

SUPPORT AND SHELTER FOR OVERCOMING HOMELESSNESS

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Update on Housing Success

ARTICLE BY: MATTHEW M. MINKEVITCH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

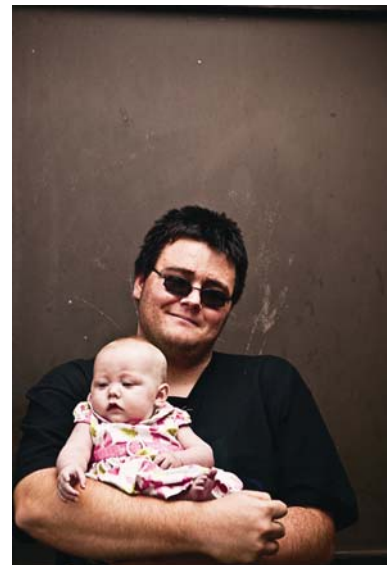
Our work continues, and our team continues to improve our efficiency to meet the growing demand.

First, the statewide effort to eliminate chronic homelessness has made promising advances over the course of the past two years: chronic homelessness statewide has declined by 52%. This achievement is due to the number of new housing opportunities that agencies like the Housing Authorities of Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County have produced in order to meet this need.

The Road Home's development of Palmer Court has also reduced the number of men and women who have for years turned to our shelter as their permanent housing destination.

It has been so inspiring to witness the exodus of men and women, with whom we have worked for so long, moving from shelter to housing; from alienation toward hope and inclusion. Men and women now with an apartment that they can call their own, for which they have worked so diligently to secure, now have woven themselves back into the fabric of our community. People have found new

sources of income, and are also volunteering at a variety of agencies throughout our community.



There exists a sense of belonging in these housing developments that in spite of our best efforts, we could never re-create in a shelter setting. With the development of permanent housing with supportive services, our state is moving in the right direction; we look forward to creating more housing opportunities in the days ahead.

(Continued on next page)

QUICK FACT »

How many volunteers give time and talent to The Road Home?

- Last year, the Road Home welcomed over 7,000 volunteers to our team!
- Volunteers new to the Road Home can participate in one-time group opportunities, or commit to ongoing individual activities for a longer period of time. Ten popular volunteer activities can be found at The Road Home's website: www.theroadhome.org/tenideas

Visit www.theroadhome.org/volunteer to learn about volunteer activities, read volunteer news, and sign up for our volunteer orientation. For questions, contact Ashley Farmer, Volunteer Coordinator, at 801-819-7298 or AFarmer@theroadhome.org.

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Secondly, our agency has enjoyed promising success in our efforts to address the deluge of families that have turned to us over the course of this economic downturn. Over the past two years, more families than ever before in our history have turned to us.

Thanks to the help of government entities at all levels, our Rapid Rehousing program, coupled with favorable vacancy rates throughout the county, has accelerated the rate at which a family can move off of the street and into an apartment, thereby minimizing the nights they need to spend in our shelter. From an average length of stay of over 100 nights several years ago, families now spend fewer than 40 nights at The Road Home before moving into housing.

We are encouraged by our progress, and acknowledge 40 nights is still too many nights in homelessness. Still, we continue to move in the right direction as we help families move out of shelter and into housing.

Thanks to our community's effort to provide housing opportunities to people experiencing chronic homelessness, coupled with rapid rehousing efforts to help reduce the amount of time it takes for families to emerge from homelessness, our agency has never been more effective in delivering emergency shelter and housing services to a historic number of people in need.

We are here to help because you are with us in support. It is a partnership that has saved lives and eased the suffering of thousands of people. On behalf of the dedicated team here at The Road Home, including the multitudes you have helped us to serve, I want to thank you for this privilege.

Sincerely,

Matthew M. Minkevitch
Executive Director, The Road Home

Volunteer Spotlight: Salt Lake City Police Dept.

Sergeant Jon Wallace of the Salt Lake City Police Department was recently recognized by [Molina Healthcare of Utah](#) for his outstanding volunteer work with children of The Road Home.

This past year, Wallace and his squad arranged activities for children residing with their families at The Road Home. The goal was to build a relationship with the youth and give back to the community.

Initially, the squad and children worked at The Road Home on crafts and small activities, such as playing games. Through the generosity of many groups in the community, the squad was able to take the kids to Hogle Zoo, Disney on Ice, and Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. These activities gave many of the children the opportunity to do things they had never done before.

As a result of these activities, the children have built trust and created friendships with the officers. When officers go inside the homeless shelter, it is not uncommon for them to get a hug from a child or hear a thank you from a parent!

Thanks to each squad member: Sergeant Jon Wallace, Officers Andrew Pedersen, Brandon R. Hopkins, Billy A. Manzanares, Adam Nicolaysen, Kris Jeppsen, Eric R. Moutsos, Ammon Mauga, and Michael Cardwell.



THE ROAD HOME MISSION »

The mission of The Road Home is to help people step out of homelessness and back into our community. We have a wide variety of programs that provide services to individuals and families:

HOUSING PROGRAM

Our approach is to get clients into well-matched housing options as quickly as possible after they come to the shelter. We then work with them to help them sustain their new housing.

SHELTER

Throughout the year, The Road Home's main shelter facility operates at maximum capacity with a waiting list for each program.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

Some individuals and families face a harder road from shelter to housing. This program utilizes case managers to address challenges.

CENTRAL INTAKE & ASSISTANCE OFFICE

This office matches each client with needs such as clothing or social services.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Homelessness is hardest on children. The Road Home works with local agencies to create a stress-free environment for the children living in the shelter.

PALMER COURT

In 2009, Palmer Court, a permanent supportive housing development, was completed. Now filled to capacity, Palmer Court provides affordable apartments for families and individuals emerging from homelessness.

Program Spotlight:

Community Winter Shelter

ARTICLE BY: MICHELLE TSCHETTER, CLINICAL DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

The need for services we provide increases when the weather turns cold. From November to April, The Road Home operates the Community Winter Shelter located in Midvale.

Our main shelter facility is located downtown and is always filled to capacity. The Community Winter Shelter serves as our primary emergency shelter and provides a warm, safe place for individual and families. This program helps ensure anyone who seeks shelter during the winter months will be provided a place to stay.

This past winter, the Community Winter Shelter operated from October 26, 2009 – April 1, 2010. There were a total of 257 families who stayed at the Community Winter Shelter. This growth represents a 35% increase compared to the 2008-2009 season.

Over the last two years, the number of families staying at the Community Winter Shelter has increased 65%. The number of shelter nights utilized by families this year at the Community Winter Shelter increased 19%, for a total of 22,298 nights.

The following departments at The Road Home went above and beyond this past winter to help this program run successfully:

- **Community Winter Shelter Staff:** Thanks to the efforts of the staff at the Community Winter Shelter, we were able to give shelter to every family who turned to us. The two case managers at Midvale did an excellent job of managing the vast amount of families. With the addition of Homeless Prevention Rapid Rehousing supplemental funding, these two case managers were able to move 111 families into housing during the season.



- **Shelters:** The Shelters team at The Road Home did an excellent job of preparing for each family's transition from the Community Winter Shelter to the downtown shelter.
- **Services:** When the Community Winter Shelter closed for the season, The Road Home's Services team helped move the remaining 24 families and their belongings to the crisis shelter downtown. Because of the dramatic increase in the number of families turning to us for shelter, we feared we may need to utilize every possible inch of the shelter to accommodate. However, we are happy to report no families slept in the lobby on the night of April 1.
- **Operations:** This past winter, we saw quick turnover of rooms at the shelter. Our Operations and Maintenance staff worked overtime to turn the rooms downtown over as fast as possible. Thanks to this team, the 24 families remaining at the Community Winter Shelter in April moved into a room at the shelter swiftly.
- **Rapid Rehousing:** The Road Home's Rapid Rehousing team went above and beyond the call of duty to move 12 families into housing the last week of March. Thanks to them, these 12 families were not staying in crisis shelter downtown after the Community Winter Shelter closed for the season.

Only through generous financial contributions and community support can we continue the Community Winter Shelter program. We are thankful to individuals, families, local businesses, and other supporters for their financial support of this program.

To learn more about the Community Winter Shelter, please visit us online at www.theroadhome.org/ProgramsAndPartnerships

The Road Home Invited to Guest Blog

In May, The Road Home was invited to partner with the [NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS](#) by writing a guest blog post for the organization's popular blog.

The blog post was titled "A Transforming Time: Rapid Re-Housing in Salt Lake City", and discussed the The Road Home's Rapid Rehousing Program. This partnership provided The Road Home



with an opportunity to share this program with advocates and agencies across the nation!

The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a leading voice on the issue of homelessness. The Alliance analyzes policy and works to develop pragmatic, cost-effective policy solutions. The Alliance works collaboratively with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to build state and local capacity, leading to stronger programs and policies that help communities achieve their goal of ending homelessness.

Learn more about our Rapid Rehousing Program and see the guest blog post at <http://tinyurl.com/RapidRehousing>

Event Update:

The 10th Annual One by One Breakfast

ARTICLE BY: BENITA FLORES, DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

On Tuesday, May 4, 2010, The Road Home hosted our Tenth Annual One By One Breakfast at the Little America Hotel. The breakfast highlighted the work of The Road Home and featured a client success story.

The theme of the breakfast was "A LEGACY OF GIVING," and the event raised over \$80,000. All of the funds raised will go directly to the programs and services provided by The Road Home.

We would like to thank those who made this event a huge success:

• **WELLS FARGO** Special thanks to our event sponsor Wells Fargo, who have generously sponsored this breakfast since its inception ten years ago.



• **PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS** Thank you to Pamela Atkinson, Jenny Brudin, Steve Eliason, and Daela Taeolii-Higgs, who participated in the program. We would also like to thank McCann Erickson and Impatient Cow for creating our breakfast video and to Shaquanna Johnson and all residents who shared their stories with us.

McCann Erickson



• **BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF** Thank you Board Members and staff who dedicate their time and energy to The Road Home and our mission.



• **TABLE CAPTAINS** Finally, we could not have done this event without the following table captains:

- American Express/Scott Godderidge
- Ashlee Christofferson
- Betsy and Dave Folland
- Blaine Walker
- Bob Allen
- Bob Hyde
- Brandt Goble
- Brenda Koga
- Daela Taeolii-Higgs
- Division of Housing and Community Development
- Doug Duehlmeier
- Evelyn Lee
- Faye Keller
- Fay and Hannah Losser
- Gloria Gustin
- Hilea Walker
- Inclusion Center/ Kilo Zamora
- Inwest Title Services/Melissa Miller
- Jeff Lewis
- Kerry Steadman
- Kirt Garrett
- Lai Davies
- Leslie Kindred
- Marcela Rodriguez
- Margrit Schneider
- Matt Minkevitch
- Michelle Flynn
- Mieshka Madlang
- Mike Deaver
- Pat Schulze
- Paul Christenson
- Paul Craig
- Paul Neuenschwander
- Ray Whitney
- Richard Fetzer
- Rob Brough
- Rob Perry
- Salt Lake Police Department
- Sarah Kurrus
- Sharron Horsey
- Steven Eliason
- Twinkle Chisholm
- Utah AFL-CIO/Judy Barnett
- Vaughn McDonald
- Wells Fargo/Johnny Beck
- Willie Hayden

Volunteer News

ARTICLE BY: ASHLEY FARMER, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

- Salt Lake City Police Chief Chris Burbank led the [SALT LAKE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT](#) in a clothing drive to benefit the residents at The Road Home. On March 12, Chief Burbank and members of his team brought gently used uniforms down to the shelter to pass out and assist residents. The clothing is incredibly durable and will last through just about anything. Thank you to the SLCPD for their continuous support of The Road Home!

- Thank you to the [LARRY H. MILLER GROUP OF COMPANIES](#). Over 350 volunteers arrived at the downtown shelter, overflow winter shelter, and Palmer Court to do beautification projects on April 14. They gardened, painted, and cleaned - and did an awesome job!

- On April 24, Road Home Board member, Sharron Horsey, hosted [HEALS FOR HEALING](#), a 10K run/walk at Sunrise Metro. The event raised money for the Healing Garden at Sunrise in memory of those who have passed away. Residents from Sunrise Metro also participated in the 10K to show support for their neighbors and friends. One man even walked 6 laps with a cane. Thank you Sharron for helping make this community even stronger!

SUCCESS STORY: Rachel

At The Road Home, we witness success stories daily. One such success is the story of Rachel*.

Rachel is a 64 year old woman who has struggled with schizophrenia since her early 20's. She spent much of her adult life on the streets.

In 2005, she was housed through [Pathways to Housing](#). The Pathways program offers permanent housing to homeless individuals with psychiatric and physical disabilities. Pathways is unique in that it does not require residents to be "graduated" from other transitional programs, sobriety, or acceptance of supportive services. The program uses Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams to deliver services to clients in their homes. The ACT teams help clients to meet basic needs, enhance quality of life, increase social skills, and increase employment opportunities.

Since housed through Pathways, we have seen a dramatic shift in Rachel. For the first few months, Rachel avoided other residents and staff, but has slowly become more comfortable talking to on-site case managers and participating in a few activities.

In the past, Rachel's mental stability impacted her daily life to the point where, due to her delusional fears, she would not open her door to anyone and let her apartment become uninhabitable. Today, Rachel opens the door whenever her Pathways case manager visits and is making an effort to keep her apartment clean and in good condition.

*Names have been changed to protect the privacy of clients.

THE ROAD HOME'S UPCOMING EVENT »

September 15, 2010:
GREAT SALT LAKE CHILI AFFAIR

Salt Palace Convention Center
100 South West Temple
Salt Lake City
Event begins at 5:30 p.m.

The Chili Affair is the largest fundraising event for the shelter. This year's theme is "Chili Carnival." Local chefs prepare and serve chili, as well as salads, breads and desserts. We have both a silent auction and live entertainment. Approximately 1,200 people attended this event last year which raised over \$150,000.

We are currently seeking volunteers for our planning committees as well as auction items and corporate sponsorships. For more information, contact Benita Flores in our Development Office at 801-819-7297, or via email at bflores@theroadhome.org.

GIVE A LEGACY GIFT »

What legacy will you leave? For many of us, there is a compelling need to make a difference and lasting impact to the people and places most dear to us.

There are a variety of ways to plan for your loved ones and community with a will or living trust. Learn how you can make a legacy gift to The Road Home! Contact the Development Office at 801-359-4142.



THE ROAD HOME'S URGENT NEEDS LIST »

The following items are of the greatest need:

- Bath Size Towels
- Gift Cards
- Blankets (twin size)
- Pillows
- Diapers
- Socks (for all ages)

To view our full donation needs list, visit us online
www.theroadhome.org