

CHURCHES RESPOND. HOMELESSNESS ENDS. HOPE BEGINS.

Dear Neighbors,

Flowers are blooming and the earth is offering an abundance of hopeful imagery. Spring reminds me of Divine abundance and God's desire to see the families in our program thrive.

These reminders are helpful when we are faced with some of the systemic realities that create hurdles for our program. For example, there is less than a 3% vacancy in fair-market housing in Harrisonburg. Though our timeline for bringing new families into the program has had to shift in response to such obstacles, we continue to invite new families to the program. Our third family has just arrived and we'll be looking to identify the fourth family this spring. We need landlords and neighboring volunteer groups to make this happen. We invite you to consider if you may be someone to step into one of these roles, working directly with the families in our program.

I assure you, it is making a difference...

- ◇ One family in our program, including two children, has secured a safe new apartment thanks to a landlord partnership.
- ◇ One mom recently passed an important exam in working toward her career goals, and has received the encouragement and support of her neighboring volunteers along the way.
- ◇ One family, including two children, have entered the program to find safety, consistency, and a stable new living situation. They have expressed joy in response to being a part of a neighborhood of support.

When the neighborhood of support envelops the resiliency, resourcefulness and resolve of our program participants, we are expectant that God will multiply the efforts through Divine abundance.

And despite the obstacles, I remain grateful for the amazing network of local agencies working to address the needs of the dispossessed in our community. Jane Ellen and I are working to strengthen inter-agency connections to best serve our families as well as the Harrisonburg-Rockingham community.

### THANK YOU

One of the things I love most about this work is getting to witness the generosity of the local community. Because we do not receive federal funding, we rely on your generosity to sustain our program. The majority of our donor base is made up of individuals. Let me just pause to say thank you, because I cannot say it enough. Our testimonies are the fruits of your investment.

We are also grateful for supporting churches. Churches have not only been our partners as neighboring volunteers, but some also commit to financially supporting the mission of Bridge of Hope. We could not do this without you.

And some local businesses have stepped forward to support our work as well. This happens through event sponsorship, silent auction donations, and resources for our monthly neighborhood gatherings. Thank you for giving back!

Finally, a special thank you for the continued grant funding through The Karis Project.

For all the ways you participate in our neighborhood, we are grateful.



### Our Mission

To engage Christian faith communities in ending family homelessness through neighboring relationships that demonstrate Christ's love.

### Our Vision

Harrisonburg-Rockingham, a community where no family is homeless.

### Who We Are...

Chris Hoover Seidel  
Director

Jane Ellen Reid  
Neighborhood Resource Specialist

### Board of Directors:

Lois Shank, Chair  
Sue Swartz, Vice-Chair  
Ron Stimers, Treasurer  
Wanda Hamilton  
Rosemary King  
Audrey Myers  
Melody Pannell  
Cindy Parks  
Mark Metzler Sawin

### Upcoming Events:

National Volunteer Week—April 7-13  
Great Community Give—April 17  
Leaders of Hope Brunch—May 18

### Visit us online!

 @bridgeofhopehr

 @bohhrva

 @bohhrva

[www.hr.bridgeofhopeinc.org](http://www.hr.bridgeofhopeinc.org)

## Neighborhood Needs



Our families need your prayers!

We are in need of Neighboring Volunteer groups for new families in our program.

We need Landlord Partners to help us overcome housing obstacles. Interested? We can send you a brochure to let you know how this benefits landlords as well!

We want to spread the word about Bridge of Hope. We'd love to present at your church. Can you help make this possible?

### RECURRING DONATIONS

Please consider visiting the donation page on our website to make a recurring donation on a monthly basis. This helps create consistency for our budget.

### CREATIVE GIVING

Some of our supporters share the opportunity for generosity by providing a service and asking their clients to pay by making a donation to Bridge of Hope. Not only is this a gift of time, it also draws others into the Bridge of Hope neighborhood.



[hr.bridgeofhopeinc.org/donate-now/](http://hr.bridgeofhopeinc.org/donate-now/)

### GREAT COMMUNITY GIVE

We are one of the organizations participating in The Community Foundation's Great Community Give on April 17th. Please give to Bridge of Hope and encourage your friends to do the same.



[www.greatcommunitygive.org/](http://www.greatcommunitygive.org/)

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.

-John 1:14 (MSG)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CONTACT US TODAY  
about ways to get involved.

(540) 478-2356