
JOSHUA'S HOUSE

January 2016 Update

Oh, What a Year!



Team Depot/Home Depot



CMU Volunteer Students



Crixus Brown



“...One mother at a time”

November - Our 7th Annual Dinner was a success! We raised \$21,000.00 including pledges to be paid throughout the upcoming year as monthly donations. Though we fell short of last years total, we are so very grateful for those who gave of their time, talent and treasure! The banquet hall at Clare Nazarene Church was filled with excitement and enthusiasm for the mission of caring for our future, one mother at a time! Thank you to all who hosted, attended, served and donated! God is good ALL the time!

November also brought us the celebration of Crixus Brown's first birthday party held at the First Baptist Church of Clare. Tara Brown who graduated Joshua's House in April of 2015 was excited to host her son's event along with family, friends and fellow church family. A great time was had by all, especially Crixus as he dove face first into his birthday cake. Tara is moving forward with her schooling to become a teacher, she currently is attending at MMCC in Harrison.



JH Volunteers & Staff



The Sanctuary - Fenton



Thrivent Financial



Annual Santa Shop

December brought us mild temperatures, decorating fun and our second Annual Santa Shop at the Red Door Thrift Store in Clare, Michigan! We realize

that Jesus is the reason for the CHRISTmas season! We do love to have the children come and shop with one of our elves as they learn the gift of giving, we incorporate the true gift of the season, our Lord and Savior, Jesus! Patrons passing by the store waived to our elves and came in to take advantage of the wonderful sales we offer especially for CHRISTmas!

December 5th we celebrated as an organization the blessedness of what Christmas means. Pictured here are some of our volunteers and staff along with our Administrative Board enjoying a year's accomplishments and sharing how mighty God moved this year! As we looked back to what was completed, the excitement grew in us to desire even greater to move forward in what we

have been called to do. Volunteers are critical to the functionality of Joshua's House, without them,.....well, lets just say they are worth their weight in gold!!!

In May of 2015 Kelly Armbruster from Thrivent Financial approached us with an opportunity to receive "choice" dollars from her Thrivent Account. Then she allocated those funds to use for candy to fill the candy machines that were donated by Gilbert & Doris Badger. What an amazing program! Isn't that wonderful how God just works things out to forward the mission that is so near and dear to His heart? We have some of the machines filled and in place earning dollars to support the shelter. Do you know of a business within 20 minutes of Clare that would consider a candy machine as a service for it's customers and employees, and in turn would support Joshua's House?

In November, 13 CMU students, as Service Ambassadors from the Mary Ellen Brandell Volunteer Center, came to Joshua's House to learn about our mission and to assist us in decorating the shelter for Christmas. They were bright, kind and full of enthusiasm! We enjoyed their company as they quickly decorate our facility and helped to move some larger items we could not mover for ourselves, We enjoyed our time together and are waiting for another opportunity for them to return. Great job to all who worked so hard to decorate!!

December brought a delight to our hearts as we received a huge donation of pennies for our kitchen/dining room floor at the shelter. This is the second time that the children's program from "The Sanctuary" in Fenton, MI, headed up by Michelle Byers, has filled numerous jars with pennies that the children brought in each week, to Sunday School, during the last 12-18 months. WOW! What a way to teach our children about sacrificial giving and teaching them how to give expecting nothing in return! It's getting exciting as we draw nearer to our goal to complete the flooring.

Home Depot has been an amazing friend to this ministry! Internally they have a group called "Team Depot". The team is comprised of employees that come together to rally around a specific cause or non-profit organization to assist them in accomplishing a goal. Team Depot members purchased and donated four tables of clothing, toys, accessories and quilts for Joshua's House to hand out to residents or graduates of our program or to families in need within the local communities. What an amazing group! Thank you so very much for your continued support!

During the dinner held this past November, we mentioned that we were in desperate need of a counter cook top. At the end of the dinner a friend of ministry came and said that he wanted to fill that need for us! Wow! What a blessing! Thank you Tom for filling that need and listening when the Lord impressed upon your heart to help!

As we begin this new year, we ask that you would keep us in prayer for the many ongoing needs of the ministry. We still are in need of a house mother/couple to live at Joshua's House to facilitate the activities in the shelter and assist in meeting the needs of the women who are residents in our program. If you are interested in this position, or know of someone who might be, we will be interviewing beginning in February to ensure that all of our bases are covered.

We have a list of upcoming events we would like to share with you, here they are: *Friday January 29 We are having a bake sale at Valueland in Clare from 10am-5pm *Saturday May 21st our 4th Annual 5k run will be held at Shamrock Park @ 9am *Thursday September 29th is our 8th Annual Fundraising Dinner to be held at the Clare Church of the Nazarene from 6:30-8:30pm

To keep informed of any additional events please visit us on our Facebook pages for both Joshua's House Maternity Home and the Red Door Thrift Store. The Red Door proceeds go directly to support the ministry of Joshua's House. Our store location is 1006 N. McEwan in Clare.

We have sales weekly that are just out of this world!! Stop by the store and relax in "the nook" our peaceful slice of tranquility! Also, come see the newly renovated foyer of the store. There are so many new items arriving weekly, don't miss finding your treasure for sure!

As we close, we want to once again thank each and everyone who has partnered with us to care for our future, one mother at a time! Please keep us in prayer, January is Sanctity of life month. We at Joshua's House believe that ALL life is a gift from God!

May He richly bless you all,
Rene'e Jeffords - Executive Director