

Warming Center News

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

JUNE 2011

Friends help friends through the MCWC Peer Support program

Some people are just looking for a handout but Andrew Hill thinks they should be looking for a job ... and he can tell them where to go for help.

When he walked through the doors of the Ray of Hope Center in January this year, he was "almost homeless" and unemployed. He had lost his driver's license and he was struggling with a past drug addiction.

Then he met Kathy Goodrich, director of the Macomb County Warming Center.

"She looked me square in the eye and said 'You'd better follow through,'" he remembered. "I told her I'd never miss a meeting and I'd help out all I could."

He kept his word by attending Peer Support meetings every Wednesday.

Now, he is clean and sober. He has a place of his own and he is employed by Shamrock Cab Company in Roseville. His employer supports the program and makes sure Andrew's schedule doesn't conflict with meetings.

His goal is to pay his past debts and save up enough money to buy a car.

"It all takes time," he



Andrew Hill joined a Peer Support group in January. He's now employed at Shamrock Cab and has his own place to stay.

said. When he first started attending Peer Support meetings, others shared useful information with him. Now, he's helping newcomers find their way.

"I tell them to just follow all the rules and meet the requirements," he said.

He keeps his eyes open for job postings and shares the information with those who are out of work. It's his way of paying back the help others gave to him.

"People helped me get through everything," he said. "I'm a living example: If you try, things can work out.

"Life couldn't be better!"

The Warming Center is accepting applications for the Peer Support Group

Program. This is a unique program specially designed for highly motivated homeless adults, including those without a permanent address, who are sober, able to work and need some assistance to get back into life. Groups meet weekly with a moderator and set specific goals for improvement.

The program offers considerable assistance, including financial, for serious-minded applicants.

"Please refer any individuals you think would fit our qualifications," said Goodrich.

You can contact her at (586) 321-0998 or kmac0212@wowway.com.

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Open House set for July 7

Last year, the Ray of Hope Day Center moved to a new location at 16546 Nine Mile in Eastpointe.

The site gave more workspace, more storage space and more room for the unique services offered to those seeking work and a place to live.

Now it's time to spread the word!

"We found that many are not aware of our new location and others not familiar with our services; so we are hoping an open house on July 7 will provide a deeper connection with the community," said Kathy Goodrich, executive director.

Hours are 1:30-4 p.m. Light refreshments served and you are guaranteed a warm welcome!



Comments from our guests: 'It's nice to know there are kind people ... I need to make change ... I feel welcome ... My fear is a little gone ...'



Lots of fun for a good cause

The annual Spring for the Homeless dinner was held April 28 at DeCarlo's Banquet and Conference Center. Larry Larson, Charlie Taylor and Fiddlin' George Chirota (top left) provided the entertainment. Leslie Schroeder, shown at left with Director Kathy Goodrich, told the group how grateful she is for the opportunity provided by the MCWC. "I felt like all hope was lost," she told the audience. "But I got help and encouragement from each person at the Peer Support group meetings."

Photos by DONNA REMER

Make your prayer request to MCWC today

The Macomb County Warming Center is a faith-based, non-denominational organization dedicated to caring for those who need a safe, warm place to stay during the winter months.

We are like a family. We share our

hopes and our prayers. If you have a special prayer request, we would like to know.

Just fill out the form below and mail it in the enclosed envelope, no donation necessary.

"We will be glad to include your

requests in our prayers at the Ray of Hope and board meetings, and in our quiet times of prayer," said Kathy Goodrich, executive director.

Include your name, or send it anonymously. Either way, your needs will be remembered.

Name(s): _____

Prayer request: _____

Would you like someone to contact you? If so, include your phone number: _____



... I'm tired of being sick and tired ... People here are very kind and polite ... I hope someday to be able to give back ... God bless and thank you. '

More shelter weeks could be added this fall

Summer is here and thankfully with it warmer days and nights for those who must live outside.

We have been at work since January arranging our schedule of host churches for the 2011/2012 season. Most weeks are already filled and we look to possibly expanding the weeks in our season this coming year.



*Kathy Goodrich
MCWC
Executive Director*

these cases since the peer members are employed in stable situations and should be able to maintain their living arrangements. (Please see our story about Andrew elsewhere in this newsletter.)

I would like to thank the nearly 300 folks who attended our annual dinner and the board members,

staff and friends who volunteered so much of their time and a great deal of effort, to make it all possible! A special thanks to Charlie Taylor, Larry Larson and George Chirota for the wonderful music and the willingness to so kindly play the many requests sent up by the audience, and to DeCarlo's and their great staff!

Many thanks to all those who sent or brought raffle and Silent Auction prizes, placed ads in our program booklet and otherwise showed support for this most important fundraiser.

Good news! The McGregor Challenge grant, to benefit the Peer Support Group, was met. Our grateful thanks to all those who participated with their contributions.

We are seeing increasing numbers of guests at the Ray of Hope, and our Peer groups are looking for a few new members to fill the spots of those who have moved on to employment and good living arrangements. Some have found an individual apartment, while others chose to move into shared living space or with a family member. We look to success in

“The Bible says, when we do something for the least of us, we do it for him.”

Pastor Kevin Lancaster

... in his invocation at the Spring for the Homeless dinner April 28, 2011

I would like to make a special and rare announcement of a memorial donation we received from a long-time volunteer and former board member, Dolores Killewald. Dolores sent a memorial in honor of Marion J. Foster, her much beloved friend and fellow member of the Gray Panthers.

...Kathy

Kathy Goodrich is executive director for the Macomb County Warming Center. Reach her by e-mail: kmac0212@wowway.com or call (586) 321-0998. Send mail to our post office box: PO Box 53, Roseville, MI 48066.

Show your support for MCWC with donation, get a t-shirt!

We know you support the mission of the Macomb County Warming Center, now you can let others know it, too!

For the first time the MCWC is offering a “membership” for a minimum donation of \$35 per year. Not only will you have the

satisfaction of contributing to a worthwhile organization, but you will also get a free polo shirt printed with the Warming Center logo.

Members have the opportunity to work alongside administrative staff in various projects and to represent the Warming Center at city council

meetings and other events, as requested.

Just clip and send the coupon below along with your donation to:

MCWC
P.O. Box 53
Roseville, MI 48066

Name(s): _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone number: _____ Donation amount: _____

Size for shirts: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ 2XL _____

Macomb County Warming Center
P.O. Box 53
Roseville, MI 48066

Return Service Requested

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We're on the Web!

www.warmingcenter.org

Macomb County Warming Center and Ray of Hope Day Center



Kathy Goodrich, Executive Director
(586) 321-0998
Email: kmac0212@wowway.com

OUR MISSION ...

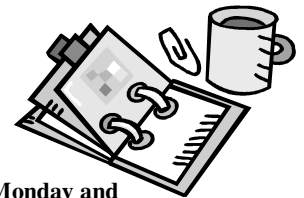
Macomb County Warming Center seeks, along with our partner churches, to provide a safe, warm place to spend the night and simple, nourishing meals to those who would otherwise have no shelter.

The Ray of Hope Day Center, an extended service of the MCWC, will, in collaboration with like-minded organizations, provide our local homeless and needy individuals and families with referrals and resources in order to supply opportunities to move into secure, productive lifestyles.

OUR BOARD ...

Kevin Goodrich, President
Kathy McKinley-Goodrich, Treasurer
Joannie Matiyow, Secretary
Joseph V. Belfiori, Patrick Byrne
Dan Heaton, Kathy Lancaster
Michelina Plesco, Rev. Terri Bracy
David Hire

Mark your calendar ...



Thursday, July 7

Open house at Ray of Hope Day Center, 16546 Nine Mile in Eastpointe, 1:30-4 p.m. Drop in and see what we are doing! Light refreshments.

Monday and Tuesday July 11-12

Housing retention workshop

at Ray of Hope Day Center, 16546 Nine Mile in Eastpointe, 4-6 p.m. A free, community service for professionals and clients let by Dorothy Pilla, certified HUD prehousing counselor. Contact Kathy at (586) 321-0998 or kmac0212@wowway.com to reserve a place.

Monday and Tuesday, July 18-19

Housing retention workshop. Repeat offering of the program above at Ray of Hope Day Center, 16546 Nine Mile in Eastpointe, 4-6 p.m.

Directory of Services

Support those who support the MCWC

This newsletter is distributed to more than 700 homes, businesses, churches and social service agencies in



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