



Supportive friendships for lasting impact

P. O. Box 535 | Harrisonburg, VA 22803
Office 540-478-2356 | 540-478-2357 | www.hr.bridgeofhopeinc.org

Board of Directors

Melody Cash
Harrisonburg First Church of the Nazarene

Kathryn Fairfield, Vice Chair
Park View Mennonite Church

Jim Frazier
First Presbyterian Church

Kimberlee Stiemers Greenawalt
Lindale Mennonite Church

Wayne Hochstedler, Treasurer
Big Spring Mennonite Church

Erica Lewis
Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

June Nabers
Muhlenberg Lutheran Church

Deborah Raynes, Chair
Mt. Olive Brethren Church of Pineville

Erica Metzler Sawin
Community Mennonite Church

Patsy Seitz
Ridgeway Mennonite Church

Sue Swartz
Community Mennonite Church

Lois Shank
Harrisonburg Mennonite Church

Ron Stimers
Covenant Presbyterian Church

Joyce Wampler
Bridgewater Church of the Brethren

Twila Yoder, Secretary
Harrisonburg Mennonite Church

Staff

Sherry Cline
Harrisonburg First Church of the Nazarene

Stephanie Resto
Zion Mennonite Church

A BoHHR success story . . .

Have you watched a two-year-old lately? Madison Conwell is a fairly typical two-year-old. She loves the color pink, enjoys playing with blocks and laughing at her six-year-old brother, Oliver. But Madison is different from many other children in one way - she and her family have faced homelessness.

Madison's mom, Sarah, was pregnant with Madison as her marriage was dissolving. As a stay-at-home mom in a bad economy, with little job potential, she had no place to live. "I learned quickly that anyone can come on bad times and yet sometimes God uses those hard times to strengthen us in unexpected ways," explains Sarah.

Today, two years later, Sarah is proud that she is financially stable, with a job at a local bank. She has a home and a solid group of friends through her Bridge of Hope Harrisonburg-Rockingham mentoring group that she says, "has remained intact after I completed Bridge of Hope. I feel their presence in my life every day, through their friendship, genuine care and ongoing involvement in my life. They are true friends."

One of Sarah's mentors reached out to her right after Madison was born. Sarah was trying to keep up with a three-and-a-half-year old and caring for an infant . . . alone. Her mentor, Tina, put together an activities book filled with 25 rainy day games and crafts to keep Oliver occupied, so Sarah could rest and care for Madison. "It was a huge lifesaver in Madison's first weeks on earth," Sarah says.

Sarah continues, "True mission is in seeing others, not for their weakness but for their strength, as Jesus does and, instead of offering answers, offering powerful questions with arms wide open. Bridge of Hope is one of the only organizations that I have seen truly accomplish these type of mission."

Our families . . .

Bridge of Hope Harrisonburg-Rockingham (BoHHR) was recently presented a certificate at the Bridge of Hope National Annual Conference celebrating BoHHR's five years of operation. Over those five years, staff has matched mentoring groups with nine families. Stories like Sarah's make us realize that small acts of kindness make lasting impressions on our families. We are thankful for our mentoring groups and the support they provide our mothers and their children. While families have varied reasons that brought them to BoHHR, and while their goals may vary, we rejoice in each small step along the way to their graduation.

Homeless mothers and their children are among the most vulnerable persons in our communities today. BoHHR provides long-term, sustainable solutions to families to help break the cycle of poverty and homelessness and to provide life-changing friendships.

Your contributions support the BoHHR families as they journey toward the end of their homelessness and begin a new life. Please consider a donation to BoHHR as 2014 comes to a year-end and a new year begins. We look forward to serving many more families over the next five years!

Bridge of Hope Harrisonburg-Rockingham is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization – donations to which are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

BoHHR benefits from On A Mission 5K . . .



From left to right:

Deborah Raynes, BoHHR Board Chair
Cindy Parks, Harrisonburg Baptist Church
Wayne Hochstedler, BoHHR Treasurerer

The second annual On A Mission 5K, sponsored by Harrisonburg Baptist Church took place at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds on May 31, 2014. In 2013, the 5K was hosted at Smithland Elementary. The change of venue allowed for a fast track, ample parking, and lots of room for the kids' races. This year, \$4,200 was raised. A check for \$2,000 was presented to BoHHR at the June Board Meeting. Next year, the race will expand to a 10K in hopes of drawing a more serious runner and more runner registrations equaling higher race proceeds. Mark your calendar now to save the date—May 30, 2015. You can find On A Mission 5K on Facebook at www.facebook.com/onamission5Khbc.

BoHHR and Bike Shenandoah . . .



Blue skies and just the right temperature made September 20 a beautiful day for Bike Shenandoah, a local cycling fundraiser for a number of area organizations including BoHHR. The event had a record number of riders this year, and several BoHHR Board members contributed time to assist. BoHHR will receive approximately \$1,000 for its participation. Thanks to all cyclers and volunteers for making this event a great success!

Mennonite Relief Sale . . .

BOHHR received a gift of \$2,970 from the Mennonite Relief Sale held on October 4. BoHHR was one of three agencies to equally divide the receipts of the "Donation Auction" where bidders raised their auction numbers as the auctioneer began the bidding at \$1,000. Thank you to all bidders for supporting BoHHR and the other recipients.

Another BoHHR successful event . . .

The fourth annual BoHHR Locavore Luncheon, Silent Auction and Thrift Shop Fashion Show was a great success! The November 8 event netted the highest amount for that event since inception. It takes months of preparation from Board members, previous Board members and volunteers to produce this successful event. Thanks to all who were involved and volunteered their time and talents, those who attended, those who purchased silent auction items and those who sponsored the event. Watch for the 2015 event to be held on Saturday, November 7.

Plan your involvement with BoHHR . . .

Let us know how you and/or your church or place of business would like to be involved . . . Start a mentoring group at your church, ask your church or business to support us financially, have a fundraiser at your church or business, invite us to make a presentation. Need more ideas? Contact us at:

P.O. Box 535, Harrisonburg VA 22803

Email: bohhrva@gmail.com

Be a friend on Facebook—www.facebook.com/BridgeofHopeHR

Family Resource Coordinators

Sherry Cline
540.478.2357

Stephanie Resto
540.478.2356