



SHELTERGRAM

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Issue 42

WINTER 2020

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Seasons Greetings

OUR GUESTS IN 2020

On the first of January, 2020 our five apartments were full and have continued to be occupied throughout the year.

Apartment #1 - Our guest was a mom and two children who had been with us for 7 months. We had helped her apply for a longer transitional housing program and she was accepted. The family moved out of our program at the end of January. A few days later we moved in another mom and little girl. They had fled an abusive situation which involved drugs and violence. During their stay with us, mom was able to get a job, have her car repaired, and because she followed our program requirements of saving 30% of her income and mailing out numerous housing applications, she moved to her own apartment in September. Within weeks the apartment was once again full. It is now occupied by a single woman. She is on disability and has struggled most of her adult life with PTSD and other issues. We helped her find a counselor whom she is doing online therapy with at this time. She has her license but no money to get a vehicle. Our finance/budget volunteer is meeting with her to help her establish credit and try to save enough money so that in the future she will be able to purchase a vehicle and have an apartment of her own.

Apartment #2 - In January of 2020 Shelter housed a family of four, 3 school age children and mom who was working but could not meet expenses. Her car was repossessed and the family was evicted from their apartment. The family had been couch surfing between family members when they applied to our program. Mom was able to get work nearby, save money weekly, apply for support programs, and is now in her own apartment. While she was with us one of our volunteers also coached her and mom was able to get her GED/Hi-SET high school diploma. Next family in this apartment was a mom and two little children. Family had fallen on hard times and mom had left the father of the

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"The Mission of Shelter From The Storm is to provide transitional housing and support programs for the homeless."

OUR GUESTS in 2020 *continued from page 2*

children for a second time. Their stay with us was short. Mom was able to get a caretaker position for one of her family in the area and was able to move into their home. Presently we have two adults who have partial custody of the woman's child. Mom is on SSI and boyfriend is working. Have struggled with jobs and budgeting. They are meeting weekly with our finance/budget person and doing well.



Apartment #3 - A dad and his two boys ended their stay with us in January. While with us, the boy's mother was able to gain sobriety and received 50/50 custody. Mom and dad are not together, but remain friends. Boys moved back with their mom. Dad, who had planned to move south originally with the

boys, did move, in hopes of getting a better job. He plans on moving everyone there in the future. Our second family this year was a domestic violence victim from out of state. She fled with her three children to NH and was hoping to stay with family but was unable to do so. Her oldest daughter remained with family in the area. Mom moved into our apartment with her two girls. While with us we helped her file paperwork with attorneys and the state for child custody. During her stay with us she was asked to follow through with our program expectations. She was not. After receiving two warnings she was asked to leave our program. Before asking her we determined the family had a safe place to go. Shortly thereafter we had a new mom with a 3 year old move in. The father of her child had moved out and left her to pay for everything. She could not afford the rent on her own and was unable to get work with no childcare. When entering our program she applied for all the support programs that she so desperately needed. Her child presented with serious behavioral problems and was accepted into a program in Peterborough. The Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter had an opening in Peterborough, and she and her daughter

FAMILY RULES

Always tell the truth

WORK HARD

Keep Your Promises

Try New Things Don't whine

Laugh Out Loud

Always say I Love You

Use kind words Do Your Best

Be Grateful Be Kind

BE PROUD OF YOURSELF

Say Please and Thank You

remember you are loved

transferred to MATS making it much easier for her daughter to attend this program. The apartment remained vacant for a short period. At present we have a mom and two children who left an abusive situation in the Carolinas and moved to Jaffrey to live with a cousin. Upon arrival there was a problem and family ended up living in their vehicle. They are now with us and doing well. Mom has already applied for many jobs and will hopefully be employed soon. One child is in school and the youngest is waiting for an opening at Headstart. Mom is finding it next to impossible to get a job while children are in "online schooling". We are trying to help her find childcare so she can accept a position she was offered.

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GIFTING THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Please consider your next gift for an upcoming birthday, anniversary, holiday, or special occasion to be a Gift Card from Shelter From The Storm. By donating in honor of someone else, or in memory of someone else, you will help to provide a home to those in need.

Gift Cards are sent to the people on your list stating a gift has been made in their name. You are identified as the donor. Your donation amount is not identified. Shelter From The Storm will send the cards directly to the people on your gift list. If you prefer, gift cards may be sent directly to you for personalization.

To purchase gift cards, please contact Shelter From The Storm at 532-8222 or mail in your donation with your request.

TD Bank-SFTS Affinity Program

Do you have an individual or business account at TD Bank?

If you do, please tell TD Bank you want to join SHELTER FROM THE STORM'S Affinity Program. *Raising funds for SHELTER FROM THE STORM does not get any easier than this!*

By joining the Affinity Program, Shelter From The Storm will receive an annual contribution from TD Bank simply because you bank there!

Joining TD Bank's Affinity Program for SFTS is easy!

1. **Call or stop into any TD Bank office** (toll-free customer service number: 888-751-9000) or 532-1400 (JAFFREY TD BANK)
2. **Tell a bank representative** that you want to join the Affinity Program for SHELTER FROM THE STORM
3. **Give them your name and account numbers.** (TD Bank will keep all of your information strictly confidential.)

If you do not currently bank at TD Bank: Any bank associate can help you open an account and join the Affinity Program. Any TD Bank customer can join the Affinity Program benefitting SFTS, so **ask your friends, relatives, and business partners** with TD Bank accounts to call 888-751-9000 or 603-532-1400 and join too.

There is absolutely no cost to you.

How does the TD Bank Affinity Program work?

TD Bank will make an annual contribution to SFTS if accounts are linked to the SFTS Affinity Program. The amount of TD Bank's contribution is based on the average annual balance in the account of the customers who join the Affinity Program. Joining the program does NOT alter the terms or condition of your TD Bank accounts, and none of your funds or personal information will be given to SFTS. If you have any questions, please call Shelter From The Storm at 603-532-8222.



A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL DURING THIS CHALLENGING 2020

As many of you know, due to COVID, we were unable to hold our two fundraisers this year, A Taste of Monadnock and our Antique Roadshow. We have dates for both in 2021 and are hoping we will be able to move forward with both.

We especially want to thank all of our donors, grantors, volunteers and supporters during this challenging time. It is greatly appreciated.

GRANTS & SPECIAL DONATIONS

- NH Charitable Foundation • TD Bank Charitable Foundation • People's Bank • Woodbound Inn •
- Susan A. and Donald P. Babson Foundation • Agnes M. Lyndsay Foundation • Kiwanis •
- Cogswell Benevolent Trust • Anonymous Grant • Eversource • Oleonda Jameson Trust •
- Pearl/Bantam Restaurant Fundraiser • NH Women's Foundation • Keough Fund •

OUR GUESTS in 2020 *continued from page 2*

Apartment #4 - At the very end of February our family of two adults and three children, who were in one of our smaller apartments, were able to move into a three bedroom apartment of their own. While with us this family received a much needed second vehicle to help the family with transportation of their autistic child. Our case worker commented that in all the years he has worked for us, this family impressed him the most. Their perseverance and desire to succeed was incredible. The family is still in the area and doing well. Our second family consisted of a mom and 21 month old girl. The family has been with us for 8 months and is in the process of moving into their own two bedroom apartment. While with us the mom was able to get her LNA and is working fulltime. Our third family this year will move in a day or two after our second family leaves. Once again it is a single mom with a 4 year old boy. Father of the child suddenly moved out of state and left mom and son in a trailer with no heat. Using a space heater to keep warm in early fall seemed to be ok, but once the cold weather came the mom reached out to us. Mom is a recovering addict and has taken all the required courses to become a CRSW (Recovery Coach).

Apartment #5 - Our fifth apartment was occupied at the end of 2019 and into 2020 by a single young lady. She had just returned from Europe, doing charitable work there for a few years. Once back in the states she moved in with her parents, but due to many issues she was not able to remain with them. After eight months she left our program with a good job, money in the bank and hopes of furthering her education. She was able to afford a place of her own but chose to stay with friends until she made some decisions about her future plans. Presently we have a mom and 1 year old. Mom was thrown out of her apartment that she shared with the child's father. She is working, saving money and trying to take her driver's test so that she can get her license and be more self-sufficient. During COVID it has been next to impossible to connect with the DMV but she is persevering. She already has a vehicle that she bought and has registered.

All of our guests have filled out housing applications and are saving 30% of income earned. We have 5 applications from potential guests. We will interview and if accepted families will go on a waiting list.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PMC MEETING	January 6 - 2:30 pm
BOARD MEETING	TBA
HANUKKAH	December 10-18th
CHRISTMAS	Friday, December 25
FREE COMMUNITY SUPPER	TBA
NEW YEAR'S DAY	Friday, January 1
PMC MTG.	January 8 - 2:30 pm
ANNUAL MEETING	January 14 - TBA
BOARD MTG.	TBA
PMC MTG.	February 3 - 2:30 pm
VALENTINE'S DAY	Sunday, February 14
MOTHER'S PROGRAM	TBA
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS	March 14
TASTE OF MONADNOCK	June 16
ANTIQUÉ ROADSHOW	October 1

wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday!!

