

# HUNDRED NIGHTS

HUNDRED NIGHTS INC • COLD WEATHER SHELTER • OPEN DOORS RESOURCE CENTER • BE WELL CLINIC

## Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This year the Cold Weather Shelter is going to open its' doors to anyone in need of a clean bed in a warm space on Thanksgiving night. Why? The nights are getting longer as we edge towards the Winter Solstice. It is getting colder as well, and at night my furnace kicks on and I have to remember to turn down the thermostat to save some oil for the rest of the winter season. Every time I do that I am reminded of how fortunate I am to be indoors and not trying to sleep outside at this time of year. We have had 5 families with children and 11 individuals - all "newly homeless" – call us in the last 3 weeks, to ask where they should look for help, and there are no open shelter beds in the state. It is often difficult for me to face people first thing in the morning, knowing that they have been outdoors all night. Last year, after serving a big turkey dinner to our homeless neighbors we had to announce that the Shelter didn't open for another week, and send them out into the snow.

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*"But I, being poor, have only my dreams. I have spread my dreams under your feet; tread softly, because you tread on my dreams." - William Butler Yeats*

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### **Please Consider a Donation as We Enter the Winter Season**

All of your donations, large and small, will help Hundred Nights to pay the rent, turn on the heat, wash and dry 15-20 loads of laundry a day, provide clean beds, open the Resource Center, provide warm beverages, and offer comfort to a homeless population with few choices of where to go. Winter can be a very tough time of year – tough for Hundred Nights as well. It is the time of year when we need to raise enough money to keep the doors open to provide shelter to some of our most vulnerable neighbors. Please drop off or mail us a donation if you are able to at this time. I can tell you that we appreciate and give warm thanks to each of you who help us serve those in need.

### **Meet the Board of Directors**

Although it is hard to meet people through a mailing, I would like to introduce you to our Board of Directors for the next year. Board Chair, Tim Peloquin; Vice-Chair, Branwen Gregory; Secretary, Sandy Carey; and Treasurer, Dick Newton; are joined by Board Members Cindy Sterling, Beau Gillespie, Carrie Smith, Ben Tilton, Raelene Alexander, Lena Mark, Tammy Barrett, Deb Pickering and Sue Maydwell in helping Hundred Nights, Inc. grow into a vibrant and healthy organization providing a much needed service, more efficiently, to those of our community in need.

### **WISH LIST ITEMS**

#### **Please drop off at 17 Lamson Street!**

We would like to thank everyone who donates supplies also! Here is a list of currently needed items: Gently used warm winter clothing – boots, socks, gloves, jeans, coats and long underwear in all adult sizes, medicated foot powder, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo and conditioner, feminine hygiene products, coffee, sugar, sugar substitute, powdered creamer, peanut butter, cream cheese, heat and eat meals, hot and cold cups, sturdy paper plates, toilet paper, paper towels....thank you, thank you, thank you!

# Shelter Volunteer Trainings

In preparation for opening the Cold Weather Shelter on Thanksgiving night, the staff has set up training sessions for anyone interested in volunteering this coming winter season. We need dozens of people to help with the intake process from 6:30 to either 9:30 or 11 pm and 11 pm to 7 am daily. Intake volunteers greet people, help guests fill in an Intake form, check their belongings into a locker, and assign beds. The overnight shift starts at 11 pm, and volunteers are needed to stay awake through the night, monitoring the shelter, until 7 am. We are also hoping to fill some volunteer spots available on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

**The training sessions are scheduled at the following dates and times:**

**Saturday, November 14th at 3pm, Tuesday, November 17th at 6pm, and Saturday, November 21st at 3pm.** The sessions will be about two hours long. They will be held upstairs in the conference room at Hundred Nights Inc., 15 Lamson St, in Keene. If you are interested in helping out over the winter season as a Shelter Volunteer we would love to hear from you and see you at one of the training sessions! Please call Mindy or Jeff at (603) 352-5197 to sign up.

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*"Poverty is the worst form of violence."*

*- Mahatma Gandhi*

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## Other Volunteer Needs

Dinner is served every Saturday and Sunday night at Hundred Nights Open Doors Resource Center, 17 Lamson St. in Keene from 5 to 6pm. Because our numbers have gotten so large (we currently are seeing about 50 people come to dinner) we are trying to find a larger space to use that is close by. If we find one, you will be notified quickly! But for now, if you would like to put together a group to help prepare, serve and clean up after dinner, here is how it works!

- **Arrive at Resource Center about 15 minutes ahead of time to set up**
- **Food should be hot and/or ready to be served if cold**
- **Plan on feeding 50**
- **Dinner is served over the course of an hour**

We have a volunteer on site to unlock doors, help as needed with serving, sweeping up and wiping tables, and locking up. We currently have open dates in January, February and beyond!

We will be preparing and serving Holiday Meals this year on the following dates: Thanksgiving, Nov 26; Day after Thanksgiving, Nov 27; Christmas, Dec 25. If you would like to participate by making/baking or otherwise preparing some food, please let us know. Last year people made mashed potatoes, squash and green bean casseroles, cooked and sliced up turkeys and hams with stuffing and gravy...and it was gobbled up by people who were very grateful to have such a wonderful meal.

Please give me a call at 352-5197 if you have any questions or comments about anything in this newsletter. As always, we wish you and your families health and happiness over the upcoming winter season. Thank you for being there for those in a less fortunate place.

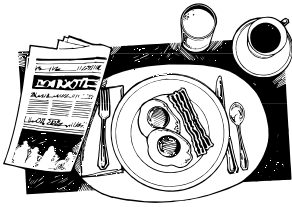
Best,  
Mindy Cambiar  
Executive Director



### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Hundred Nights, Inc. is to provide a cold weather shelter offering clean beds in a safe and warm space to our neighbors in need, to operate the Open Doors Resource Center, which provides a welcoming space for people to gather for sustenance of body and spirit on a year-round basis and hold a free medical clinic on a regular basis for the uninsured and homeless people in our community.

# 2015-2016 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST PROGRAM



Given the increased need in the region, the free Community Breakfast Program will open early this year on Friday, November 27 in the parish hall of the Keene Unitarian Universalist

Church (KUUC), 69 Washington Street in Keene. This collaborative effort is the work of volunteer teams and financial underwriting from the KUUC, the United Church of Christ, the Knights of Columbus, Parish of the Holy Spirit and many individuals.

Monday-Friday, teams of volunteers are responsible for planning, shopping and preparing menus and food, arriving on site at 6:30am in order to offer a hot breakfast for guests from 7-8am daily. Breakfast items vary but included an assortment of cereal, oatmeal, toast, French toast, pancakes, potatoes, eggs, bacon, sausage, fruit, granola bars, coffee, juice and milk. Participants in the breakfast program express

appreciation by cleaning up the parish hall after each meal, managing tables, chairs and mopping the floor.

Guests engage in conversation with volunteers who join them for breakfast, resulting in building a sense of community. Last year, after a discussion about the need for lockers for homeless individuals to store the personal belongings and backpacks of was discussed, 24 lockers were provided by MDP Development from the former Keene Middle School, underwritten by a donor and installed at Hundred Nights Cold Weather Shelter.

In 2013-14, the number of breakfasts served totaled 1,068. Last year, it took 1,363 volunteer hours to serve an expanded audience of 2,137. To help underwrite the program, send your check made payable to the Community Breakfast Program to KUUC, 69 Washington St, Keene NH 03431. To donate food, contact the office administrator at 352-1719 or email [office@kuuc.org](mailto:office@kuuc.org).

## 'Come in From the Cold' Benefit Friday, November 20, 2015

FEATURING HUG THE DOG

*To Support Hundred Nights & The Community Kitchen*

In anticipation of a long winter season, a fundraiser to support the work of Hundred Nights Shelter and The Community Kitchen will be held on Friday, November 20 at the Elks Lodge, 81 Roxbury Street in Keene, NH. Proceeds will be shared equally between both nonprofit organizations.

Hug the Dog is a 4-piece local band that is quickly tracking on the regional scene. Their music blends indie rock with soul, resulting in a contagious classic sound that echoes past with present. Band members include Wes Aldrich on lead guitar and vocals, Chris Doc Marek on bass, Whit Shonk on rhythm and Jeff Costello on drums. <http://www.hugthedog.com/>

The event is underwritten by the Elks Lodge #927. Doors open at 8pm and admission is \$15 per person and includes a raffle ticket, which will be drawn at the end of the evening for special prizes from Amoskeag Brewery and Clarke Distributors.

Patrons are encouraged to bring socks, gloves, hats and hand warmers for Hundred Nights, and stuffing, cranberry, gravy soup, cereal, broth, cornbread/biscuit mix, canned pumpkin, canned veggies for The Community Kitchen. Tickets can be purchased at the door or with VISA/MC by visiting the Hundred Nights website [www.hundrednightsinc.org/](http://www.hundrednightsinc.org/) and indicating Hug the Dog tickets. For more information, please call 603-313-0052



17 Lamson Street • Keene, NH 03431



## Hundred Nights 2nd Annual Holiday Auction

Join us on Saturday, December 12, 2015, for a combination live and silent Holiday auction. The auction is being held at the Dining Hall of the United Church of Christ in Keene, at the head of Central Square. Parking and the entrance are on Vernon St., the rear side of the building. Preview of available items and registration will begin at 8 am. Live bidding will begin at 9 am! There will be a list on our website [www.hundrednightsinc.org](http://www.hundrednightsinc.org) of all available auction items, beginning on November 15th.

If you see an item that you would like to bid on silently before December 11th please send an email to [mcambiar@hundrednightsinc.org](mailto:mcambiar@hundrednightsinc.org) with your name, contact info, description of item and bid amount. The first bid that we receive that is at or above face value will win the auction silently, and that item will not go up for bid at the live auction. Any item that is not won silently will be open to silent bidding during the preview, starting with the highest online bid. If the silent bidding reaches face value or above the item will not go live. Any items not won during the silent auction will go to the live auction, starting at nine, and bidding will begin where the silent auction left off.

Auctioneer John Pappas, from the Gallery at Knotty Pine Auction Service, West Swanzey, NH, will preside over the live portion of the event. Refreshments will be available to purchase during the event. Volunteers will be needed that day to help sell food, run auction items up to the auctioneer and then to the winning bidder, tally bid sheets and clean up after the event. Please call Mindy at 352-5197 if you are able to help in any way!



## Candlelight Memorial Vigil for the Homeless

On December 21, 2015 there will be a candlelight memorial for the homeless in Keene's Central Square. Music will be played from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm as people gather. The church bells will ring at 5:30 pm to signify the start. After a welcome from the Executive Director of Hundred Nights a Proclamation from the Governor of the State of NH will be read, followed by music, a reading of names of the homeless who have died in the last year (which includes 3 of our own community) and the lighting of candles to honor them. At 6:30 there will be a procession to the Hundred Nights Shelter at 15 Lamson St, where a blessing of the doors will take place. Hot beverages and light refreshments will be available in the Open Doors Resource Center.

