



# One House At A Time News

1998

Celebrating 10 Years

2008

April 2008

## OHAAT Makes Habitat House a Home

Just 10 days before Christmas, Sherry Favors and her three children received the best gift of all : a new house with the help of Habitat for Humanity and a house-full of furniture, thanks to OHAAT.

As the house was dedicated in Norristown at the neighborhood library, OHAAT volunteers were busy moving a truck-load of furniture into the new home, mostly donated new from Grossman's furniture in Philadelphia. OHAAT provided living room furnishings, three beds, chests of drawers, tables, a television, linens, a kitchen set and pots and pans.

Upper Dublin Lutheran Church, where One House At A Time is based, pledged \$500 to support the ThriventBuilds project in Norristown, PA. Upper Dublin teamed up with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Lutheran congregations throughout Montgomery County to support the work of Habitat for Humanity. Since providing furniture and beds to families in need is the mission of



Sherry Favors and her family try out their new couch. Her sons are on each end, her daughter is second from the left and a niece and nephews are in the middle.

One House At A Time, it was a natural fit to partner with these organizations and complement their efforts.

Sherry said she prayed every night for stability in her life. She and her children would come home to a house without heat in the winter. As the family was between places to live, they went through a rough patch and went into a shelter until Sherry got back on her feet. With the help of many, her prayers were answered. Now the Favors family is in a house they can call all their own and was extremely grateful for the truckload of furniture that truly made it a home.

## OHAAT Helps a Neighbor in Need



Family members pitched in to unload the truck. Sherman Ford, Stacey's uncle, passes a microwave to volunteers Egbert Maben and Bruce Anderson.

Stacey Brewer and her family are now in a better place. After suffering from multiple strokes that left her blind in her left eye, and dealing with a landlord that made her live in deplorable conditions, this mother with five children at home, sought the help she needed. She moved into a new house and neighbor One House At A Time provided Stacey and her family everything they needed to make this new house a home.

OHAAT volunteers filled the truck with two end tables, two lamps, two chairs, a sofa, coffee table, dishes, pots and pans, various miscellaneous kitchen items, a dining room table and chairs, five twin bed mattresses and box-springs, a dresser, linens and cleaning supplies. Brewer's two sons and other family members pitched in to unload the truck.

"We didn't have much and what little we did have was in such bad condition," said Stacey. "I'm thankful for everything."

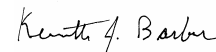
OHAAT provides the basic household necessities, as well as the much-needed comfort, hope and renewed faith that always seems to come with each delivery.

(Over)

## Message from the Chairman

We're grateful to be in our tenth year of carrying out our mission—providing household furnishings to families lacking the basic necessities of life. The families we deliver to truly don't have much and are grateful for what we give them. We can do this because of generous donations and grants. While we helped more than 150 families last year, we currently have 57 on a waiting list. In fact, we're slowly taking requests until we can make the backlog more manageable. We appreciate any support you can provide— whether it's in the form of volunteering your time to make deliveries, or providing a financial or furniture donation. Our goal is to serve 350 families in 2008, and hopefully hundreds more in the years to come. We invite you to join us for our 10-year anniversary event—it will be a wonderful celebration of the hope and joy we've brought to everyone involved in OHAAT over the years.

Ken Barber, Chairman of the Board



## Special Thanks to Our Youth

We received two very touching letters from Diane McGrath (pictured on the right in the green sweater) and Liz Podraza (under the slide on the left), 3rd grade teachers at Erdenheim Elementary School. Instead of having a class Pollyanna, their students decided to bring in the money they would have spent on a gift and donated it to OHAAT. Each class donated enough to purchase two new beds for children in need. We thank the students and their wonderful teachers for their generosity and thinking of OHAAT around the holidays.



We also wanted to thank a Gloria Dei Sunday School class of children, ranging from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grades, for donating and packaging 20 bags of cleaning supplies, which included sponges, sprays, dish

detergent, dish towels, paper towels, hand soap. The youth raised the money through weekly donations and a bag has been given with each delivery.

We got a surprise from youth at Branch Creek Community Church. They found us through United Way and raised \$300 for the Beds for Kids Program. The best part? Several kids from the youth group delivered the beds we were able to purchase with their donation, along with other furniture and beds, to a family recently. Now that's giving in action!

## Save the Date!

OHAAT celebrates its **10-year anniversary**  
with a dinner and silent auction

Saturday, September 27, 2008 at Congregation Beth Or in Maple Glen

Look for your invitation over the summer!



## Two Houses Help the Less Fortunate

Thanks to International House of Pancakes, we have a new way to show your support to One House At A Time. Here's what you need to do: Stop by the Warrington location at 150 Easton Road on Tuesdays or Wednesdays at any time. 7 a.m.—10 p.m., or Sundays from 3-10 p.m., show this newsletter or anything you have with the OHAAT logo, and 20% of your check will go to OHAAT!

One House At A Time • 411 Susquehanna Road • Ambler, PA 19002 • 215-646-7812 • [www.ohaath.org](http://www.ohaath.org)