

A Shalom Moment

A Publication of Beth Shalom

Fall 2015

Volume 11, Issue 3



the V. Ronald & Diane L. Smith
"Home for A New Start"
a program of Tabor Community Services

MISSION

Beth Shalom House of Peace, the V. Ronald & Diane L. Smith "Home for A New Start," is a structured residential program that equips single mothers to learn positive parenting and life skills and to pursue financial responsibility through schooling and employment. Christian faith is at the core of the guiding principles, values and objectives of the program.

TABOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Handy Cuevas
Paul I. Currie
Joseph Dhansis
Tom Fasnacht
Phil Frey
Dan Hess, *Chair*
Sherry Hibshman
Jane Hooper Peifer
Bryan Martin
Jill M. Laskowitz
Stephanie Reese
V. Ronald Smith
Robert Thomas, *Tabor President*
Doug Umble
Lenny Walton
Ted Williams

God Continues to Restore

Dear Friends of Beth Shalom,

If you were unable to join us for the 5th Annual Beth Shalom Dinner, you missed an exciting evening. We were privileged to experience the fruits of Beth Shalom by hearing from Keisha, a graduate of our program which helped us all realize how meaningful Beth Shalom is and how God works through our Ministry.

Keisha not only graduated from Beth Shalom, but also went back to school and completed a medical office program to earn her associates degree. Today, she has a good job, is very involved in her church and continues to care for her children.

Our featured speaker Marty Mohn talked about how "change is possible" and her journey from mental illness and addiction to prison and how she was able to improve her life. It was a reminder to all of us that we can change and how we all need grace, forgiveness, and prayer in our lives. We hope you and your friends will have the opportunity to attend next year's banquet as it is a great way to stay informed and also to introduce individuals to Beth Shalom.

In this edition of A Shalom Moment, we read about Shatia and can see the restorative work and transformational journey that she is continuing to walk with God as she currently resides at Beth Shalom.

We continue to need your prayers and gifts to keep Beth Shalom operating. Because Beth Shalom is a Christian program, we receive no government grants and our only means for funds are individuals, churches, businesses and foundations. Many of you remember Tammy Martin, who recently retired from Tabor after years of dedicated service as a division manager. Tammy has been hired part time as the Beth Shalom Church Relations Specialist. In this role she is available to meet with you and/or your church and Sunday school groups to talk about Beth Shalom and how you can help women change their lives through this ministry. Please call (717) 358-9383 for more information.

Another way to help ensure the future of Beth Shalom is planned giving. Please review the info on the back of this issue or go to our website at www.BethShalomLancaster.org and click the Planned Giving button. There are many ways to make a planned gift and you might be surprised by how affordable some planned giving options can be.

Thank you, once again, for your faithful support and prayers.

Anne E. Shannon
Former Member, Tabor Board of Directors

My help comes from the Lord

Shatia was brought up in the church and even at a young age saw the value of living a Christian life. She was baptized at the age of seven but as she grew older, she also grew away from her faith. “Looking back,” she says, “I know that God has been watching over me this whole time.”

Having grown away from her faith, she began to live a life that wasn't indicative of who she was in Christ. Ultimately, Shatia was incarcerated for being a passenger in an unauthorized vehicle.

She was already on probation from a prior conviction when she had given a ride to a friend. Unbeknownst to her, that friend was carrying marijuana. When looking back on that time in her life, Shatia said, “I thought my life was over. I thought I was going to prison for a long time.”

Shatia served a five month sentence. During that time she met a chaplain, Karin White. Through Karin, Shatia found out about Beth Shalom and felt that it was not only where she needed to be, but where she was called to be. Karin suggested that after being released from prison, Shatia should contact Lenara, Beth Shalom's program coordinator.

“Please Lord, have an opening” were words she continually prayed as she hoped to be accepted into Beth Shalom. Her prayers were answered one Thursday when she stopped in at Tabor's office to speak with Lenara in person. Lenara told her, “I can have a unit for you next Tuesday.” Shatia attributes this opportunity to the support that was continually provided through the chaplain she met in prison, who soon after retired. Shatia observed “she had one more person to help.”

Not only was Shatia blessed to be accepted into Beth Shalom, but she also was reunited with her six-year-old daughter on her first day in the program.

Looking to the future, Shatia hopes to have her own apartment in the next year, continuing on a path towards self-sufficiency.

Additionally, seeing others in similar situations to where she once was, she is also planning to continue her education to become a drug and alcohol counselor. “I've come a long way. There is always hope and I don't forget where I come from.”

As she pursues these goals, she also wants to provide a life for her children so they can have a bright future and connection with God. A guiding scripture passage that Shatia attributes to her continued growth at Beth Shalom is Psalms 121:1-2. “I have to be a good example” she remarked when thinking about her children and their future.

“I know that God has been watching over me this whole time”



▲ Shatia with her son, the newest resident of Beth Shalom, born July 27

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

-Psalms 121:1-2

New Resident Assistant/Counselor



Kiyana McGill-Jefferson started working with the women and children of Beth Shalom the end of April. Previously, she was a Personal Parent Trainer (PPT) for the YWCA which was contracted through Children and Youth Agency.

"Working as a PPT with families in the community," explains Lenara Porter, program coordinator for Beth Shalom, "Kiyana has the skills, knowledge of case management and budget counseling, understands poverty and homelessness and what it takes to move families from homelessness to permanent housing. A resident of Lancaster County, Kiyana also knows the resources available in the community, which will help the residents to acquire the tools that will lead to self-sufficiency."

We asked Kiyana about her new position and here is what she had to say.

What is it that you like about working with the women of Beth Shalom?

"Reception, it's a time in their lives that they are open to receive the help, to hear the word and to do the work. I enjoy showing up every day and working but more importantly interacting with the families. I am understanding daily that my walk is a reflection of my heart and the reception is from the model that I display through my words and actions."

What is it that you like about the Christian program?

"I can pray for someone, I can ask them to seek the answer for a problem through prayer first, I can lean not on my own but on the word of God. I can do all these things and still provide the social services that the families need and walk away after each encounter encouraged."

What do you hope to accomplish as resident assistant/counselor for Beth Shalom?

"I hope to just continue the good works that Miss Lenara has been doing for so many years. I hope to be able to stand each day with these women and be a reflection of a wholesome heart, I hope to lead by example as I am following the example that Miss Lenara displays to me each day."

What else would you like people to know about you?

"That I am just your everyday lady next door. I enjoy my family and friends, pray for peace and happiness and enjoy life one day at a time."

Repairs & replacement fund

With the normal wear and tear of daily use, appliances in the Beth Shalom apartments need repairs and replacement. Currently, there is no money in the budget for this. If you or your church group or organization would like to contribute toward a fund for appliance repairs and replacement, in addition to your normal giving to Beth Shalom, please mail your gift marked "for appliances" in the envelope provided in this newsletter.

Go the EXTRA mile for Beth Shalom, Friday, November 20.

On that day, Tabor Community Services is participating in the Extraordinary Give, Lancaster County's Largest Day of Giving. For 24 hours only, visit ExtraGive.org and make a donation of at least \$25 ... and every dollar you donate will be stretched from a pool of \$250,000 from the Lancaster County Community Foundation and Rodgers & Associates. PLUS, there are additional funds from a pool of \$50,000 that we can win just from your donation!

So that your gift and extra funds will go to Beth Shalom, be sure to enter "Beth Shalom" in the "In memory of" field.

For more information go to ExtraGive.org or contact Phyllis at Pstacks@tabornet.org or (717) 358-9383.

When You Give Extra, Extraordinary Things Happen!

Mark your calendar • Tell your Friends • Give Extraordinary • ExtraGive.org

THE EXTRATM
ORDINARY
GIVE

NOVEMBER 20, 2015



BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER

Many people find that giving assets other than cash makes more sense within their financial plan, and it maximizes their tax benefits. Beth Shalom, through Tabor, has partnered with Mennonite Foundation of Everence and Lancaster County Community Foundation (LCCF) to help you make planned giving decisions while respecting your wishes and being sensitive to your faith and values. Both Everence and LCCF accept many types of direct, planned and deferred gifts, and will work with you, Tabor, and your legal or financial advisor regarding the most effective giving vehicle for your circumstances.

Types of direct gifts include:

- Cash/Check
- Credit card via secure online donation
- Appreciated marketable securities
- Closely held business stock
- Mutual funds

Types of planned and deferred gifts include:

- Bequests by will or trust
- Life insurance policies
- Qualified retirement plan assets such as IRA, 401(k), 403(b), pensions
- Life income gifts such as Charitable Gift Annuities



Giving to Beth Shalom through a foundation is easy. The foundation will focus on flexibility and foresight, allowing you to benefit Beth Shalom in the way that works for you.

If you would like to learn more, please contact Phyllis Stacks at (717) 358-9383 or pstacks@tabornet.org. Or go to www.tabornet.org > How Can I Help? > Planned Giving.



Did you know? ... 90% / 7%

90% of us make donations to a community benefit organization such as Beth Shalom in our lifetime.

But, only 7% of us designate a charitable gift in our will or estate plan.

When our lives are over, our gifts to Beth Shalom are over as well, unless a planned gift has been arranged. What if 10%, or 20%, of us decided to give for the future? What kind of long-term impact could Beth Shalom make in our community?

E-donate! - www.bethshalomlancaster.org

Click on 'Donate Now,' top, right corner of your screen. Enter the amount under Beth Shalom and follow the instructions. Don't want to donate on-line? Use the envelope enclosed.

————— **THANK YOU** for your support! —————

Go paperless! Send your email address to nlammey@tabornet.org to receive future newsletters in pdf format via email.

Volunteer Opportunities

Spread the word ... Advocate!

Represent Beth Shalom to your congregation or group: announce special events, fundraisers, and other needs; place notices in church bulletins or newsletters; distribute or post Beth Shalom materials; let us know about opportunities for presenting the story of Beth Shalom to a Sunday School class, at a banquet or to a youth group; and include Beth Shalom in your church's or group's mission budget for an annual offering.

Contact Phyllis at pstacks@tabornet.org or (717) 358-9383 to be an Advocate or receive more information.

Spread God's love ... Mentor!

Many residents are young in Christ and need strong Christian friends in their lives. If you are considering being a spiritual mentor to a Beth Shalom mother, contact Lenara at Lporter@tabornet.org or (717) 358-9376.

A Shalom Moment is published by Beth Shalom House of Peace the V. Ronald & Diane L. Smith Home for A New Start

P.O. Box 1676, Lancaster, PA 17608-1676

Beth Shalom is a program of Tabor Community Services.

(717) 358-9376 • fax (717) 399-4127 • www.BethShalomLancaster.org

When women leave prison ... they leave with nothing.

Beth Shalom needs **\$10, \$20 and \$30 gift cards** to stores such as Target or Walmart where the women can shop in one place for the clothing and food they need immediately.

If you, your church, Sunday school, social group or company would like to purchase these cards for Beth Shalom, or donate any of the items below, please contact Lenara at (717) 358-9376 or Lporter@tabornet.org.

- dish detergent
- paper towels
- hand soap
- dust spray
- Magic Erasers
- all purpose cleaners
- towels & wash cloths
- toilet paper
- tissues
- Pampers, sizes 4,5 & 6
- women's sanitary products
- Pine Sol or Mr. Clean
- glass cleaner

We especially need new single and double bed sheets, flat and fitted.