

At Our Door News

Summer 2019

Meet Jennia...

A triumphant story of
how you allow us to serve
uniquely - one cherished
Guest at a time!
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Hello From Jeff

Our new Executive Director
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OPENING DOORS OUT OF POVERTY

A word from Jeff Hassel



*"Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, wellspring of the joy of living..."*

The lines from the hymn seem appropriate today as it is with joy that I put my fingers to the keyboard and write to you for the first time as the Executive Director of Lazarus House Ministries. In these pages, you will read of the ways we pull together to offer dignity, hope, and love to the people we serve. In addition to Jennia's story, I invite you to read the love story of John and Robin Rafferty and hear the voices of some of our staff as they describe their parts of the ministry. In the coming months and years, I look forward to getting to know you as we work side by side to serve God and our Guests. Thank you for your support of Lazarus House and I pray God continues to bless and guide this ministry!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JH', written in a cursive style.

Creative Giving; Loving Memory

John and Robin Rafferty were married for 23 years when Robin was diagnosed with cancer. She fought a hard 5-year battle but in January of 2016, John lost his beloved; his wife and best friend.

John and Robin had enjoyed donating and volunteering at Lazarus House during their 20 years

in Andover. Having no children of their own, they especially loved providing specially chosen gifts to families in the Project Bethlehem Program and to the Giving Tree through their parish, St Augustine's. This fond memory and a nudge from God is what gave John the courage to get up, get going and get creative. He was laser-focused on figuring out the best way to honor Robin's life while providing a substantial and ongoing gift to Lazarus House Ministries.

John came to us with two spectacular ideas. First, he set up a life insurance policy naming Lazarus House as the beneficiary. Second, he turned to his love of playing classical guitar. John is launching a website (musicandcharity.net) to showcase his music, offer his talent for events and produce CDs for sale with all proceeds to be donated to Lazarus House. He is turning his grief and cherished memories into something good for our Guests.

What a beautiful and generous way to honor Robin's memory. Thank you, John!

If you have questions about how you could support our Guests using creative financial ideas and planned giving methods, please contact us at giftplanning@lazarushouse.org



Facts & Faces From The Field



Kelley Granahan - Director of Development

Simply put, we couldn't offer our Guests any services if it weren't for the generosity and support of our donors. The goal of the Development Team is to invite people to become part of the miracle that is Lazarus House and join us in serving God's people through their gifts of time, talent and treasure. We are beyond grateful for the thousands of donors and volunteers who stand alongside us as we serve those in need. THANK YOU!!!

Miguel Cruz - Program Director of Community Services

"Soup Kitchen" is an understatement! Because of you we offer so much more out of this humble space: hot meals, take-home meals, showers, insurance and nursing services, community resource guidance, and personal care items available to those in need. We have healthier and tastier meal offerings due to our new freezer, more volunteers and gifts of varied spices (an expensive luxury). Future gifts will allow us to replace the worn out floors and upgrade our kitchen facilities. Thank YOU.



Linda Vincent - Work Preparation Program Coordinator

Our Education and Work Preparation Programs meet our Guests where they are and prepare them to enter the work force. We taught 89 Guests last year. Many graduates were welcomed into companies for internships thanks to the engagement of our local business community. We offer English & sewing classes (including one for Guests with special needs), Spark*L.E. cleaning training, and our culinary program. Our most recent culinary graduates made the STEPPING OUT page in the Lawrence Eagle-Tribune!! Thank you for funding these programs!

Almarie Silverman - Director of Advocacy

You provide so much more than shelter; You provide a home and a robust system of care that leads our Guests to their own success stories. A roof and food are necessary for survival but because of your generosity we offer experiences that help families to thrive and create healthy habits: field trips, budgeting classes, safe spaces to develop friendships, community resources, mental health awareness, and parenting skills training. You allow us to be channels of your love and goodness.



J.C. McGuire - Thrift Store Coordinator

Our thrift store shopping experience offers our Guests freedom of choice and seasonally-appropriate clothing – both luxuries to those struggling with poverty. Lazarus House reports over \$4 million dollars in in-kind donations, but we want you to know that each and every transaction is a face-to-face encounter with one of our staff; caring, smiling, knowing and serving. That is the real gift you provide every single time you donate clothing or household goods. Thank you for that opportunity!

Ken Campbell - Food Services Coordinator

Over 750 families grocery shop each week in our store-like setting giving each Guest the privilege of choice – something that's hard to come by for those materially poor and homeless. This is impressive and only and all because of YOU and the generous food donations we receive. What your generosity also offers is love and care. You see, our food pantry team know many of our Guests by name, know their stories, their victories and struggles. They know when there is a new Guest in line and offer welcome and a smile of understanding.



Follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/Lazarus.House.Ministries/)



Follow us on Instagram (www.instagram.com/lazarushouseinc/)



Lazarus House Ministries Website (www.lazarushouse.org)



See our Amazon Wish List (www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/GWW5M1CUIW00)



Text to Give (Coming Soon)

St. Nicholas Residence



Welcome to St. Nicholas Residence – our newest family transitional housing program provided by the generous donors of the Campaign for Dignity. This 6-unit program will allow us to provide families with the safety and stability they need to focus on their careers, strengthen their families, educate themselves and build a successful life with our advocates right alongside to tend to their unique and individual needs. This beautiful space will also house our Project Bethlehem Program.

Merry Christmas! 🌲

GARDEN OF HOPE

As a result of your enthusiasm about the Garden of Hope Project honoring the legacy of Bridget Shaheen, we have extended the deadline to donate a brick to **SATURDAY, AUGUST 31**

Our Garden of Hope will be a daily visual reminder to our guests that they have an entire community of people who support them, love them and are walking alongside them on their journey.

www.lazarushouse.org/donate/bridget/

In Unexpected Milestone

When 18-year old high school senior Jennia came to us in the early days of February 2019, she had a lot on her plate. Homeless and suffering the effects of trauma, she needed our welcome, our care, our guidance and our help. Our advocates offered support and encouragement. She heard, maybe for the first time, that she mattered. That she had a voice in her own health and care. That she had the fortitude to make difficult changes. As she began to feel safe and focused, she turned to earning her high school diploma. Before she knew it, she found herself in the flurry of prom season. Without a doubt she **knew** that in her situation she would, of course, be unable to attend this rite of passage celebration for high school seniors. Costs, making arrangements and the lack of opportunity seemed insurmountable.



But then do you know what happened? YOU!

YOU happened – a miraculous gathering of kindness, talent, love and care came together quickly to launch this beautiful young lady into the princess experience prom can be including hair, makeup, shoes, jewelry, caring adults, red dress and all!



Jennia will, of course, be included in our lists and statistics of “those served” but PLEASE KNOW that your spirit of generosity and donations allowed us to take the time to meet her where she was and serve her personally. You provide that for each Guest, **one at a time – individually - meeting unique and complicated needs.**

Special Thanks to Mary Luz at Salon Mii for hair and make-up, and YOU who allowed the Lazarus House team to share the love of God with this cherished young woman!



**Kids
FUN RUN
kicks off at
noon!**



Please join us for our 20th Annual **LAZARUS HIKE** for **HOUSE HOPE**

Fighting poverty one step at a time!

Sunday, September 29, 2019

Registration 11:00 a.m.

Kids' Fun Run 12 noon

5k Walk 1 p.m.

The Park on Bartlet Street, Andover



2019 Premier Sponsor

www.hikeforhope.org

WHERE

The Hike for Hope will begin and end at The Park on Bartlet Street in Andover.

HOW

Register

Visit www.hikeforhope.org

Be a Team Leader

There is strength in numbers! You can register to walk as a family, school, service provider, faith group or corporate team.

Volunteer

We can use your help on Hike day from set-up to clean-up and everything in between! Contact us at volunteers@lazarushouse.org.

Sponsor

Consider becoming a sponsor and receive benefits and exposure in the local community while making a difference. Contact keith@lazarushouse.org

WHY

Funds raised from your participation will provide food, shelter, clothing, advocacy, education, work preparation, a listening ear, a welcoming heart and the restoration of dignity and self-respect to people who are materially poor and in dire need.

WHAT

A 3-mile fundraising walk through the picturesque streets of Andover that raises much needed funds for the people served by Lazarus House.

The Kids' FUN RUN kicks off at noon and after the Hike there will fun activities for the entire family including food, face painting, music, entertainment and more!!!

Your Donation

The Impact of

\$4,500 helps fund one month of housing, meals, and advocacy for a mother and two children in our emergency shelter.

\$3,500 assists us as we provide a 10-week culinary training internship to gain essential on-the-job training.

\$1,500 allows us to prepare 350 meals at the Good Shepherd Soup Kitchen.

\$500 helps to support our financial literacy program.

\$200 helps us to open our emergency overnight winter shelter and invite our homeless neighbors to come in out of the cold.

\$100 enables our truck to pick up large food donations, benefiting all areas of the ministry.

Become a Fundraiser for Lazarus House

It's Easy...

It takes just minutes to create your own personalized fundraising page. This page sets the stage to let everyone know why you support Lazarus House.

Where to Start. Once you have completed your registration for the 2019 Hike, click on the provided link, create your own personal page and you can start fundraising right away.

We Can Assist. If you need help along the way, we are here to assist you! You can either call Eileen at 978-269-5222 or email at events@lazarushouse.org.

There is also valuable online help through the Participant Center at

<http://help.akaraisin.com/help/English/Overview/Default.aspx>



Fundraising Tips

1. Set a Goal.

Consider how much you can raise.

2. Ask Family, Friends & Colleagues

Visit, call, text, write a letter or send an email asking for a donation to help reach your goal.

3. Raise Funds Online

Visit www.hikeforhope.org to promote your personal goal, send out emails and link your fundraising page to Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. This provides a convenient way for your friends and family to help you reach your goal.

4. Collect Matching Gifts

Ask your employer about matching gifts and ask donors if their employers have matching gift programs.



Hike For Hope T-Shirt Contest

Our Hike for Hope committee has an almost impossible decision to make!! We received hundreds of absolutely beautiful, artistic and heartfelt designs that demonstrate the theme "It's Cool to Care". They will have to choose just one design to don the OFFICIAL 2019 HIKE T-SHIRT, but we will be featuring all the artwork throughout August and September on social media [#soyoungsuchimpact](https://www.instagram.com/soyoungsuchimpact), and at the Hike for Hope on September 29th.

Note: these 3 *RANDOMLY SELECTED* designs represent the incredible originality and artistry demonstrated by local elementary school kids. They may or may not be finalists for the official Hike for Hope 2019 T-Shirt design.

Bridget Shaheen's Retirement Celebration

June 13, 2019



We honored the 36-year legacy of love Bridget has brought to Lazarus House. Thank you for being with us in person or spirit as we celebrated what God has done through Bridget and this Ministry and what He will continue to do for our Guests.



"In a world so torn apart by rivalry, anger and hatred, we have the privileged vocation to be living signs of love that can bridge all divisions and heal all wounds"
- Henri Nouwen



Thank you to all of our donors, supporters and volunteers for continuing the good work of Lazarus House in the decades to come, building on the foundation God allowed Bridget to build here.



We serve THOUSANDS; ONE at a TIME

While we have hundreds of statistics that point to the thousands of people we serve annually, the reality is that they are served one at a time, with dignity, and uniquely addressed, by name, to meet their very personal needs. Thank YOU for caring for each one of them.



Lazarus House Ministries' 24th Annual
Drive for Dignity **Golf Tournament**

Thanks to everyone who played golf, attended dinner and gave generously to help our struggling neighbors in the Merrimack Valley.

Special thanks go to our Premier Sponsor:
Tuscan Brands.

Joe, your goodness in supporting Lazarus House is appreciated by all of us – especially our Guests!



OPENING DOORS OUT OF POVERTY

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A Week In The Life...Provided by YOU!

Good Shepherd Soup Kitchen 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 The week begins at Lazarus House!	 Breakfast is served!	 Breakfast is Served!	 Breakfast is served!	 Breakfast is served!
 Breakfast is Served!	 Taco Bell Tuesday Lunch is served!	 Hot Lunch is served!	 Hot Lunch is served!	 Hot Lunch is served!
 Hot Lunch is Served!	 Eliot Homeless Services is on-site.	 Hot Showers are available during Breakfast.	 Eliot Homeless Services is on-site.	 Hot Showers are available during Breakfast.
 Hot Showers are available during Breakfast.	 Senior Whole Health agent is on-site.	 G.L.F.H.C. Nurse is on-site during Lunch.		 Barber is on-site during Breakfast.

Because of your generosity, personal items, feminine products, diapers, thrift store vouchers, advocacy, and other services are available to our cherished Guests at the Good Shepherd Center.

Note: Some images in this Newsletter are stock images used to protect the identities of our Guests.