

The Shelter

NEWSLETTER Spring 2005



"Dedicated to helping homeless individuals and families work toward permanent stability"

SUCCESS STORIES

From Homeless to College Student



Shelia came to Shelter of Flint in February 2001. When she arrived she was "homeless and full of despair." With the support of shelter staff, Shelia began to look at the issues that had contributed to her homelessness. By her own account, Shelia needed to look at all the different aspects of her life. Shelia recognized that she needed to reexamine her priorities. She began the process by relearning budgeting skills, looking at her educational needs and making a firm commitment to counseling.

By June of 2001, Shelia enrolled in college on what would be a slow, but steady path to getting her degree. Shelia spent two years volunteering for Shelter of Flint programs. Shelia successfully completed each shelter program. In September 2002, Shelia was excited to move into permanent housing.

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Like many of Shelter of Flint residents, Shelia had her mind set on making positive improvements and does whatever it takes to reach her goals. Not only will Shelia get her associates degree from C.S. Mott Community College after the Summer 2005 semester; she currently is completing a college internship at Shelter of Flint, where she is giving back to others who have been in situations that are very similar to her own. Shelia is a positive role model and a wonderful influence for those she assists. As Shelia puts it, "Shelter of Flint helped me, help myself." All of us at Shelter of Flint are very proud of Shelia and her accomplishments!

One of Many Success Stories:

Each issue we like to feature a success story to let you know there is hope and opportunity.

<http://www.shelterofflint.com>

Bloomideal's Stock Reduction Sale!



Now is the time to take advantage of the winter stock reduction sale at Bloomideal's Consignment Store, located in Flint Farmer's Market. Receive an extra \$2.00 off of a purchase of \$25.00 or more. Clip the coupon at the bottom of this article and save even more off the already bargain prices. Bloomideal's is open Tuesday and Thursday from 9-5 and Saturday from 9-4. We will be accepting spring and summer clothing items beginning March 1st. We are also in need of men's, children's and casual clothing. So, if you are cleaning out your closet for the season change and you have items that you won't be wearing this spring or summer, give some thought to consigning them with Bloomideal's. You can give Vanessa a call at (810) 239-9176 to make arrangements to drop off your gently used clothing. Proceeds benefit Shelter of Flint programs.

Bloomideal's
Consignment Shop

Tuesday & Thursday 9-am - 4pm
Saturday 9am - 4pm

Basement of the Farmer's Market

With this coupon get an extra \$2.00 off a \$25.00 purchase

Tel: (810) 238-9176

Expiration Date: 05/31/05

KIDS HELPING KIDS

The future looks bright in Clio. There is a very special group of 4th, 5th and 6th graders that attend Bethany United Methodist Church's Wednesday Night Live. The children made blankets and donated them to Shelter of Flint children. It is wonderful to know how these young children are showing their concern for others. The Shelter children had big grins on their faces to think that they could keep the warm and cuddly blankets for their very own. Thank you to all at Bethany United Methodist Church for your thoughtfulness and generosity. A very special thank you to Ann LeClair (SOF Past Board President) for assisting with this effort.

Now Showing: Artworks!, the wonderful artistic collaborative featuring the works of the area's homeless children is on the road again.

Mott Children's Health Center, located at 806 Tuuri Place, is hosting Artworks! latest art display, during the months of February and March 2005. The title of this event is: "Child Behind the Mask." Please take the time to stop by and see the very talented work of the children that have participated in the Artworks! Programs. During February 2005 they will be located on the Behavioral Services floor and in March 2005 they will be located in Dental Services. If you haven't already seen these remarkable pieces you won't want to miss it.

A Season Of Giving

* DORT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION *

Shelter of Flint along with Consortium on Child Abuse and Neglect, were the recent recipients of the Snowman Campaign sponsored by Dort Federal Credit Union. Members of the credit union were able to purchase paper snowmen worth different amounts of money. Funds raised were shared between the two agencies. We are very grateful to Dort Federal Credit Union and its membership. Thanks folks for helping to make the holiday brighter for Shelter of Flint families!!



2004 Holiday Appeal

On behalf of all of us at Shelter of Flint, we want to express our deep appreciation for the generous support received this holiday season. It is because of the kinds of the following people that we are able to continue making a positive difference in the lives of the families that we assist. Thanks again and best wishes:

Amy Adam
Joe & Colleen Adams
Kelli Adams
Paul & Barbara Adams
Franklin and Agnes Adkins
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John & Jill Allen
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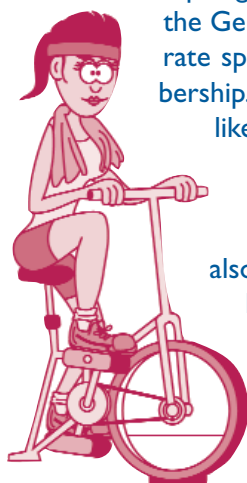
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TOUR DE FLINT

For every American, April 15th is an important day. For many of us it is a day that can bring a high level of stress. Doctors tell us that exercise is a good way to manage stress. Well, we at Shelter of Flint can help you alleviate some stress. We invite you to join us for the 7th annual Tour de Flint. Tour de Flint is a fun workout with individuals riding stationary bikes. The event takes place at the Genesee Valley Tennis Club Friday, April 15th from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday, April 16th from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

The forty-minute session will be led by an instructor as you participate at your own pace, so it is a good chance to be introduced to spinning while donating to a worthy cause. You can join a team (up to twelve people) or put together your own team. Have fun and engage in some friendly competition with family, co-workers, etc.

The entry fee is \$25.00 per person, which includes a T-shirt. If you raise over \$100.00 in pledges for Shelter of Flint you will receive a 30-day membership to the Genesee Valley Tennis & Fitness Club. For any team with a corporate sponsor, each team member will receive a free one-week membership. Additionally, anyone that participates in this event and would like to join the Genesee Valley Tennis & Fitness Club can join at the corporate rate and save \$100 off the regular price.



Register today with Jane or Kelli at (810) 238-4711. You may also call Sue Schupack at (810) 238-9691, Genesee Valley Tennis & Fitness Club. You may also register online at www.shelterof-flint.com

Mother's Day Appeal

Mother's Day is just round the corner. Please consider supporting the 2005 Mother's Day Appeal. Shelter children have designed beautiful Mother's Day cards, which can be sent to a person you designate when you donate to the Mother's Day Appeal. You can also designate a gift in memory of someone special, which will be acknowledged in the next Shelter newsletter. With your donation we will be able to offer programming and services for over 1200 mothers and children that find themselves homeless and in need of help. This is a wonderful way of honoring or remembering those who have been special in your life. It is a gift that will bring a smile to more than the recipient of the card.

IMPORTANT DATES

2005 MSHDA Affordable Housing Conference, May 16-18, Lansing, Michigan

Over 1400 people are expected to attend this year's conference (now the largest in the country). Shelter of Flint once again is participating as a conference-planning member and presenting several programs as workshops. For information please contact Patricia Motter, SOF at (810) 238-4711.

The 18th Annual Women's Only Race will be held on September 24, 2005.

Watch the website: www.shelterofflint.com and the summer newsletter for more information.
Or just give us a call at (810) 238-4711.

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