

GOOD NEWS HOMES

Providing Housing and Support for our Community



Volunteers working on our new housing venture

GOOD NEWS HOMES
115 E. ADAMS ST.
LAGRANGE, KY 40031
502-225-0351
GOODNEWSHOMESKY.ORG

" Love the Lord your God
with all your heart and
with all your soul and with
all your mind and with all
your strength. The second
is this: 'Love your
neighbor as yourself.'
There is no
commandment greater
than these."
Mark 12:30-31

THANK YOU!

From Our Executive Director, Stephanie Skeens

To our 2021 Donors:

What a blessing you have made our year, from Galentine's lunches you bought, to Home Show donations, to Give for Good Louisville, and to the on-line, in person, and mail-in donations you sent! You provided so much for families in our community who were experiencing a housing crisis. You truly loved your neighbors in Oldham, Henry, and Trimble counties.

You provided shelter and support for 49 families which included 50 adults and 43 children through our transitional, rapid and permanent housing programs. We also received calls from 329 persons experiencing unstable housing in 2021. We were able to house 34 of those persons in our programs in addition to those who were already in the program at the beginning of 2021. For those who did not receive actual housing in our program, we referred to landlords, voucher programs, or assisted in problem solving to help those who called think about other solutions for housing.

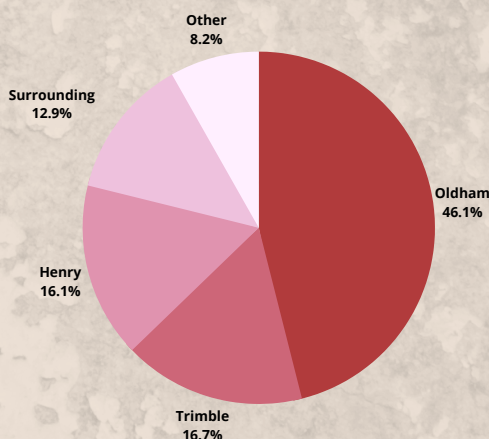
In case you have not heard, we have a new housing venture we are working on which started in 2021 and will be completed by the end of 2022. Please see the story later on in this newsletter. We are excited!

Thank you, once again, for blessing our families. We rely on our donors to keep on providing housing and support for our neighbors who are unstably housed.

Blessings,

Stephanie Skeens

Executive Director



Requests by County 2021

Where Did you Stay Last Night?

34% Doubled Up with Family or Friends

30% Rental and needing assistance

13% in a car, outside, tent, etc

10% other

8% Hotel / Self-Pay



A New Venture for Good News Homes



In March of 2021 we purchased, with the help of the Inasmuch Fund by the Smith-Bottorff families, a six-plex apartment unit in LaGrange on Anchor Avenue. Renovations have begun and we hope to have the two-bedroom, one bath units completed by the fall of 2022.

Oldham County has a lack of affordable housing, so our goal at this time is to provide low-cost, permanent housing for those who have come through our program and need permanent housing, or for those in a housing crisis in need of permanent housing.



This year an anonymous donor provided funds to cover the cost of food at Hometown Pizza for our GNH family Christmas party. Thank you to Donna and her staff as well for making us feel welcomed at Hometown.

Merry Christmas!



Thank you to Bill McGee for representing Santa at the party, to Mary Clark for taking pictures, and to our board and volunteers for serving that evening! The children were able to "shop" for their parents and all families enjoyed a nativity craft, meal, hot chocolate and cookies before leaving with gifts and household items.



Thankful for our volunteers

You make our lives so much easier from organizing, planning, cleaning, and dreaming!

Suzette Ertel, Sheila Koontz, Nancy Murray, Teresa Mitchen, Sandra Ziegler, Lola Griffin, Sue Bricken

GNH Board of Directors

Rick Lucas, Chairman
Tom Grace, Vice Chair
Karen Salvadalena, Treasurer
Charlotte Dawson, Secretary
Jon Dunlap
Denise Hall
Elena Olguin
Gary Bricken
Bob Widman
Deke Rigor
Mary Ann Bowling
David Stoess

Thank you for serving!!!

JANUARY 2022: A LOOK BACK AT THE YEAR 2021
FINANCIAL AND FUNDRAISING UPDATES



Good News Homes
Each lunch is \$25.00 -
proceeds will support the
ministries of Good News
Homes

Galentine's Day

Friday, February 11, 2022

Enjoy a special boxed lunch catered by
Classic Cuisine Catering delivered straight
to yours or your friend's or special someone's
door or office. Enjoy chicken salad, a yummy
side, chips, brownie, and a special treat from
Good News Homes.

Orders may also be picked up at our office in
LaGrange at 115 E. Adams Street between
11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

to place an order go to
our secure website at
goodnewshomesky.org
or
call 502-225-0351
by Thursday, Feb 3rd

We will only be able to deliver to Oldham and Trimble counties (free delivery)

*We will deliver to Jefferson, Henry, or Shelby for orders of 10 or more

THANK YOU!

You Raised over
\$16,000 on-line
and over
\$45,000 via mail-in
to help us help others!



Order by February 4th

Give for Good Louisville was a success once again this year. Adding to the giving will be a match amount of almost \$90,000 by the Inasmuch Fund of the Smith-Bottorff families

Local Businesses Step Up!



Watts Home Center sponsored a Home Show this Spring and we were the recipient for the 2nd year of the booth rentals from local contractors. Thank you! We raised over \$7,000!



Yordan and his family opened SKY Automotive in LaGrange in 2021. For every car he sells, Yordan donates \$25 to Good News Homes. He has had a great year and we have reaped the benefits! thank you!



Jennifer Jacobs and her staff from State Farm collected items for our families early in 2021 and they also hid Easter Eggs for the community and chose us to be one of the recipients of that fundraiser. That amount was then matched by State Farm Corporate!



Be Kind!

The Be Kind Sisters sold their Be Kind signs and other items to raise money for Good News Homes during the Watts Home Show. What a blessing!!

Where do you get your funding?

We are often asked this question so we thought we would answer with the information below:

- 42% From Fundraisers & Individual Donors *
- 24% KY Housing Corp for 1 program
- 18% Local Grants and Foundations
- 16% Tenant rental income

*This includes donations from churches



From Housing Crisis to Homeowner

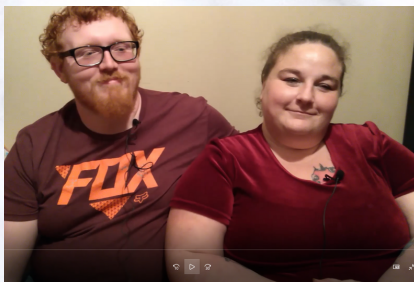
April and her young son were living in situation they had to leave. While they appreciated family members allowing them to stay, it was not a permanent situation.

April and Cayson moved into our Bedford Transitional Apartments just as COVID-19 was getting ready to hit. Her childcare job closed for a time and there were some challenging situations, especially as a single mother.

Fast forward to 2021, April finished our transitional program, graduated from our Single Mom University program (see picture), had enough money saved to move into permanent housing, and moved into an apartment in Oldham County. Fast forward to the end of 2021, beginning of 2022, and April has just purchased her first home!! We are thankful to have been a part of April and Cayson's journey. As a donor to Good News Homes, so were a part of their journey too! God is good!



Rapid Rehousing: Stable Housing is "Key"



In the fall of 2020, Christina and Caleb were living in abandoned buildings and parks in Henry and Shelby counties. Christina said they made some bad decisions and stayed in bad places until they hit rock bottom. They were entered into our Rapid Rehousing program which places those who are sleeping in places not meant for human habitation into permanent housing in the community. Good News Homes pays for the rent for six months and then pays a portion of the rent for the remaining six months while the program participants pay the other portion while saving money and paying off debts.

Christina and Caleb have embraced the program! Caleb has a full-time job, they are putting money into the Good News Homes' savings account where they are matched 1:1 up to \$500, and they are now paying a portion of their rent plus their utilities. The best thing of all . . . Christina has been reunited with her son who had been living with his grandmother because Christina had no stable home. The purpose of Rapid Rehousing is to provide stable housing and then let other things fall into place such as employment, education, and family stability. Caleb & Christina are working the program as it is intended. They are becoming good renters in the process and building a good rental history, which is so important to maintain and obtain stable housing.