

Loisann's
HOPE
House
NEWSLETTER

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A Note From Lisa -

Spring is a special time at Loisann's Hope House, embodying the renewal, growth and hope that we strive for all year long. As the days grow longer, it's easy to envision the bright futures that lie ahead for the families living at Loisann's Hope House.

Spring is also a time of many firsts, and this month we welcomed our first family into the newest addition to our campus, 909 Lafayette Boulevard. This now brings the total number of homes at Loisann's Hope House to 5. Maintaining these residences takes care and attention to detail, and this month we talk with Ken Mills, our longtime Facilities Technician, about his role overseeing all of the buildings on our properties - no small task!

Earlier this month we also held our first entirely virtual auction for the Bags of Hope event. Thank you to Angi Chipouras and the gracious team at Ethan Allen in Central Park for allowing us to use their beautiful showroom floor to stage the bags. It was a visual treat, and we are so happy that our supporters enjoyed the online bidding! Thank you for participating.

Most of all, thank you to everyone in our community that has supported and engaged with Loisann's Hope House over this unprecedented winter, and helped us give reassurance to families facing homelessness that sunnier days are indeed in sight. Giving hope - that's what Loisann's Hope House does best, and we could not do this without your generosity. We are grateful.

With gratitude,

Lisa Crittenden



Lisa Crittenden, Chief Executive Officer



FACT

LHH assisted 63 households during Feb. 2021 - a 65% increase over Feb. 2020!



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On the Road to Success -

Ali, Mark and their 6 year old daughter had been living in a budget motel for 4 years prior to finding Loisann's Hope House. Times had been hard for their family – in May of last year, Mark's mother passed away. As a result, he missed too many days at work and lost his job. By June, the family found themselves evicted from the motel, in the midst of the pandemic, because they were unable to pay the bill.

Ready for a change, Ali reached out to Loisann's Hope House and was connected with the homelessness prevention program. The prevention program helped them secure an affordable apartment in King George. Two days later, Mark got hired at a job in Fredericksburg. While this was great news, it presented a new challenge: Mark needed reliable transportation from the family's apartment to his new job. For awhile, he borrowed a car – an old Suburban that cost the family nearly \$500 a month in gas – but eventually the owner needed it back.

Thankfully, Loisann's Hope House was in a position to help, thanks to the generosity of the McKechnie-Tierney family. In January, they donated a 2013 Limited Edition Hyundai Sonata Hybrid car for Loisann's Hope House to provide to a family in need. Having reliable transportation to employment was critical for Ali and Mark's family to remain in their new home, and in March, Loisann's Hope House was able to give the car to Ali and Mark. Not only did this allow them to remain in stable housing, but it also gave them increased financial stability, as their gas expenses dropped drastically as a result of the hybrid car.

When Mr. McKechnie donated the car, he noted "Sometimes having a vehicle is the one thing that can change the course of a life." It certainly did change the lives of Ali, Mark and their daughter, and helped get them "on the road to success!"



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In and Around Loisann's Hope House



Loisann's Hope House is excited to announce that we are getting a website makeover! We have partnered with Voyager Marketing to design a fresh look with increased functionality for our supporters. The new website will work well on both desktop and mobile devices, and will showcase our mission and impact through storytelling and imagery. Stay tuned for the big unveil, and be sure to Friend us on Facebook to keep up with the latest news.

A purple and yellow spotlight graphic that illuminates the text below.

Donor Spotlight

Thank you to Ethan Allen in Central Park for donating space on their gorgeous showroom floor to display the handbags during our virtual online auction. The display was dazzling and brought merriment to many supporters as they bid remotely on their favorite bags. The lucky winners got some great deals, all to benefit a worthwhile cause. We are also grateful to everyone in our community that donated the bags - we could not have held this event without your support - thank you!

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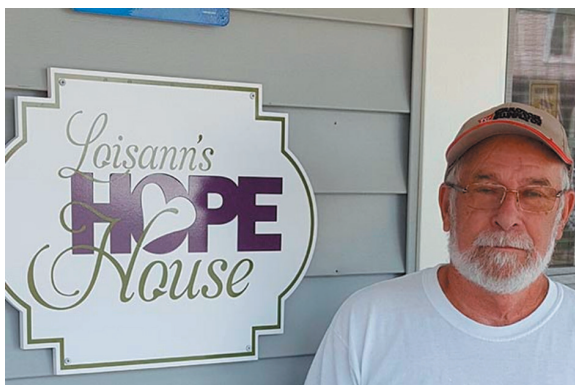




Board Member Profile – Beth Sinkler

Beth L. Sinkler, a native of El Paso, Texas has resided in Fredericksburg, VA for 19 years. Beth has a Bachelor of Administration (BA) in Marketing and Management from the University of Texas at El Paso. She is the Director of the Continual Service Improvement division employed by MAXIMUS Federal, with over 25 years of experience in the direct marketing industry. Beth has been a Loisann's Hope House (LHH) active Board member for many years and has served in the office of Secretary for two terms and on the Strategic Planning committee. She has assisted with many projects to promote homelessness awareness and fund raise for LHH. Beth is a member of the Greater Rappahannock (VA) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and the Fredericksburg Area Sickle Cell Association (F.A.S.C.A.) (Board Chair 2014 – 2017). Beth enjoys running and playing golf. She is happily married to William Sinkler.

Focus on Facilities – An Interview with Ken Mills



With the addition of the property at 909 Lafayette Boulevard, Loisann's Hope House now has 5 houses on its campus that can provide shelter to 19 families. It takes a great deal of work and attention to detail to maintain these homes, not to mention guaranteeing the safety of our residents and staff by ensuring everything is in compliance with fire and safety codes. Ken Mills, the Facilities Technician, has been doing exactly this for 15 years at Loisann's Hope House. To say he knows our homes inside and out would be an understatement!

How does your job further the mission of Loisann's Hope House?

"I oversee all 5 homes to make sure our residents live in safe and well cared-for environments. If a resident notices something that needs attention, such as electrical, plumbing, or HVAC issues, they have a maintenance log sheet in each home to detail the problem so that I can address it in a timely manner. I do a wide variety of jobs, such as painting, replacing smoke detectors, landscaping, maintenance, and making sure the locks work properly."

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What is the best part of your job?

"I love working around people, and I especially like talking with the children. I take pride in keeping things nice so that when one family moves out and another family moves in, everything is all set to welcome them."

What do you like to do in your spare time?

"In my spare time I like to practice woodworking. I also like to do blacksmithing in my shop at home."

What is your motto?

"Work hard and be reliable."

**Now is the time to make a meaningful impact in
our community!**

In February 2020 Loisann's Hope House served 38 households. In February 2021 we served 63 households.

This is a 65% increase in need during February, one year into the pandemic.

Now is the time to act!
Help us raise \$63,000 by
June 1.

Let's leave *No Family
Homeless* during the
pandemic.

Please visit

www.loisannshopehouse.org

or call

540-371-0831 to donate. **THANK YOU!**





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