

## MERRY CHRISTMAS \* HAPPY, HEALTHY 2019

The mission of FISH Hospitality Program is to serve homeless women and families by providing shelter and meals, and such other assistance as we are able, in order to give them a new opportunity to live independently in their communities as respected families and individuals. FHP does assist and enable our guests to obtain housing, jobs, medical services and other assistance to which they are entitled, as far as resources allow. FHP serves people in need without regard to race, religion, national origin or disability.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 15, 2019 Annual Meeting & Board of Directors: 7:00 pm  
St. Francis Episcopal Church, Dunellen

### SERVICE STATISTICS

(January 1 – October 31)

Persons sheltered – 41	Families – 12
Sheltered Adults – 14	Children - 27
Nights of Shelter provided – 3,797	

**PLEASE USE AMAZON SMILE for all your Amazon gifts [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) - sign up & designate FISH Hospitality Program as your charity**

### GUESTS' CORNERS

#### **Our time with FISH**

*May 27<sup>th</sup> was the day me and my family's lives changed for what I thought was the worst. We became homeless not by our fault but by the dishonesty of our former landlord.*

*FISH Hospitality Program helped me realize that blaming and hate would not help but hurt me. I had to forgive and move on so that I can be a stable, positive and strong force that my family will need to get through our situation. I could go on and on, but time will allow but so much...*

*I have since grown into a stronger mother, friend, sister, daughter, niece, cousin and wife, and learned that because my landlord was at fault, once I entered the program I became just like everyone else – just different story.*

*I would like to thank Frank for his way of knowing that we are all going through something, and making us laugh at the right times. Emily, my angel from above, with her kind and caring words. Thanks to Carole for being kind and welcoming, and for allowing us to nickname her CeeCee LOL!! ☺ Thanks to Kathy for helping me with the Moms Helping Moms Program. Rose of Sharon Church for being so warm and hospitable.*

*To finish I would love to thank Theresa, my real life big mamma, in a little way. You are a tough cookie, but I appreciate your push and motivation. It helped me a lot.*

*Thank you, FHP for everything and everyone ... Erin and her family became a part of our family. FISH Hospitality isn't just a shelter or a program, It's A HOME!!!*

**Former Guest Tye**

#### **You are kind ...**

**Miracle Love, Age 6:** The people helped my family because they welcomed and helped us with what we needed help with. We are thankful about how they helped us get an apartment, and they treated us so nice. Even though this was hard for our family, we had to stay positive. Thank you for all the food and for a place to sleep.

#### **We are thankful ...**

**Zachary, age 9:** To everyone who has helped our family through this situation, you are good people. At first I thought we were the only family in this situation, but then I saw other families and knew we were not alone. The other families were very nice. Thank you everyone for your help. Now we have a new home because of you.

#### **You are helpful ...**

**Johnny, age 16:** I would like to start off by saying thank you. Thank you everyone who has helped us through this. I appreciate the shelter, the fun, and especially the food because these people know how to cook! At first it was a little weird but in the end it was a fun little adventure meeting everyone. Everyone I met was kind and funny, especially Frank. I think I'm going to miss him the most and his fur coat! Thank you everyone for everything, and God Bless.

**Mom & Dad:** Coming to the FISH program we didn't know what to expect, or how it would work moving from church to church every week with three children. Also meeting new people every week. But to our surprise everyone was welcoming and always made us feel at home. We would like to thank all the hosts and volunteers from each church for being in tune with each other as well as with us. You truly went above and beyond, and showed us that there are still people out there with good hearts.

Theresa, thank you for being a necessary push, and also a blunt person. We appreciate you. Frank the driver is a phenomenally unique person. He is always full of laughs. You will never have a dull day with him. We love you, Frank.

Overall everyone involved will be missed. We love and appreciate you.

One side note, the other families that went through this journey with us have become our family. Thank you all, and God Bless.

# DECEMBER 2018

## FISH Hospitality Program, Inc.

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*Affiliate of Family Promise  
Affiliate of FISH, Inc. Dunellen  
A United Way Partner Agency*

### Board of Directors

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### Director

Theresa Donatiello Neidich, MSW/LSW

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## ***HELP WANTED!!***

We require assistance in preparing fiscal reports and budgets for grant proposals. Please email your resume to [admin@fishhospitality.org](mailto:admin@fishhospitality.org) or call the office.

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## ***WISH LIST***

**Household items:** for Guests when they move into their own homes including: -toilet paper; paper towels; cleanser; dish detergent, kitchen/bath size hand soap

**Toiletries:** feminine pads: overnights; maxi and panty liners; men's & women's body wash; disposable razors and mouthwash

**GIFT CARDS:** Costco Cash Cards, Walmart, Target, Walgreens, CVS, Rite Aid, Famous Footwear, Shop Rite, Acme, and Stop N Shop

***We need gift cards for specific requests, birthdays and when Guests leave FHP for household items or food.***

***We always need furniture for Guests moving out of FHP into a home of their own. Please call us when you have or know about available furniture.***

HAPPY HOLIDAYS \* PEACE, LOVE & HEALTH IN 2019

## PARTICIPATING CONGREGATIONS

### Host Congregations:

Aldersgate United Methodist Church, East Brunswick  
Bound Brook Presbyterian Church  
Christ United Methodist Church, Piscataway  
Community Presbyterian Church, Edison  
First Baptist, Sewaren  
First Presbyterian, Avenel  
First Presbyterian, Cranford  
First Presbyterian, Dunellen  
Rose of Sharon Community Church, Plainfield (day/night)  
Ruth Fellowship Ministries, Plainfield  
Second Reformed Church, New Brunswick  
St. Francis Episcopal Church, Dunellen (day/night)  
St Paul's United Church of Christ, Milltown  
The Presbyterian Church in Westfield  
Trinity Episcopal, Woodbridge  
Trinity Presbyterian Church, East Brunswick

### Support Congregations:

First Congregational Church of Westfield  
The First Presbyterian Church of Iselin  
Jack and Jill of America – Greater Union County  
Mount Olive Baptist Church, Plainfield  
Negro Women Council - Plainfield  
New Beginnings Church of the Nazarene, Edison  
New Dover United Methodist Church, Edison  
Our Lady of Mount Virgin, Middlesex  
Park Community Church, South Plainfield  
Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge  
St. Cecelia's Roman Catholic Church, Iselin  
St. Frances Cabrini, Piscataway  
St. Francis Episcopal Church, Dunellen  
St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, Dunellen  
St Paul's Lutheran Church in Edison  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Edison  
Stonecrest Community Church, Warren  
Trinity Reformed Church, North Plainfield  
United Methodist Church, Woodbridge  
YMCA, Metuchen Branch  
Zion Tabernacle, Piscataway

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## ***Who's in the program now?***

(Kid's age in parenthesis – County)

Mom & 2 boys (14 & 11) – MC  
Mom & one boy (8) & one girl (6) - MC  
Single Woman - UC  
Mom & three boys (17, 16 & 14) – UC

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