

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

March 3: Coordinators' Meeting, 7:00 pm via Zoom  
March 16, Board of Directors: 7:15 pm Via Zoom

## SERVICE STATISTICS - 2020

(January 1 – December 31)

Persons sheltered – 46	Families – 15
Sheltered Adults – 17	Children - 29
Nights of Shelter provided – 3,801	

## SERVICE STATISTICS-2021

(January 1 – March 1)

Persons sheltered – 25	Families – 7
Sheltered Adults – 9	Children - 16
Nights of Shelter provided – 991	

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**You can make a donation on-line using Paypal go to FHP website: <http://www.fishhospitality.org/donate>**

## **SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER!!**

**PLEASE go to our website:  
[www.fishhospitality.org/news](http://www.fishhospitality.org/news)**

**REMINDER:** Our Christmas and Mid-year newsletters are sent out via email; and for those of you who do not have an email address, via US Postal mail. Please subscribe to all of our newsletters, including March & September, on our website. Help us lower our mailing costs. THANK YOU!!!

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## Guest Corner #1

This is Ray. I came from South Carolina, and we had nowhere to go. Luckily, FISH Hospitality came along and gave me and my kids a chance and helped us a lot.

So now that we are on our feet, I want to thank you for all our help. Knowing we have good people like FISH Hospitality to help people so much, I love to tell people about your program. It's good knowing that there are places like FISH Hospitality to help. Thank you so much; and my family thanks you.

Ray, Nyaire & Nyasiaih

## GUEST'S CORNER #2

*I'm writing to thank you all so much for all of your help and support during one of the hardest times in our lives. I never thought I'd ever become homeless. I was devastated and scared for my son & I. I know I had no choice but to call a shelter and it was the scariest call I've ever made. (I know that now after getting to know you over the time we spent there) and Theresa was so nice and calm as I was frantic.*

*I didn't feel like a homeless person there, I just felt like someone who hit a really rough spot in my life, and the program was there to understand and help. We arrived there with no drive, no money, and no hope. Within a few weeks the program helped me budget my earnings and start to understand that this was just a rough patch I had hit and meant to be used as a stepping stone and learning lesson. I left behind the sense of failure I felt in the beginning; and for that there is just no thanks that is enough.*

*The Program gave us more than a roof over our heads. It helped us back on our feet through talks, advice, support, life skills and even talking with the other families was such a support system for us. We learned that it was not the end of the world, just an obstacle we'd get through.*

*We did get through it and again, thanks to all the Fish Hospitality Staff. I would also like to thank the driver, Marquise for always being there.*

*I especially would like to thank my case worker, Mrs Theresa. Thank you for your compassion and encouragement. It is appreciated!*

*Sincerely,  
Letita Grant*

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**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**

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## FISH Hospitality Program, Inc.

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*Affiliate of FISH, Inc. Dunellen  
Member, Anti-poverty Network of NJ  
Partner, United Way of Central Jersey*

### Board of Directors

President: Carole Cook; Vice President: Margo Seaman  
Secretary: Patricia Klatt; Treasurer: Jeffrey Rumen  
Members: David W. Casterline, Marjorie G. Hall  
Robert J. Spencer, Sharon J. Hunt, Claudine Lewis  
Director: Theresa Donatiello Neidich, MSW/LSW

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## *COVID -19 UPDATE*

From **Carole Cook**, the President of the Board of Directors:  
"As the pandemic has continued, FISH Hospitality has remained a constant in assisting families struggling with homelessness. Changing our normal way of doing things presented a small learning curve and Theresa immediately understood how to help our guests. This has continued over this past year as guests have entered the program and have been able to stay in local motels and have received food and transportation from FISH Hospitality. We are confident that with the availability of the vaccine for our volunteers and guests, we will be able to re-open our rotational shelter in 2021. We are developing ways in which we can begin re-engaging our volunteers; stay tuned!!!"

From **Theresa Donatiello Neidich**, our Executive Director:  
"We hit a milestone on December 31. For the first time in FHP history, 100% of families exiting the program, in a single year, moved into permanent housing. This is due in large part to the availability of CoVid Rapid Rehousing Rental Assistance funding from the Department of Community Affairs in both Middlesex and Union Counties."

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

(Kid's age in parenthesis – County)

Mom/Dad & 2 girls (8 & 3) – MC  
Mom & boy (17) – MC  
Mom & 2 girls (UC)  
Mom & boy & girl (11 & 3) – UC  
Mom & 2 girls (17 & 14) & 2 boys (11 & 6) – MC

## **PARTICIPATING CONGREGATIONS**

### Host Congregations:

Aldersgate United Methodist Church, East Brunswick  
Christ United Methodist Church, Piscataway  
Community Presbyterian Church, Edison  
First Presbyterian, Avenel  
First Presbyterian, Cranford  
First Presbyterian, Dunellen  
Rose of Sharon Community Church, Plainfield (day/night)  
Ruth Fellowship Ministries, Plainfield  
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:

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. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, Dunellen  
St Paul's Lutheran Church in Edison  
Stonecrest Community Church, Warren  
Trinity Reformed Church, North Plainfield  
United Methodist Church, Woodbridge  
YMCA, Metuchen Branch  
Zion Tabernacle, Piscataway

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## **WISH LIST**

**Household items:** Laundry pods: cleaning products; paper products: toilet paper & paper towels; dish detergent; toilet bowl cleaner and sanitizing products

**Toiletries:** toothpaste (**NO toothbrushes PLEASE**); men's & women's deodorant (name brand please) men's & women's body wash (sensitive skin); feminine pads; mouthwash and lip balm

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

*We need gift cards to give to guests for specific needs, birthdays and when they leave FHP for household items or food*

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