



## **What can YOU do? -Volunteer Opportunities-**

**New Directions Shelter provides emergency shelter and support to women and children who are homeless in our community. The Home Connection provides permanent supportive housing for homeless families with children. Here are some ideas on ways to help!**

### **Volunteer to Sponsor a Weekend Meal (Please call to schedule)**

Please call to sign up for a date to bring a dinner meal on a Saturday or Sunday evening at the shelter, 3001 Grand Avenue. Dinner must be dropped off by 4:45pm and may be ready-to-eat or can be cooked/heated up at the shelter. Dinner would serve approximately 25-30 people, 2/3 of those children. You can provide a ready to serve entrée, if the entrée needs to be heated, please drop off with enough time to heat. Chocolate milk and juice other than orange is also welcome as is salad and dessert. This is an easy and fun way to volunteer at the Shelter one time or on a regular basis.

### **Fill the Freezer**

Your or your group can fill our freezer with meals to be used for lunches or on those weekends without a sponsored meal. By doing this you are meeting a basic need for the women and children who are homeless in your community.

### **Provide Children Activities**

Read books, play games, create art projects, plan a movie night, Bingo night, an ice cream social night, or provide any other projects for the children staying at the shelter! Activities can be held in the late afternoons, evenings, or weekends.

### **Share a Holiday**

Bring your family, community group, religious organization to celebrate a holiday with the children and families here at New Directions Shelter. Holidays include but are not limited to: Valentine's Day, Easter, St. Patrick's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years!

### **THC Family Holiday Sponsorship**

Adopt one of our Home Connection families for the Christmas holiday. You and your family or group shop from the family's "Wish List," wrap & tag the gifts for each family member, and most importantly, spread much holiday joy and happiness. Contact Melanie at 515-244-9748 or

[Melanie@hawthorn-hill.org](mailto:Melanie@hawthorn-hill.org).

### **Green Thumb**

Planting flowers, gardening, landscaping, and yard clean up are great examples of the outside work that need to be done to maintain the shelter and the homes we provide for our Home Connection families.

## **Organization**

Helping maintain the organization of the storage area including food pantry, hygiene items, and especially the clothing closet is a huge need we have. We are looking for monthly volunteers to help us maintain this area.

## **Clean Up Our Act**

Maintaining the cleanliness of the shelter, such as deep cleaning the common areas, is a need we always have. This is not the most exciting job, but is essential to help us continue to have a safe and clean environment for our families at New Directions Shelter.

## **Organize a Supply Drive at Your Local Church or Work**

New Directions Shelter has a wish list filled with products and supplies that the shelter is in great need of. This is a perfect service project for religious organizations, community groups, and clubs!

## **Financial Contributions**

Monetary contributions are always welcome. Your contributions will help provide shelter and services for a family in need. Financial support will help us to continue to serve those who are homeless in our community.

**Volunteer duties are negotiable and flexible. We want to make this a good experience for YOU! If you have any volunteer ideas we would be open to them. For more information contact Kiana or Kelsie by phone at 515-243-7456 or [Kiana@hawthorn-hill.org](mailto:Kiana@hawthorn-hill.org) or [kelsie@hawthorn-hill.org](mailto:kelsie@hawthorn-hill.org) by email.**

**Please visit our website at [www.hawthorn-hill.org](http://www.hawthorn-hill.org) and “like” us on Facebook!**