

Elizabeth Gregory Home's Under the Yellow Umbrella



Summer 2011

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



As I conclude my two-year term as President of the EGH Board, I am ever grateful to the Board members and current staff who have guided us from a time of great volatility to a place of stability out of which we hope to achieve a new level of sustainability. More importantly, I am ever grateful to you, our financial donors and volunteers, who have remained dedicated in your support of EGH, confident in the importance of this organization, faithful and steady in your contributions, and trustworthy of our capability to use your gifts wisely and effectively.

At a current Board retreat, we each answered the question, “When was one of the first times in your life that you became aware of homelessness?” The stories that we shared reminded all of us about the plight of those who first captured our attention and touched our compassion for the well-being of those who had no safe and comfortable place to call “home.” As you answer this question for yourself, and invite others into this conversation, you will be reminded that homelessness is a national crisis that affects all of us in so many ways. One of the purposes of welcoming women into EGH is to keep all of us aware that real people are losing their homes and being pushed to the brink of disaster as a result of this systemic crisis.

EGH is a small sign of hope in light of this crisis, but a definite ray of hope nonetheless. At EGH, women are welcome into a Day Center that has a feeling of home where the women can relax, share a meal, work on a computer, do laundry, and be safe. The transitional house of EGH provides beds for 7 women who are welcome to stay for up to 2 years until they are able to secure permanent housing. Currently, these women are supported by a team of 5 people, staff and volunteers, who diligently are helping them to live together in community, deal with personal issues, secure proper benefits, acquire a job, get further education, and secure permanent housing. Your contributions make all of this happen and more. Thank you on behalf of the women, the staff, and the Board.

Speaking of the EGH Board, I would invite you to consider serving on this Board if you have the gifts, the passion, and the time for such a service. For the benefit of this organization, we need to expand the membership of this Board to include people with financial and legal expertise, connections with other benefactors, and the ability to lead EGH into a sustainable future. If you would like to discuss this option further, please contact Carol Bridges at (206) 523-1959. If serving on the Board is not an option for you, then you might consider serving on one of the committees of EGH—Program, Fund Development, or Grant Application. Thank you for the consideration of any of these opportunities.

THANK YOU FRANK GREGORY FOR SERVING ON THE EGH BOARD FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE TWO-YEAR TERMS. WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE IN THE PAST YEARS. THANK YOU FOR STAYING ON OUR FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

WE WELCOME PHIL MITTERLING AND MARCINE HULL WHO RECENTLY JOINED THE EGH BOARD.

AROUND EGH & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

June marked the end of my first year at Elizabeth Gregory Home Day Center. What a year it has been! I was homeless myself in May, 2010 when I was accepted in the AARP Work Search Program. The AARP program brought me to the Day Center as a paid volunteer which was my first step toward full-time employment and ultimately stable housing.

Everyday at EGH is different and offers important life lessons. Whether I am trying to find a toothbrush for a woman, providing a list of open shelters or just listening to a client's story, working at the center is a constant reminder of where I have been and how lucky I am to work in a place so full of hope and understanding.

Working at the EGH Day Center has not only given me a chance to contribute to the homeless community, it has allowed me to forge meaningful and rewarding friendships with many of the clients. The clients and experiences have truly changed my journey.

-Michele Martin



Michele



Irene

My name is Irene. I would like to tell you that I am a very lucky person because I found Elizabeth Gregory Home. I became homeless due to a domestic violence situation. I came to the SHARE-WHEEL shelter which is adjacent to the Elizabeth Gregory Home Day Center, after being on the streets for two scary months, sleeping on the bus at night time to evade my abusive partner.

I am still homeless, I but I am not lost, because I have a wonderful place to come to five days a week. I am allowed to cook breakfast or lunch and share with other people. I have an opportunity to get help with housing and other paperwork that I need to do. I belong to a crochet class that is held once a week. I get to help other people and be helped by other people. I found friends at Elizabeth Gregory Home.

I am grateful for this opportunity to better myself and start a new life, even though it takes time. When I eventually find housing, I would like to continue to give back to Elizabeth Gregory Home. I am hopeful that Elizabeth Gregory Home can continue to do what they did for me for several other women, because there is no place that has felt safe and been more welcoming than the day center here. Thank you for your support in keeping this wonderful place open and growing.

Acknowledgments

GIFTS FROM FOUNDATIONS BUSINESSES & FAITHBASED ORGANIZATIONS

Boeing Employees Matching Gifts
 Christ Lutheran Church
 Compass Housing Alliance
 Complete Office
 Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Faith Lutheran Church
 Gethsemane Lutheran Church
 Kiwanis Club University Foundation
 Microsoft Matching Gifts
 Noetix
 NW WA Synod Region ELCA
 One Family Foundation
 Presbyterian Women of LCP
 Puget Sound Bank
 Regence Employees Matching Gifts
 Richmond Beach Congregational Church
 Seattle Convention Center
 St Andrew's Lutheran Church
 Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
 United Way of King County
 United Way of Richmond and Petersburg
 University Christian Church
 Western National Mutual Insurance Company
 Youthcare

VOLUNTEERS

Anastasia for Front Desk Assistance
 CeeCee McRay for Haircuts
 Darleen Atik for food donation pickup
 Debbie Strom for help with book sale
 Katharyn Weinberg for nursing advice
 Katie Gienapp for Counseling Services
 Laura Mitterling for Case Mgmt. Services
 Lilly Nicklos for Haircuts
 Lois Moe for making Greeting Cards
 Ray Munger for food donation pickup
 Teresa Rich-Mackenzie for Client support

RECURRING GIFTS

Betty Bender
 Delores Callahan
 Tim Devlin
 Cheryl Hood
 Duane Mackenstadt
 Michael Mackey
 Henry Wedelstaedt

IN-KIND GIFTS

Complete Office and its Employees
 Daune Mackenstadt
 Farms for Life for Produce Donation
 Food LifeLine for Food Donation
 Huda Giddens
 Joan Pittman
 Kim Stewart
 Laurelhurst Community
 Linda Drahn
 Marti Verkuilen and Charlie Tiebout
 Peggy Dubuque
 Ronni Gilboa and Betty Johanna
 Ruth Herold
 Starbucks (41st and University)
 U-Temple Methodist Church
 Western National Insurance & its Employees
 Woodland Park Zoo

RECENT UPDATES & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Valentine's Day Ball

Love was definitely in the air when so many of you showed your **passion** for your loved ones by showing your **compassion** for the women of Elizabeth Gregory Home. You contributed to our cause by not attending this event and not inviting anyone else to do so. Your made gifts to EGH in lieu of coming out, buying special clothes, hiring babysitters, etc. Instead you had an evening to wear comfy clothes, stay at home, and feel good about not attending! This "non-event" paid the rent at our transitional residence for three months and our day center for two months. Thank you to each of you for your generosity! Our women send their love and appreciation along with our staff and board of directors.

Americorp Volunteers at EGH

Twenty Americorp volunteers helped the EGH Day Center with spring cleaning. The volunteers spent three hours washing walls and windows, putting down new self paper, moving and cleaning behind the appliances and reorganizing the clothing room. The day center now has a spiffy new look!

The volunteers were rewarded for all their hard work with a lunch prepared by Michele Martin and Anastasia Kedroe (an EGH client and volunteer). Thank you for all the hard work!



Fifth Annual Benefit Dinner

Piano music provided by Rich Hinrichsen greeted guests as wine and hors d'oeuvres opened our annual dinner. The Lake Union Cafe's wonderful dinner was, as usual, delicious. The needs of homeless women were addressed by Rachael Meyers, Executive Director of the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, and by two of our women. Michele, now employed by us, and Victoria shared "the heart and soul" of our programs at EGH and their personal stories were a highlight of the evening. Raffle and door prize winners left with something tangible but all left feeling that their gifts would make a difference in the lives of many women. Donations from individuals unable to attend are still arriving and we currently have raised over \$37,000

Our thanks to Complete Office for underwriting the entire dinner and to Sadow Insurance, Western National Insurance, Youthcare and LaVassar Florist for their generous support. We also want to thank all our volunteers and all who made this a very special event.

IF YOU MISSED OUR ANNUAL DINNER, BUT WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD IT, PLEASE MARK "SPRING DINNER" ON YOUR CHECKS OR DONATION ENVELOPE OR AS A MEMO FOR ONLINE GIFTS.



Road trip to Leavenworth

The residents went on their first road trip in the history of EGH. The day started at 7:00 AM with the residents going to Safeway to buy breakfast. We went to Lake Wenatchee, where we had our breakfast at 10:00 AM. After enjoying the beauty and the peacefulness at the lake, we went to Leavenworth, where the women shopped for \$20 each and had Bratwurst, thanks to the generosity of Katie Gienapp, Frank Gregory and an anonymous donor. A little after 3:00 PM we got back in the car to head to Seattle, back to Home Sweet Home :-)



Acknowledgments (Continued)

IN OUR LAST NEWSLETTER, WE FORGOT TO ACKNOWLEDGE GIFTS FROM SEATTLE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU. WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR ALL GIFTS THAT WE RECEIVE AND ESPECIALLY WHEN A COMMUNITY GETS TOGETHER TO SUPPORT OUR CAUSE, WE ARE VERY APPRECIATIVE. WE SINCERELY APOLOGIZE FOR MISSING THAT ON OUR LAST NEWSLETTER. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



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UPCOMING EVENTS

**ELIZABETH GREGORY HOME'S
4TH ANNUAL BOOK SALE
AT HUNTER'S FARM LOT
7744 35th Ave NE
JULY 22 & 23, 2011
(FRIDAY AND SATURDAY)**

EGH WISHLIST

GENTLY USED POTS AND PANS
SUGAR
BUTTER
TOILET PAPER
PAPERTOWELS
LIQUID LAUNDRY DETERGENT
DISH SOAP
YARN
HOT SAUCE
FEMININE HYGIENE ITEMS (LARGE SIZE)
BUS TICKETS
NEW UNDERWEAR
ZIPLOCK BAGS

DO YOU HAVE TICKETS TO CONCERTS AND SHOWS YOU ARE
UNABLE TO GO TO? THINK OF THE WOMEN OF EGH!!

WE ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTING FURNITURE DONATIONS

Board of Directors

Carol Bridges, Board President
Teresa Rich-Mackenzie, Vice President
Darleen Atik, Secretary
Annmarie Sibborn, Treasurer
Ron Moe-Lobeda
Rick Israel
Melinda Gioveno
Joan Overland
Phil Mitterling
Marcine Hull

EGH Administrative Staff

Sinan Demirel, Executive Director
Kanti Mani, Program Director
Michele Martin, Day Center Supervisor

Katie Gienapp, Volunteer Psychologist
Laura Mitterling, Volunteer Case Manager

AARP & YWCA Enrollees

Alieta Mcquiller
Kathy Sa
Phylina Flight
Enjolie Fant
Susan Gemson