

Samaritan House Newsletter

October 1, 2008

Issue 2, Volume 1

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I cannot express all our gratitude for the many volunteers who have worked at Samaritan House this Spring and Summer. The house looks fantastic and the guests now spend much of their time outdoors enjoying the sun, flowers and trees.

On the inside of the house, volunteers have made each room sparkle. But most importantly they have helped make improvements to help out the staff and guests. A special thanks goes to the members of West Cabarrus Church. A team took one of our bathrooms and made it new again. In that case, the floor had rotted out and the fixtures were about to fall in. Not only did they repair the floor, but with the help of the local Lowe's hardware store they installed a new shower. Now we have a restroom for our staff and our volunteers in the main living area of the house. Many thanks for this needed work.

Volunteer efforts are very important to Samaritan House and its operations, however it is funding from individuals in the community that helps keep the lights burning and our guests housed and fed. In November you will all receive a letter from us asking for help this year. I urge each of you to please remember us and make a gift. We receive no government funding for our efforts and rely solely on the community for our support. Thank you for your help.

Brad



Eagle Scouts Make a Difference

Eagle Scouts Ben Holtzmuller and Charlie McBain completed two Eagle Scout projects at Samaritan House this summer. Charlie planned and planted a memorial garden as seen in the foreground above. Ben took the rest of the back yard on, getting some donated furniture, planting new plants, laying mulch and making repairs. He and his family also constructed a new fence around the back yard, replacing the old chain-link with a new fence seen above.

Before and After

Check out the difference in the new bathroom from a rotted floor to the finished product.



Homemade Quilt Raffle

Freda Schlaman has created this beautiful quilt to be raffled off in December. If you would like to purchase tickets for \$1 each, call 704-527-1130 or send your

check made out to:
"Samaritan House Quilt"
Samaritan House,
3424 Park Road,
Charlotte, NC 28209.





Carrie's Corner

My son Lamont has a great recipe for a mainstay southern desert.

Lamont's Homemade Banana Pudding

Ingredients: 1 overripe banana; 1 qt. + 1/2 c. milk, divided; 1 egg, beaten; 1 1/2 c. sugar; 1 c. flour; 1-2 T. vanilla extract; 2 T butter, softened; 1 bag vanilla wafers; 4 med. yellow bananas, sliced.

Instructions: In a small bowl, mash the overripe banana until very fine. Set aside. In a separate large bowl, sift together the flour and sugar. Mix in one egg and 4 oz. milk. Add banana, vanilla and butter, stirring until all ingredients are well blended. In a saucepan, bring one quart of milk to a boil over medium-high heat. Remove from heat and slowly stir in banana mixture. Place back on heat until pudding begins to rise. Remove from heat and stir well. Repeat 1-2 more times until mixture is thickened. Fill a casserole dish or bowl with alternating layers of vanilla wafers and sliced bananas, pour hot pudding mix evenly over the cookies and bananas. Let stand until cool, then refrigerate.

You can find this and other Samaritan House recipes in our cookbook "Sharing Our Bread." The cookbook is on sale at Samaritan House for \$15.

Samaritan House

3424 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28209

WWW.THESAMARITANHOUSE.ORG

Your Support Is Needed

As a nonprofit, Samaritan House relies on its donors to help provide services to our guests. We are a grassroots organization in Mecklenburg County helping people within our own community. We get our support from people like you to help those who cannot help themselves.

This year we especially need your help. With the faltering economy, gas and food prices climbing steadily higher, and many people finding themselves on the streets after losing a job, it is becoming more difficult to meet the needs of those we serve. Samaritan House must not only raise the extra funds needed for this year, but need to begin looking at how we will meet the needs in the future.

In November, we will be asking for your support. When the letter comes, please give generously. Not only is your gift tax deductible, it is helping people within our community who desperately need it. Every dollar goes towards our mission to provide recuperative care for people who are homeless and in need of short term care after a hospital or emergency room stay. There are no frills in our operation – just basic compassion for the people we serve.

In addition to your gift, please think about other ways you might support us. Gifts through a will, establishing a trust, transfers of stocks or larger gifts to establish an endowment can help make a lasting legacy in our community helping those less fortunate. We would welcome any opportunity to discuss it with you.

Thank you for your trust and support.

Remember, if you shop online via our website, we get a donation for every item you purchase - at no extra cost to you!