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GOLDEN HOUSE

WINTER 2007

A Newer Golden House

Golden House is now a 14-year-old facility that has sheltered thousands of individuals in need of our assistance. Yet the wear and tear on our facility has made it necessary to do some remodeling, and thanks to generous financial and in-kind donations from area businesses and individuals, the shelter is now safer, cleaner, and more comfortable for residents.

The Hometown Huddle, an NFL/United Way partnership that works with non-profit organizations in the area to assist in any way they can, chose Golden House as a recipient this past October. The Green Bay Packer organization, United Way and the Challenge Academy of Fort McCoy, WI made it possible to redo the backyard and playground area of Golden House.

Thanks to their hard work and donations from Wisconsin Log Homes, Taylor Creek, Peters Construction, AAA Sanitation, and Toys R Us, the area has been transformed with new woodchips, cement, patio furniture, benches, and new toys for the children at the shelter. We are so incredibly grateful for United Way and the Packers' commitment and dedication to Golden House.

Golden House also has increased the safety of the women and children in the shelter by surrounding our backyard with a security fence and gate that has been long needed. Much thanks to Schreiber Foods, The Green Bay Packers, and Catholic Charities for their generosity.

There have been many renovations inside Golden House as well. Thank you to Paula Cummings from WG&R, who worked with Golden House to provide new dining room tables and chairs, living room tables, lamps, couches and chairs, bedroom dressers, beds and bunk beds, and reception area chairs, tables, and lamps. They also donated artwork to hang on the walls to give the shelter a homier feel.

Individuals that helped with the financial cost of this donation include:

George F. Kress Foundation
Jack & Engrid Meng
Cornerstone Foundation of Northeastern Wisconsin
Joseph & Sarah Van Drisse Charitable Trust
Robert T. & Betty Rose-Meyer Family Foundation
Paul & Dede Greene
Tom and Jan Krautkramer Family Fund

Donald J. Long Sr. & Darlene Long
Baylake Bank
K.C. Stock Foundation
Marti and Gary Ziegelbauer
Tom and Sharon Lutsey
Tom and Susan Olmsted

Golden House also received new flooring surfaces as a gift last Christmas from Mr. Ed Martin from HJ Martin & Sons. Through this incredible donation, we were able to replace flooring surfaces with tile and/or carpeting in our children's support group rooms, shelter offices and our reception area.

Financial assistance for the installation of the flooring was a gift from Pioneer Credit Union.

We could not be more grateful for the incredible generosity of this community for their amazing gifts. Because of them, our residents now have a home-away-from-home, rather than simply a place to stay.

Volunteers Needed: Helpline & Maintenance

Golden House is in need of dedicated, reliable individuals to volunteer at the shelter.

Helpline Volunteers – time commitment of 3 hours per week; involves taking crisis calls from victims in domestic violence relationships who need an understanding ear. Training is provided.

Maintenance Volunteers – time commitment of 1-3 hours per week; involves fixing every-day things at the shelter such as screens, windows, door knobs, handles, shelves, etc.

If you feel as though you might like to volunteer your time, please call Amy Helgren at (920) 435-0100. You may also fill out a volunteer application at our website, www.goldenhousegb.org, under Volunteering. Thank you!

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Golden Harvest Ball

When: Friday November 9th, 2007
Where: The Riverside Ballroom
Ticket Prices: \$40 in advance, \$45 at the door
Reserved Table Prices: \$320 for 8, and \$400 for 10
Semi Formal/Formal dress

On Friday November 9th, 2007 Golden House will hold its eighth annual Golden Harvest Ball at the Riverside Ballroom in Green Bay. This will be an elegant evening of dancing, ballroom dancing lessons, hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, and a beautiful lock-box jewelry item donated by Rummele's Jewelers, all while supporting a wonderful cause.

All proceeds from this event will go directly to Golden House, which provides shelter, advocacy, education, and support to families affected by violence in their homes. The success of the ball continues to grow every year — last year Golden House raised over \$35,000 with nearly 500 attendees!

The evening begins at 6:00 p.m., with free dance lessons from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., and music and dancing from 8:00 p.m. until midnight. Music will be provided by Bruce Marshall of Bruce Marshall's Dance Club.

If you have a group of eight or more interested in attending, you may wish to consider sponsoring a table. Ticket prices are \$40 in advance and \$45 at the door; Reserved Table prices are \$320 for 8, and \$400 for 10.

For more information, please feel free to contact Amy at (920) 435-0100, or by email at: amyh@goldenhousegb.org

Phone-A-Thon Success

Because of the dedication of several volunteers and thousands of generous families in snowy February and stormy April, Golden House's Annual Phone-a-thon has made over \$40,000 and counting. The poor weather did nothing to diminish the spirits of our hard-working volunteers from around the area. They worked hard to ensure that Golden House met its goal of \$40,000, making over half of that in one night!

We would also like to thank those of you who contributed to our annual Phone-a-thon; your monetary gifts go directly to Golden House's operating budget to provide the shelter with heat, water, electricity, and food, as well as to provide safety and advocacy programs to victims of domestic violence, which they utilize to help them in living a violence-free life. We couldn't do this without you!

Jane Landwehr, Volunteer of the Year

We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to this year's recipient of The Adult Wisconsin Public Service Volunteer of the Year award, Jane Landwehr.

Golden House would not be what it is today without the hard work and selflessness shown every Wednesday afternoon by Jane. Her volunteer work allows full-time staff to better meet the needs of victims at the shelter.

Golden House can shelter 40 women and children, and they all need our help. These individuals need safety for themselves and for their children. They need to know that when they call Golden House, a friendly ear and a kind voice will answer. They need to know that they have options, and do not need to stay in an abusive relationship. Jane helps these women gain control of their own lives, and helps them grow into strong, healthy people who no longer let abuse control their lives.

As a Wednesday afternoon volunteer, Jane covers "Shelter Central," or the hub of all that goes on at the shelter. She takes Helpline calls from victims who need someone to talk to, victims who need a safe place to stay, and friends and relatives concerned for a family member's well being. She will go to court with a victim just to hold their hand. She does simple office work if the phones aren't ringing. She helps with many of our fundraisers, and always does so with a smile and a story to tell.

Jane has helped victims get restraining orders, and has served countless victims of domestic violence in Brown County and the surrounding area. In 1980, Jane was a member of the Brown County Task force. She then joined other women to become one of the first Helpline Counselors for the Brown County area. From there, she was instrumental in seeking out funding for a shelter, and in 1981, the Family Violence Center, now Golden House, began.

Jane's creativity and motivation make her a favorite at Golden House. Whether it's a small token of appreciation for a shelter resident that had done something well, or a cheesecake she baked for the staff and residents, her kindness and generosity know no bounds. Because of Jane's dedication, and as a result of this award, Golden House received a \$500 check to help victims of domestic violence at the shelter.

We cannot say thank you enough to Jane for all her time, hard work, and commitment to Golden House for the past 27 years!

Freedom Ride Success

Golden House would like to thank all involved in this year's Freedom Ride on July 28th, 2007. This year's ride was a huge success and we could not have accomplished it without the help of Fire and Iron, The Blue Knights, area businesses, and of course our riders.

The weather was beautiful, and over 85 riders participated in the event, traveling through Sturgeon Bay and along Lake Michigan, finishing with a live auction and raffle drawing at Sideline's Bar and Grill in Ashwaubenon. This year, the Freedom Ride raised \$9,000 for Golden House, which is almost \$3,000 more than last year! 100% of the money that we received from the ride will be used to provide services for victims of domestic violence.

Community support is essential to the existence of Golden House. Through your support of our agency, whether it is volunteer time, monetary donations, or raffle/silent auction items, we are able to continue our support groups, increase community awareness, and continue to assist domestic violence victims in need.

Thank you for your part in helping to end domestic violence in our community.

We would like to express once again our deep appreciation for your support in making the Golden House Freedom Ride a success.