

# Bethlehem Inn made it all Possible

In our last newsletter, we highlighted our resident Cassie. Cassie came to us after she left drug treatment. She had only a few days of sobriety after having a long history of substance abuse. Her anxiety was so high due to her brief time being sober and pending charges she was facing.

Cassie has maintained her sobriety for over 6 months, which may be one of her greatest accomplishments. She has obtained medical insurance which she did not have for the past 20 years and she was accepted into a housing program that assisted her in obtaining her own apartment which she just recently moved into.

It was so rewarding watching Cassie grow and find her inner peace and balance while at Bethlehem Inn. Just before Cassie moved to her own apartment, she told us, "What seemed absolutely impossible at the time of my intake, I have now accomplished and have hope for my future. Bethlehem Inn made it all possible. The anxiety ridden woman I was walking into Bethlehem Inn has done a complete 180 and changed from the inside out".

## Notes from our Program Administrator, Sue McIntosh

Cassie, we are so proud of you!! We cannot wait to see what your future holds. We know you will do great things.

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who has donated to Bethlehem Inn. The community support we have is outstanding and we are so grateful. Our mission is only possible because of your support!

We continue to be at capacity. We are busy helping our residents make the connections they need in order to gain self-sufficiency. Our biggest challenge at this time is the lack of affordable housing in the Waseca and surrounding area. This results in our residents staying a little longer than first anticipated while they wait for a place of their own to live. We have started a new program which allows us to walk with our residents as they transition to their own homes, adding another layer of support through their transition. More on this in our next newsletter.

## Our Mission Statement

The mission of Bethlehem Inn of Waseca is to help women and children in need by:

- 1) Providing short term housing that is safe
- 2) Empowering residents to improve their lives
- 3) Providing assistance in accessing area social service providers to help our guests regain self-sufficiency and dignity



### Former Resident Sitting on our Steps

Several weeks ago, a young lady was sitting on the front steps of Bethlehem Inn. We went out to speak with her and she told us, "I used to live here a few years ago. I wanted to stop and pray over the building and everyone here". We chatted a bit about her time at Bethlehem Inn and thanked her for stopping by. What a testament to the remarkable things that can happen when we help those in need.

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## Residents of Bethlehem Inn

Since opening in 2019: 212 women and 188 children

Since January of 2024: 17 women and 15 children

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### Bethlehem Board of Directors

Roger Ashland	Retired Plant Manager	Gregg Johnson	Professor U of M
Trudi Connors	Co-Owner of Xpressions Salon	Richard LaLonde	Retired Pharmacist
LeAnn Dahle	Retired School Principal	Kent Schultz	Retired Operations
Molly Erdman	Realtor		Vice President
Fr. Frerichs	Priest	Judy Thomas	retired registered nurse
Jillene Gallatin	Minister	Diane Ytuarte	retired health care worker

## Your Support is Needed

**There are several ways you can help Bethlehem Inn continue its mission of changing homeless people's lives.**

1. Cash contribution
2. Make a gift in a will
3. Make a gift that pays you income for life

To make a gift online, visit [bethleheminnwaseca.org](https://bethleheminnwaseca.org) and click on the Donation tab.

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Waseca, MN 56093

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Email: [programdirector@bethleheminnwaseca.org](mailto:programdirector@bethleheminnwaseca.org)

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