



THE HAVEN
Community Solutions

Creating and engaging solutions to end homelessness

The Haven Community Solutions Presents:

The April Newsletter



The Haven's Emergency Shelter Program

The Haven has been in existence for 36 years serving homeless families of the Upstate. Traditionally, The Haven was a homeless shelter for families. Homeless families were sheltered on-site for up to 90 days. Along with shelter, families received: 3 meals a day, linens, hygiene products, clothing, and intensive case management.

In April 2018, The Haven sold the large standing shelter and downsized to a smaller building for offices only. At this point, the services of The Haven had expanded to include street outreach and homelessness prevention. Many believed that with the sale of the building and new programs, The Haven no longer offered shelter to homeless families. ***The Haven has always provided emergency shelter to homeless families and has continued to do so.***

The Haven continues to provide emergency shelter to homeless families, just utilizing a different model. The new model is more cost-effective and offers autonomy to the families we serve. The Haven Emergency Shelter Program offers 4 homeless families emergency shelter utilizing a local extended stay at a given time.

Each family has their own room which includes beds, bathroom, linens, towels, wi-fi, dressers, and a kitchen area that includes a full size refrigerator, stove top, microwave, and cabinets. The hotel is located on the bus line among a large business area for employment opportunities, as well as a grocery store

conveniently located across the street. The hotel is well monitored and includes 24 hour staff and security. The Haven provides the necessary kitchen items, hygiene items, and food items to the families. The Haven also provides case management to each family to assist them in obtaining a permanent home of their own.

In this new model, families in the program have the ability to carry on their own lives by doing their own grocery shopping, meal preparation, schedules and routines as they did in their own home. The Haven provides the necessary needs of the families and guidance through case management.

Case Management

Case management is vital to the success of our programs, as well as the success of the clients we serve. Malaika Fowler-Jennings is our Shelter Coordinator. She performs all emergency shelter intakes, assessments, and case management.



Malaika works with families from the moment they call us or walk through the door. She determines whether they qualify for the program (must be a family unit), their needs and other resources for them if there is no space available in our program.

Once a family enters the emergency shelter program, Malaika develops an individualized plan of action that consists of goals to meet in order to be able to become stable and obtain a permanent home. She then travels to the hotel every day to meet with the families one on one to work on their goals.

Malaika provides families with encouragement, needs assessment, crisis intervention, advocacy, resources, and plan of action development & monitoring. She also provides extended case management to those families

that obtain a permanent home, where she travels to their home to continue working on long term goals for long term stability.



A Haven Testimonial: Kim's Story

Kim is a single mom of 5 children. In October, she was unable to afford her apartment and was evicted. Desperate for a place for her and her children, she moved into a hotel with her boyfriend. After about 2 months, the money ran out and the relationship dissolved.

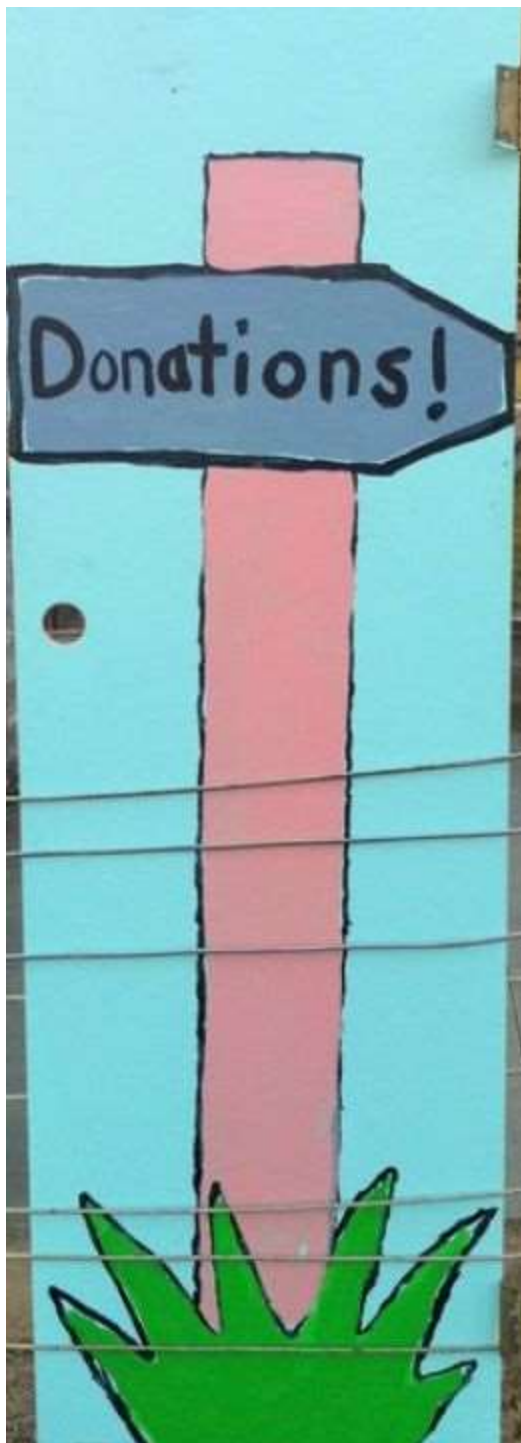
Kim and her children had nowhere to go.

In December, The Haven received a call from a partner agency looking for shelter for this large family. Luckily, we had a room available to accommodate them.

For the next six weeks, Kim diligently worked with the Haven Shelter Case manager to obtain vital documents, SNAP benefits, healthcare, a family doctor, enrollment into school for the school aged children, enrollment in headstart for

the younger children, and employment. All of her hard work payed off and on February 1st, Kim signed a lease and received the keys to her own apartment! The Haven assisted her with the move and obtaining furniture.

Today, Kim is doing well. The Haven is still providing case management for her in-home to continue working towards long term stability. The children are thriving, and Kim is studying to obtain an insurance license!



Emergency Shelter

Program Needs

**Our Emergency Shelter
Program currently needs:**

Pots & Pans

Cooking Utensils

Dishes

Silverware

Non-perishable Food items such

as:

Cereal

Oatmeal

Grits

Canned Goods (Pop Top)

Mac & Cheese

Pasta

Rice

Donor SPOTLIGHT

Emily Ledford



Emily Ledford is an 8th grader at Spartanburg Day School and is doing a project called 20Time that fulfills a need in the community. She chose The Haven and created activity care packages for all the children that enter our program! She donated these not once, but twice!! Children enter our program without practically anything, so these care packages brighten up their day!! Thank you again Emily!!

Check out the wonderful work she is doing in the
community: emilysbusyhands.blogspot.com



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