

Our Mother's House

A Program of Catholic Charities DOV, Inc

January 2009

Volume IV ~ Issue I

From Our Director ...

As we begin our 22nd year at OMH, it is my pleasure to welcome all of you to our Winter Newsletter, and to share what's been happening at Our Mother's House.

Our first Open House, held just before Thanksgiving, was a complete success. Over 150 people came to see our program, talk to our staff and volunteers, and tour the apartments.

Due to the generosity of so many, we had an incredible Christmas. Our moms and children were so appreciative of the community response to their needs!

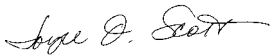
Our biggest news is that we've opened two new apartments at our new site, which increases our current capacity from 10 to 12 families, and will ultimately allow us to serve a total of 17 mothers and their children.

Work on our 2009 Wine Tasting and Auction, to be held on February 26th, is in progress. By now you should have received your invitation, if not please call us for your reservation! We are still looking for sponsors for the event and donations for the auctions. Once again a sit-down dinner will be served at the Plantation Golf and Country Club. We hope you'll consider joining us!

As always, on behalf of our mothers, children, and Our Mother's House staff, I would like to close this communication with my thanks to all of you for your ongoing support of our program. Each month, Our Mother's House receives numerous inquiries about the program; the volume of calls has increased exponentially as the economy has become more difficult. Without your help, we could not provide the support and education our mothers need to attain self-sufficiency.

With Best Regards,

Our Mother's House, Program Director



2009 Wine Tasting, Dinner and Auction

Thursday ~ February 26, 2009 ~ 6-9 PM

The Plantation Golf and Country Club ...

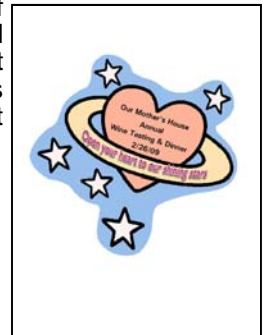
is hosting our Wine Tasting, Dinner and Auction again this year. We are very grateful for their assistance and guidance which has contributed to the success of our event for the past two years. Last year 350 guests attended. Thank you to the management and staff at the Plantation, we look forward to working together again this year.

Sponsorships have a vital impact on our financial goals for this event. There are multiple levels of sponsorship ranging in price from \$300 to \$1200 dollars. Each level has specific benefits and seating advantages. We have received many sponsorships and auction items, but have not reached our target. We are also in need of donations for the silent and live auctions as well as raffle items. If you or someone you know would like to attend or help, it's not too late. The ticket price is just \$50.00.

For More information regarding the event contact: Joyce Scott: omhsrqdir@comcast.net

Jeanne Kavanaugh: JeanneKav@aol.com.

This is an enjoyable as well as a meaningful affair. We look forward to you joining us!



If you, your organization, church, or agency would like to learn more about our program, feel free to contact Joyce Scott, Program Director for Our Mother's House, at 941-485-6264. We will be more than happy to take an opportunity to visit and introduce ourselves to your community.

Our Moms Make Us Proud

A Very Special Thank You



"Our Mother's House has been a true blessing to me and for me and my son.

Knowing I have them on my side gives me hope for my future. Our Mother's House has taught me how to be more independent, responsible, and most of all they have been my support system. They have been like a true family to me and I thank God every day for what they are doing to help mothers like me build a better future for our children. Thanks to all at... Our Mother's House.

Linda, One of our Moms

Facts About the Program

- ⇒ Families served since August 2005 40
- ⇒ Average age of mothers on entry to program 23
- ⇒ Range of ages of mothers on entry to program 18-43
- ⇒ Average age of children on entry to program 11 months
- ⇒ % Mothers with jobs on entry to program 22
- ⇒ % Mothers with jobs on exit from program 80
- ⇒ % Mothers in school on entry to program 2
- ⇒ % Mothers who attend school while in program 58
- ⇒ Average number of months on program wait list 2.5
- ⇒ % Mothers known to be living independently upon exit 74
- ⇒ Average number of volunteer hours per month 58
- ⇒ Inquiries regarding admission to the program
December 2007 – November 2008 222
- ⇒ Each \$1500 donated to Our Mother's House ensures that a mother and her child receives program and services in our safe and secure environment for one month.

Volunteer Holiday Party



Our Mother's House Volunteers were honored at a festive afternoon gathering on December 11.

Many thanks were given to all of the volunteers in recognition of the many of hours they donate to the programs for the benefit of our Moms and their babies

throughout the year.

Doors prizes were raffled, punch, holiday cookies and snacks were served while volunteers enjoyed chit-chat.

A BIG THANK YOU
to all of our
VOLUNTEERS !



We Need Diapers



As you know, with babies, come diapers, lots and lots and lots of diapers. The diapers that are donated to us are used in our day care center. There are times, due to the generosity of many, that we have enough diapers on hand to give our moms some to take home. You can imagine how helpful that is when you're on a really tight budget. We could really use sizes 3 through 6, pull-ups and baby wipes.

The Latest at OMH

Our Mother' House is Adding On

With Success Comes Growth ~ With Growth Comes Change
To accommodate the growing need for our program we have purchased this seven unit apartment building in Venice. This acquisition will allow us to provide opportunities for seven additional moms and babies. We have managed to renovate two of the seven apartments giving us a total of twelve apartments available for use as of the printing of this newsletter.



First Open House a Success



Our Mother's House "First" Open House

Visitors were pleasantly surprised on Sunday November 23, 2008 when they observed our daycare center facility and were graciously invited to tour apartments opened to them by our Moms. Guests also viewed a video depicting the many facets of our program seeing our program in action. Refreshments were served, volunteers and programs directors were available to answer questions.



We plan to make "Open House" an annual event.

Community Generosity



Mr. & Mrs. Santa
Volunteers at Our Mother's House

Our Mission ...

To provide single mothers and their pre-school children a safe and secure environment in which to achieve self-sufficiency through education, vocational training and personal growth.

Double Blessings... Couples Volunteer

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE BACKBONE OF OUR PROGRAM

~ Jerry & Sally Blake ~



Originally from Maine, Sally and Jerry have been Florida residents for 17 years. Between them they have 5 children, 7 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter. They can't always remember who belongs to whom, with one son in Tennessee and the others all in Maine.

Sally and Jerry have been married 23 years and, in spite of that, are still best friends. They do almost everything together, including childcare at Our Mothers House evenings when the moms

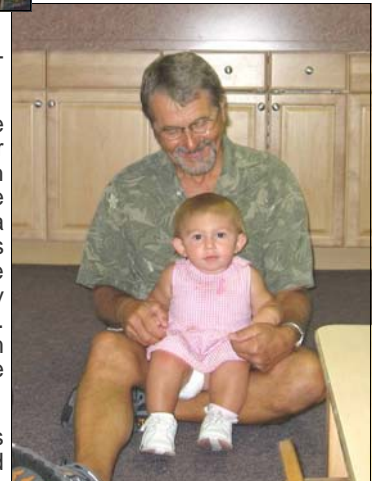
have to attend mandated life-skills classes.

Jerry is self employed. He does milk pricing analysis for Northern companies which takes him back north quite regularly. He has been a volunteer at Our Mother's House for about 3 years. He loves children and really enjoys interacting with them. The children always seem especially happy to have male attention.

Sally is retired and enjoys homemaking, sewing and helping Jerry in the business.

She has been a volunteer for about 5 years. She became involved with Our Mother's House because she also loves children. It is a cause close to her heart. Sally was a single mother in a similar situation as some of the mother's at OMH. She can really relate to how hard it is and is am grateful to be able to help out in some small way.

Sally says, "I think it is a wonderful organization. The staff works hard to make everything come together and that makes it such a great opportunity for the mothers who take advantage of the program."



For more information about Our Mother's House, check out our new website:
www.ourmothershousedov.org

NOTE: You can now purchase little items from Current and help out Our Mother's House. Log on to www.currentfun.com and order anything on that site. At checkout, you can designate the charity of your choice to benefit and we're on the list!!

Catholic Charities
Diocese of Venice
1000 Pinebrook Road
Venice, Florida 34285-6426

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Manasota, FL
Permit No. 807

The printing of this newsletter is made possible by a generous donation from the Plantation Community Foundation.

Our Mother's House A
Program of Catholic
Charities DOV, Inc.

P.O. Box 2240
Venice, FL 34284



Accredited By Council
on Accreditation

Phone: 941-485-6264
Fax: 941-488-2289
E-mail: ourmothershouse@comcast.net

Website Address:
ourmothershousedov.org

Our Sponsors ... Wine Tasting 2009



VENICE
Gondolier Sun

Venice
Gulf Coast Bldg



WOMEN'S SERTOMA CLUB OF VENICE

Acrobat Document

