the new facility which opened on January 8, 2008.

Founded in 1988, the Joseph M. Bryan Foundation of Greater Greensboro was funded by the late Joseph McKinley Bryan (February 11, 1896 - April 26, 1995) a prominent insurance executive, civic leader and renowned philanthropist.

The Bryan Foundation's mission is to invest the return on its \$100 million endowment back into the greater Greensboro area to promote economic, cultural and recreational enrichment, with a special interest in Bryan Park.

Former mayor for Greensboro, Jim Melvin is the president of the Bryan Foundation. He is joined by directors: businessman Michael Haley, developer H. Michael Weaver, attorney Carole Bruce, WFMY vice president Shirley Frye and leadership consultant David DeVries. All have demonstrated track records for distinguished community service.

Graduate continued from page 3

Now, clean and sober for 13 years and having raised her children, Dee is working while pursuing a degree in Substance Abuse Counseling at Forsythe Technical College. She lives in Winston-Salem, has a job in Raleigh and still finds time to come to the Piedmont Summit House to do her internship.

She is giving back to the program that has sustained her in her new life. She serves as a mentor to our current residents – someone who has actually walked a mile in their shoes. More importantly, she is someone who knows how hard it is to stay dedicated and committed to completing the rigorous Summit House program, because the children are worth the effort. And the results are a better life for mother and child. Dee is living proof.

Dee has two boys ages 29 and 25; her 25 year old was the child who was in the Summit House program with her. "Summit House made me a better parent. The program provided me with the structure that was missing in my life, and that provided my children with the structure they were missing, too. They realized after I graduated from the program that they could count on me...something they couldn't do before. They have graduated high school and are currently working part-time jobs."

Way to go Dee!!