

## A New FAN

We are thrilled to announce The Hampshire Companies have stepped up as our first corporate FAN (Family Angel Network) Sponsor. This new initiative provides an opportunity for faith communities, corporations, or other philanthropic individuals to help families working to propel themselves out of poverty.

As a FAN, you "sponsor" an apartment in our Transitional Housing Program (THP) and provide support to the family residing there. FAN Sponsors have the opportunity to interact directly with their family and be part of their journey back to independent living. This includes moving into permanent housing, increasing employment, and strengthening the family as a whole. They get to witness their family's transformation firsthand. Equally as important, each FAN Sponsor is helping to preserve a successful and highly regarded program that is at risk of closure due to government funding cuts.

The support provided by Hampshire goes beyond the financial commitment. They have given a domestic violence survivor and single mother of four the security of knowing that she has an extended support system beyond our staff.

Kate Yurjec, Director of Finance at Hampshire shared, "Our employees enjoyed participating in the October birthday celebration and coordinating with our family throughout the holidays. It is rewarding to see the impact Homeless Solutions has on the community in helping to rebuild lives and provide opportunities through this program. We look forward to more events during 2019!"



**Our new FANs!**  
Employees from The Hampshire Companies hosted a birthday party for one of the boys from the family they sponsor at THP.

We are so grateful to Hampshire for embracing the FAN program, and we are excited to honor them at our 19th Annual Dream Builders' Bash with the Dream Builder Award. Join us in celebrating Hampshire on March 1st at The Westin in Morristown.

**Interested in attending the Dream Builders' Bash?**  
Email [LaceyAstrella@hsinj.org](mailto:LaceyAstrella@hsinj.org)

**Want more info about our FAN Program?**  
Email [StephanieCicale@hsinj.org](mailto:StephanieCicale@hsinj.org)

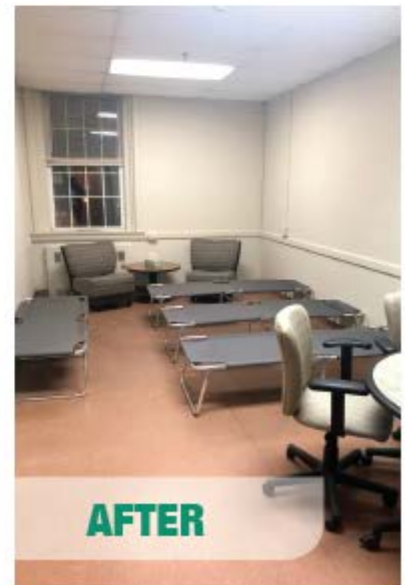
**FAMILY ANGEL NETWORK**  
HOMELESS SOLUTIONS, INC.

## A New Warming Center

When HSI heard about the County's need for more Warming Centers during Code Blue alerts, a few staff members offered to move their offices in order to convert the space into a Warming Center. These former offices are now full of cots and tables to provide a warm, safe place for street homeless people, not the population we traditionally serve as a program based shelter.

A Code Blue alert is declared whenever temperatures drop below the freezing point posing danger to homeless people living on the street. Wesley Gaynor, HSI Director of Programs & Services, is one of the staff members who volunteered to temporarily relocate his office to the basement of our shelter. He shared, "Part of HSI's mission is to protect our most vulnerable residents from harm, including harmful elements during emergency weather conditions. Being able to provide those in need with access to a warm place when the weather is dangerously cold was our inspiration to participate in the County's Code Blue plans."

During the month of December, we were able to provide an additional 372 meals and three participants from the center have entered into our Shelter Program. Opening the Warming Center is a small way we can help make an impact for homeless people this winter.



Check out the before and after pics from one of the rooms in our Warming Center. A few of our staff members volunteered to temporarily move their offices in order to convert the space into a Warming Center.

## HSI Events Recap

### Gran Fondo

Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> was cold and rainy, but that didn't stop our "Riding for Homes" Gran Fondo bike team who took to the streets to help us build a better tomorrow. The funds raised are being used towards our newest housing project on Martin Luther King Blvd. in Morristown. Construction is well underway! The eight unit property will be our first to offer a four-bedroom apartment.

Like to ride? Join our team. It's a great way to do something you enjoy while making an impact in the community. Oh, and we have the best jerseys too!



HSI Gran Fondo team took to the streets to help us build a better tomorrow. Funds raised from the cycling event are being used towards our newest housing project.

### Women's Day

Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> Hamilton Farm Golf Club was buzzing with activity and animated conversation as over 150 women from Morris and Somerset Counties gathered for our 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Day. They enjoyed a day of exercise and socializing while raising funds for homeless families. Morning activities were followed by mimosas and mingling, services from DePasquale the Spa, a ticket auction, and champagne pull. It was a great opportunity to network or meet up with friends for a good cause. The funds raised at Women's Day helped to provide childcare scholarships allowing the women in our programs to continue working while providing for their families.



Women's Day attendees getting ready for a day of exercise and socializing while raising funds for homeless families.

### Party with a Purpose

Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> our Young Professionals Advisory Council (YPAC) held their annual "Party with a Purpose" at The Laundromat in Morristown. We had a great showing and the group enjoyed networking while listening to our live guitarist. But, they had a purpose. They helped provide holiday gifts for our program guests by donating gift cards for local stores like Walmart and ShopRite.



Our Young Professionals Advisory Council hosted their annual "Party with a Purpose" in Morristown. The Happy Hour helped provide holiday gifts for our shelter guests.

Interested in attending an event? Email [LaceyAstrella@hsinj.org](mailto:LaceyAstrella@hsinj.org)

## Welcome New Trustees

We are excited to announce the addition of Colleen Bondy and Robert Schmitt to our Board of Trustees.



Colleen Bondy

Colleen Bondy graduated with a BA in Economics from SUNY Buffalo. After 10 years in corporate America, she decided to stay home full-time with her two children. Once they started school, she got involved with several local nonprofits. Colleen first became involved with HSI as a member of our Gran Fondo bike team. She quickly became a dedicated volunteer and was instrumental in helping coordinate the needs of our

Transitional Housing Program families through *Moms Helping Moms*. The group provides essential needed supplies like diapers and formula. When Colleen is not volunteering, she enjoys playing golf and tennis. She currently resides in Morristown.



Rob Schmitt

Rob Schmitt is currently a Principal & Fund Manager at The Hampshire Companies in Morristown. His involvement with the Hampshire real estate portfolio has ranged from disposition, acquisitions, and refinancing to negotiating tenant renewals, new leases, and shopping center expansion projects. He is also a member of the Senior Leadership Team where he contributes to the establishment and implementation of policy, initiatives, and process to

support Hampshire's mission of Organizational Excellence. Rob has a BS in Civil & Environmental Engineering from Clarkson University and an MBA in Finance from Boston University. Rob and his wife Allison currently reside in Long Valley.



## Wish List

### PANTRY ITEMS

Dinner Napkins | Paper Plates  
Paper Towels | Toilet Paper  
Vinyl Gloves (med. & large)

### OTHER

Men's Flip Flops | Men's & Women's Underwear  
Shower Curtains & Shower Liners (dark colors)

If you are able to help provide any of these items please contact [TamalaReynolds@hsinj.org](mailto:TamalaReynolds@hsinj.org)

You can also check our Amazon Wish List for up-to-date needs by searching for the list "Homeless Solutions" on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



## You Make Our Holidays Bright

As you can imagine, the holidays are a difficult time for our shelter guests. We are so fortunate to have many groups and individuals that help make the holidays a bit brighter, from gifts and parties to decorated trees and even carolers!



We got a visit from Carolers! The Assumption Youth group brought some holiday cheer to our shelter guests singing classic Christmas songs.

To highlight a few examples: the women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority have hosted a holiday party for over 20 years. They serve a special dinner, play games, and even have Santa stop by to deliver gifts to our program participants. And, Country Mile Gardens marked their 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Donation Weekend, where they donate a portion of each tree sold to HSI.

The senior women at our Mt. Kemble Home look forward to the Bailey Family holiday party. They started the tradition a few years ago and it's one of the Home's favorite events. The family caters an over-the-top holiday dinner and showers the seniors with gifts.

Every year following their annual Festival of Trees, The Church of the Messiah delivers beautifully decorated trees for the families in our Transitional Housing Program. Each tree is individually sponsored and decorated, bringing some holiday cheer to our families' temporary home.

It's hard to put into words the gratitude we have for everyone that brightens the holidays for our shelter guests. Tamala Reynolds, our Volunteer Manager, shared with tears in her eyes, "I am so thankful for our amazing supporters. Every year, the shelter guests tell me how in awe they are that people who don't even know them are so generous and kind."

## Extreme Makeover: HSI Edition Pfizer & FCI Consultants Redesign the Shelter Family Lounge

Our shelter is comprised of four programs – serving Single Women, Single Men, Families, and Safe Haven for those with a mental health diagnosis – and each program has its own lounge. With dorm-style living, a lounge provides a space to socialize, relax, and for our families, a much needed play space.

Our Family Lounge was in dire need of a remodel. Thanks to Pfizer and FCI Consultants, our Family Lounge got a redesign that we could only dream of! From all new custom furniture (including cute chairs with duck feet!), to new paint and carpet, plus a chalkboard wall and sensory toys.

The Pfizer team was looking for a hands-on volunteer opportunity that would benefit their local community. They went on a tour of the shelter and learned the Family Lounge was in need of a makeover. They knew this would be the perfect opportunity for them. "The team building aspect of this cannot be understated," Tony Scavone, a Pfizer Director, stated. "We had 12 colleagues participating who work together in varying capacities, but not always directly day-to-day. This project enabled everyone to work on the same task at the same time, bonding folks in ways that have enhanced their relationships back at the office."

Pfizer recognizes that it is hard to face the challenges of a new day when you aren't rested and fully charged. Their hope with the remodeled lounge is that our families can relax and spend more time together while briefly forgetting about any difficulties or worries of the day.



Pfizer & FCI Consultants worked together to redesign the Family Lounge at our Main Shelter.

## Welcome to the Team



HSI welcomed three new employees to the Administrative Office in 2018 – From L-R: Liz Muti, Digital Marketing & PR Coordinator, Pat Morris, Director of Housing Development, and Sandra Rodriguez, Development Operations Manager.

HSI is pleased to welcome three new members to our Administrative Office team – Pat Morris, Liz Muti, and Sandra Rodriguez. Pat comes to HSI as our new Director of Housing Development. His experience in project and property management and financing will serve HSI well as we continue advancing our mission to provide more affordable housing throughout Morris County. Liz joins HSI as the Digital Marketing & PR Coordinator. She was named a top Instagram influencer and is earnestly building our social media followers while raising awareness about HSI across all communication channels. Sandra is our new Development Operations Manager. With a strong background in the nonprofit sector, she is already adding value to HSI. Join us in welcoming them to Team HSI! We look forward to all we can accomplish together in 2019.

HOMELESS SOLUTIONS, INC.  
3 Wing Drive, Suite 245  
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927  
Phone: 973.993.0900  
www.homelessolutions.org

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**OUR MISSION:**  
To offer shelter, services  
and supportive housing to homeless  
and low-income people.



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## Tribute Gifts

August 31, 2018 -  
December 31, 2018

### IN HONOR OF

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Elba Velez

Greg & Anita Calotta  
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George Goldman's Birthday  
Zachary Goldman  
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Tobi & George Goldman  
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Randi & David Silverstein

Michael Haberman  
Carol Todd

Gates H. Hawn  
Dexter Earle

Homeless Solutions Staff  
Blake Cook

Adam Idleberg in honor  
of Hannukkah  
Linda & Norman Idleberg

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Louis Manzo

Veronica Lacz  
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Ed Moriarty's Birthday  
Virginia Moriarty

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Matthew Sebiri  
Barbara Sebiri

Tom Uhlman  
Georgia & Tom Papatomas

Jonathan Villahermosa's  
Birthday  
Rina Nilooben

Candace Weeks  
M&T Weiner Foundation

### IN MEMORY OF

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Jo Ann Ball

Salvatore Cicale  
Mary Ann Cicale  
Carol Cicale

Doreen Cobbs  
Paul Pamiokas

Eileen Condie  
Jamie Condie

Mary Dingler  
Louise Goller

Ruth Frost  
Joyful Noise

Peter Irish  
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William Mathesius

Kim O'Brien  
Tom O'Brien

Andrea Onorato  
Barbara & Bill Lyons  
Bernadette Mueller  
Jessica & Richard Sullo  
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