

HUNDRED NIGHTS

HUNDRED NIGHTS INC • COLD WEATHER SHELTER • OPEN DOORS RESOURCE CENTER

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Once again I need to make a plea for your financial support. We are in great need of funds to support our stay here. In addition to the cost of staff we continue to struggle to pay for our monthly rent, insurance premiums and utilities.

Our 2016-2017 season officially came to a close on the morning of April 16th. We had a significant number of guests this season, 176, and we were at capacity almost every night. We had to make use of the overflow site at the United Church of Christ every night between January 2 and March 31, 2017, and honestly we could have continued making use of the overflow right up until April 16th. This necessitated hiring another paid staff member to assist the volunteer provided by the church for overnight supervision. A total of 4,792 bed-night of shelter has been provided since July 1, 2016. Due to the lack of space at the SCS Women and Family Shelter we were needed to house 8 families with a total of 15 children over the course of this last season. That made our space feel even tighter. Fire codes allow us to house only 26 overnight guests here on Lamson St. and up to 16 at the United Church of Christ (although their preferred number is 10). Hence once we meet that number each night we face the possibility of turning people away. At this date we still have two families with four children combined staying here even though our shelter season has officially closed, and one family with three children just left. We are working diligently with both families to find a solution for them. If you know of any available affordable housing or of anyone willing to help these families please let us know.

High numbers and high rent combined with cramped quarters led us on a search for a larger space. We spent almost a year looking at various sites and thought we had found the perfect location on Vernon/Washington Streets. We applied to the City for a variance to obtain a lodging license. We also applied for tax credits from the NH Community Development Finance Authority in the amount of \$430,000. Unfortunately the Zoning Board denied our request for a variance, which also means that we cannot get the tax credits. The NH CDFA, however, has told us that our proposal was highly rated and that if we can find a suitable building for our relocation project that we would have a very strong proposal going in to the March, 2018 round of tax credit funding. While it was most disappointing to not receive the variance we continue with our endeavor to find suitable larger quarters. If you know of a building or piece of land in Keene that might lend itself to being our new home, please let us know.

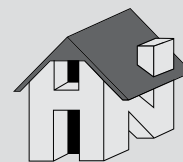
We are hoping to get together with the City Council, the Mayor and others and have a Community Forum on Homelessness. Our ultimate hope is that together we all can reach a solution to not only where Hundred Nights should live, but also come to a better understanding of our combined responsibilities regarding outreach to the homeless.

I have tried very hard to only ask for special assistance when it is most needed. I hope that you will call me if you have any questions at all about our financial or other situations, and that you will please consider our request for financial support at this time.

Sincerely,

Mindy Cambiar

Executive Director
603-352-5197



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Hundred Nights, Inc. is to provide shelter and crisis related services to the displaced or homeless. Our goal is to support the invisible members of our society who deserve dignity and a voice that is heard; through community, collaboration and guidance.

A VOLUNTEER'S PERSPECTIVE

Like many others, I did, in all honesty have pre-judged notions about the homeless. However, I felt a calling to find out more. I wanted to help in whatever way I could. I signed up for training to be an intake volunteer and I committed to work one night a week during the 2015-2016 Cold Weather season. My first night I arrived a little early anxious to get started. I was nervous and a little unsure if I was up to the challenge. To say I was feeling pretty shaky is an understatement. Then the doors opened and the guests began to arrive. There was no turning back for me now. One by one I began to register the guests. After awhile it became second nature to me and I began to relax. Once everyone was settled in I ventured into the community room where there was a beehive of socializing. Some guests were playing cards or cribbage, some were working on crosswords or reading a magazine. I looked around at all of them gathered there. I felt an overwhelming feeling of love and respect for all of them. I began to see the goodness, strength and courage in them. I went home that night knowing that I was blessed by knowing these beautiful people. What a gift I was given that first night! Sure they are perhaps a little ragged around the edges and some act rough and tough but inside that rough exterior is a living, breathing human being who has value just like the rest of us. I have just finished being an intake volunteer for the 2016-2017 Cold Weather season. This season I worked two nights a week. Will I be back next season? You bet I will!

Lucy Ahern

WISH LIST

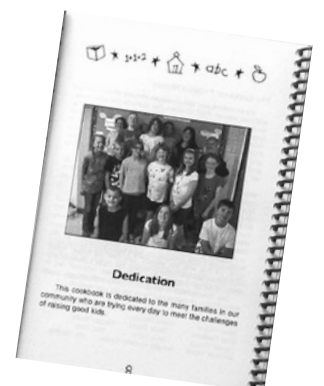
- backpacks
- sneakers & sandals (especially men's 9 – 13.5, women's 10)
- underwear
- t-shirts
- shorts
- coffee
- creamer & sugar
- bananas, clementines & apples
- cheese sticks
- mayo
- tunafish
- milk
- butter
- peanut butter & jelly
- lunch meat
- cheeses
- deodorant
- shampoo & conditioner
- tampons & pads
- razors
- tents
- drink mixes



“YUMS TO MAKE” Cookbook Harrisville Wells Memorial School

The students in Ms. Y's class at Harrisville Wells Memorial School were e-pals with students in Finland. After sharing recipes with the students in Finland they decided to compile a cookbook that would help them with their math skills working with measurements, fractions, doubling recipes and following directions. Thus the "Yums to Make" Cookbook took shape. They called themselves the "Busy Bakers of Room

5" and set to work gathering, testing and compiling the cookbook. Best of all, besides all of the yummy recipes they gathered, they voted to donate the profits from the sale of the cookbook to Hundred Nights Shelter, and presented us with a check for \$358.00! There are still a few cookbooks available here at Hundred Nights and if you would like one they are \$10.00 each and full of some great recipes. Just give us a call at 352-5197 and come on in and get one. Our thanks go out to Ms. Y and her Busy Bakers who have not only learned math skills but how to be socially conscious citizens by helping a worthy cause. Congratulations "Busy Bakers of Room 5". Well done.





VENDORS, TRUCKS & CHILDREN OF ALL AGES WANTED!

This is an event centered around children. We will have many types of vehicles that the children can climb in and touch, CJ the DJ- Chris Holman will be providing the music, Carnival Game Area, Kona Ice, Craft Vendors, Food Vendors, Direct Sales Vendors, Information Booths, Young Entrepreneurs Booths, a Bake Sale, Fill a Car with non-perishable food items for The Community Kitchen and much more.

When: June 24, 2017

Where: Market Basket, Keene Road (Rt 10), Swanzey, NH

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Vendor setup starts at 7 am ALL vendors must be set up and be ready for the gate to open at 9 am sharp!

Craft Vendor Fee: 10'x10' space, \$25.00

Food Vendor Fee: 10'x10' space \$25.00, Food Truck Fee: \$35.00 If application and fee is post marked by June 1, 2017

*After June 1,2017 the fee will be Craft Vendor 10x10 space, \$35.00, Food Vendor 10'x10' \$35.00, Food truck \$45.00
No refunds will be granted on cancellations. This event is weather permitting no rain date is set.*

NO ELECTRICITY is available!

Vendors must supply your own tables, linens, displays and tents. Vendors MUST take their trash with them!!!

VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM

Please return this portion with your fees to: Tammy Barrett, 32 Sandy Road, Swanzey, NH 03446

Money orders or bank checks payable to: Hundred Nights Inc,

If you any questions, please email me at barretts2013@yahoo.com or call my cell 603-209-3824.

Name of Business: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone Number: _____

Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____ Extension: _____

Business Email: _____

Please check which of the following you are: Homemade Crafter _____ Food Vendor _____ Food Truck _____

Brief description of your table: _____

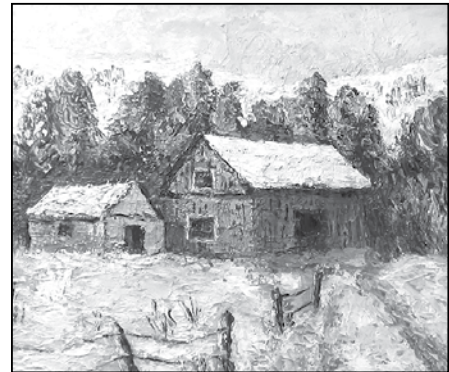


17 Lamson Street • Keene, NH 03431



AUCTION UPDATE

We still have two very nice paintings left from our December Holiday Auction. One is a lovely watercolor landscape of Mt. Monadnock and Dublin Lake by Joanne Smith and is available with a minimum bid of \$100.00. The other is a beautiful oil winter scene of a barn and pastureland by Ed Zimmerli and is available for a minimum bid of \$60.00. Either of these paintings would enhance a dining room or living room.



HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT - HOMELESSNESS IN KEENE, NH

A huge Thank You to Greg Pregent for filming the documentary *Hidden in Plain Sight - Homelessness in Keene, NH*. Greg spent countless hours interviewing many community members as well as guests, staff and volunteers of Hundred Nights and the Southwest Community Services Shelters. His dedication to this project is admirable. Hundred Nights was the recipient of almost \$1,600 during the showing of the film at The Colonial Theatre in Keene and at the Peterborough Community Theatre in Peterborough during the month of April! Many thanks also to everyone who participated in the interviews and during the panel discussions. It was great to see that so many in our community agree that homelessness is a community-wide issue, that requires thoughtful input from us all! The documentary is now available on www.YouTube.com for those who have not been able to view it in the theatres – search for Hidden in Plain Sight, Keene, NH.