



Dear Friends of Samaritan Inn,

Greetings to all our supporters and friends! This spring feels incredibly different from last year when the world changed suddenly due to COVID. We did not know how long the pandemic would last nor how far reaching its implications would be. This year we feel as if we have come through the worst of it and there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Yet we still have a long way to go before we arrive at normal, or whatever the normal will be.

Despite all the difficulties of the past year, Samaritan Inn has been incredibly busy as we continue helping the most vulnerable in our community. Our shelters have remained open and at capacity. Since the beginning of 2021, five families have secured permanent housing. As soon as a family moves out, we clean and sanitize the vacant apartments to safely bring in new families. Those families are now stabilizing, starting new jobs, learning to budget and save so they will be able to move into their own apartments. In addition to our regular work, we have been renovating our new building that we bought through a grant from Impact 100 Garden State. This new building will have the capacity to house three more families, bringing our total to 14 families that we can house at any time. Even with supply shortages and delays due to COVID, we are hopeful that this new building will be ready for occupancy by late spring.

This work requires resources, and we are feeling the effects of the continued lockdown of society and the economy. Both of our major fundraisers for 2020, our Tricky Tray and Grape Expectations, were cancelled. Our 2021 Tricky Tray has now been postponed, increasing the need for other sources of funding. Our financial need will be even greater in the months ahead as the new shelter opens. We know we will be housing more families in 2021 as the need will be greater as more people seek help when the eviction moratorium is lifted.

We are asking for your help. The possibilities are endless to partner with us. Would you consider donating a portion of your stimulus money to Samaritan Inn? Could you purchase grocery, gas or laundromat gift cards for our clients? Our goal is to raise \$10,000 by the end of our fiscal year, June 30, 2021, an amount we usually raise at our Tricky Tray. We thank you for your support of Samaritan Inn as you have seen us through the past tumultuous year. Looking ahead, we are confident that together we can keep a door open and a light on for the homeless of Sussex County.

The Board of Directors and Staff of Samaritan Inn

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