



# LIFE *Lines*

Newsletter of Mother Seton House, Inc.

Mother Seton House

PO Box 673, Fryeburg, ME 04037

www.mothersetonhouse.com

Fall 2012 No. 6

## Our Bridge to Independence, Safe and Secure...

During our work to establish a sheltering home for pregnant women and new mothers, we have kept safety foremost. This has increased costs and extended our timeline as additional requirements have been discovered, but the results are well worth it.

We bought our house at a very affordable price, thanks to the housing market and the timely generosity of individual donors and local grants. Of course, it needed work, but the low price made it feasible. Knights of Columbus removed the crumbling chimney and rotting deck and rebuilt porches for safe entries. New vinyl siding at a deep discount and energy efficient windows, installed by the Knights, relieved concerns over lead paint and increased the snugness.

In the basement, a new perimeter drain, pump, and new floor surface have produced a bone dry basement



with no threat of mold. Some wiring dated back to the early 1900's, and even more recent work did not meet code. The house has now been rewired to modern standards. Hand rails added to the cellar and third floor stairways increase safety, and cribs to meet new safety requirements have been purchased by another group of our special supporters.

Due to our classification as a board-

ing facility, we are required to go well beyond the safety requirements for a family residence. Fire safety is our largest renovation category. A commercial grade fire suppression hood is being installed in the kitchen. We have just completed integrated smoke and carbon dioxide detectors, emergency lights, egress windows, a fire escape, an alarm monitoring system, and a fire suppression sprinkler system. These systems are being paid by earlier donations and funds raised by our current Capital Campaign.

All this work is being carefully overseen and done right the first time by a wonderful team led by Gene Bourque, making our new home safe and secure at a price considerably lower than the average residence in our area. We hope for the timely success of the campaign that will allow us to open the doors. Please see page 3.



### ...with Clear Direction...

Mother Seton House Director, Cyndi Broyer has been named by Valley Promotions as the Mount Washington Valley Volunteer of the Year, 2011. She accepted on behalf of all volunteers who have supported and helped to build Mother

Seton House, which is totally a volunteer effort. We value her focus and leadership as we are grateful for all those who support the work in every way. In addition, the award affirms the strength and value of our mission.

# A letter from the director

Dear Friends,

In New England, fall is a busy time. As the leaves turn color and the air turns crisp, nature reminds us that winter is coming. Chipmunks hurry to gather acorns, while our neighbors bus-

ily cut, split and stack firewood.

At Mother Seton House we are preparing for winter as well. After many years of bean suppers and bake sales, we are choosing curtains and paint colors for the bedrooms. Cribs are ready, and our hope and prayer is to have enough funds to open the doors to moms and babies by winter.

It has taken the sustained efforts of a host of supporters to get us this far. Volunteers have removed an old chimney, patched sheet rock and replaced porch railings. Volunteers have baked, sold concert tickets, organized raffles and held diaper drives. For the past five years, Mother Seton House has been entirely run by volunteers, including office staff and the director. Soon, we will hire our first staff member, the resident director who will cre-



ate a supportive and loving community in this house, making it the home of our dreams.

This is the home stretch. We need your help to gather enough funds to open the doors. With your continued support, we will be in by winter.

In faith, with hope,  
Cyndi Broyer  
Director

*Thank you*

We send a special  
Thank You to  
Ken and Amanda Blow of  
BBI Waste Industries for  
donating a construction  
dumpster, which saved us  
thousands of dollars.

## Thoughts from a Donor

I have come to learn that there are those who dream, those who deliver and those who believe. Sometimes a person can be one or all of them. Mother Seton House is the dream that along the way was captured by many people who believed in it and made it happen. It became a reality because of the very people who are able to dream big, deliver on the dream and believe in it so much, that they are also willing to financially support it.

The fabric of Mother Seton House is woven with the time, talent and treasures of the dreamer, the deliverer and the believer. In that fabric I am a believer, I am grateful for excitement I feel every time I talk with Cyndi, every time I receive the newsletter or get a Facebook update and every time I hear one of those wonderful mom and baby



stories. I am grateful for those that share the dream and are able to deliver on it. I am grateful to the moms and babies whose lives are forever changed because of the time spent with the people that make Mother Seton House real.

Mother Seton House has a solid foundation built on little moments of love: distributions, reading classes, making baby food, building bookcases and empowering women to grow into strong moms and leaders. I give because I believe in the selfless women and men that make Mother Seton House real. I give because I believe that God will take my meager loaf and multiply it to serve many. I give because I see the dream becoming a reality.

Sandra Thompson  
Portland, Maine

# ...And a *Solid* Foundation

Regular readers of this newsletter know that last November we acquired a house in Fryeburg. Since that time we have been making the renovations and improvements which will transform our house into a modern, safe and welcoming home.

We have upgraded the electrical and plumbing systems, and replaced all of the windows. The exterior of the building has been re-sided with economical and durable vinyl siding. We installed a sprinkler system and built a fire escape. The kitchen remains unfinished, the interior must be painted and furnished.

While this is very exciting it is also costly. We have begun a capital campaign to raise the money necessary to complete the work on our house and to establish a two year operating and

maintenance fund to assure our sustainability.

We are pleased to report that our capital campaign has been warmly received. Individual donors have been generous. Grants have been received from the Gibson – Woodbury Foundation, the Mulford Fund and Somersworth Hyundai. Numerous civic organizations including the Knights of Columbus, Denmark Lions Club, Kiwanis and Rotary of North Conway, and the Masons of Mount Washington Valley and Fryeburg have designated Mother Seton House as the beneficiary of fund raising events. Special events such as the Mark Forrest concert have been successful.

The Board of Directors is very confident that our monetary goal will be at-



tained, and we are deeply appreciative of the out pouring of financial aid we have received from our many friends and supporters. The campaign is ongoing, and as soon as the operating fund reaches a sustainable level, our doors will open.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Alan Broyer, Chairman

Sue Perry, Treasurer

Joan Newton, Secretary

Gene Bourque

Loretta Chauvin

Reverend Joseph J. Koury

Rick Luksza

Bonnie Marsh

### DIRECTOR

Cyndi Broyer



## Mother Seton House Statement of Financial Condition

### House Expenses

Purchase	\$70,147	
Renovations required	<u>94,853</u>	
Total for residence		\$165,000
Two year operating expenses for sustainability		<u>80,000</u>
		\$245,000

### House Related Income

2011 Grants	\$95,000	
2011 Donations and fundraising	43,000	<u>\$138,000</u>
2012 Identified Need		\$107,000

### Capital Campaign 2012

Pledges and Individual Contributions	\$21,110	
Grants	8,000	
Civic Groups	6,609	
Fundraising Events	4,778	
Non-cash gifts	<u>1,240</u>	
Total Raised to date		<u>\$41,737</u>
Total Additional Need		\$65,263

Donating to support pregnant women and new mothers in need is easy with your smart phone. Simply scan our QR code for a direct link to our FirstGiving page. Or, use PayPal or FirstGiving at mothersetonhouse.com. As always, we welcome your check sent to PO Box 673, Fryeburg, ME 04037 and direct deposit into our Norway Savings Bank account. On behalf of the mothers and babies we serve, thank you for your generosity.





*We have received a generous contribution  
to the Mother Seton House in honor of*

\_\_\_\_\_

*from*

\_\_\_\_\_

*This gift will be used to help support  
pregnant women in need who have  
said yes to life.*

*(inside card)*

## *Celebrate* Commemorate **Contribute**

A memorial gift is a wonderful way to honor a deceased loved one, a baby's birth, a birthday, an anniversary, or any special occasion.

As Christmas approaches, thoughts turn to a young mother delivering her child far from home and comfort. A gift to Mother Seton House is a thoughtful Christmas gift for everyone on your list.

**Available only from Mother Seton House, an elegant Thomas Merton Madonna linen textured card will be sent to the person you specify.**



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*clip & send*

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Person Honored: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) living ( ) deceased

The Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

Send Card To: \_\_\_\_\_

Street or PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of donation: \_\_\_\_\_ (check or money order please)



Kindly mail the above information in the envelope provided to:  
**MOTHER SETON HOUSE, INC, P.O. Box 673, Fryeburg, ME 04037**

*All donations are gratefully accepted. Mother Seton House is a 501(C)3 corporation  
supporting pregnant women, new mothers and infants in need.*

# in the **spot** *light*

## Hands to Work, Heart to Baby, Head to Goals

Our newest mother, Cheyainne is a young woman who does not shy away from goals. Although her young son, Brayden Laurence, was only seven weeks old during a recent visit, she was clear that she wanted him to finish school when the time came.

She has gone beyond that herself and is looking to the future. Cheyainne is a licensed massage therapist hoping to open her own practice some day. However, knowing that there are financial challenges before that becomes a reality, she is looking to other long and short term alternatives. She has recently started back to work part time and is hoping to be able to get an apartment and a car soon. After that, she plans to become a vet tech.

Cheyainne began making decisions in her baby's best interest even before he was born. Her doctor said, "bed rest," and she did it, even though she had to leave her job earlier than she expected. She says that one of the lessons she has already learned from Brayden is patience. She is "figuring things out," learning what her baby needs, his likes and dislikes. He slept on through chatter and picture taking, his fluffy hair, red like his mother's, peeking above his cuddly blanket. "I still can't get over it," she said softly, looking with wonder at her beautiful baby.

She likes to cook, mentioning lasagna. She also knows how to knit. And she likes to be independent. While she stays with her parents some of the time,



and her mother helps with child care, she is looking forward to having her own place. Cheyainne's father is the one who suggested she connect with Mother Seton House. Someone had told him of the help provided, and he encouraged her to come to an event. "Mother Seton House has saved me a lot of money," she commented.

We are happy to help with supplies and programs and to encourage her plans. We deeply wish that we were able to offer her a residence right now that could be that bridge to independence; but that offer is awaiting the success of our capital campaign.

## Time & *Our Volunteers* Talent

Tom Enos gives a striking impression of physical, mental and spiritual strength, which he donates in generous measure to Mother Seton House (MSH). A District Deputy of the New Hampshire Knights of Columbus, he organized the first work detail at the house on August 9, 2011. He and five fellow Knights from Our Lady of the Mountains (OLM) Council 7575 removed an old deck, carefully salvaging usable materials. The rest they deposited into a construction dumpster that Tom had arranged free of all charges. See Thank You box on page 2.

Other jobs include taking down and relocating a bedroom wall, redoing the basement, working on the driveway and selling many tickets to the well-attended Mark Forrest Concert for MSH. He recently participated in the successful OLM Knights of Columbus Roast Beef Supper for MSH and arranged for Cyndi to speak to the Berlin, NH Knights. When he sits down, it's to serve on the MSH Building Com-




mittee. Tom confides that he thinks that Mother Seton House will be a precursor for other supportive homes to assist mothers and infants in need as they transition into independent living.

Whatever your talent, whatever your time, please join us. Call Cyndi at 207-256-2728, or email [info@mothersetonhouse.com](mailto:info@mothersetonhouse.com).

**Mother Seton House**  
**PO Box 673**  
**Fryeburg, ME 04037**



*Drawing by Thomas Merton. Used with permission of the Merton Legacy Trust and the Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University.*



*From our home to yours,  
we send our hopes  
for peace and joy  
in the New Year.*