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Annette Ratliff Programs and Finance Manager
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Jennifer Stahl Centre House Shelter Manager
Lexie Tellish Supportive Services Coordinator
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Shelter Supervisors -
 Debbie Cascino, Anna Baker, Karl Gassmann,
 Stacia Mincer, Meredith Simpson, Mindy Whetstine

LIKE, SHARE, FOLLOW
 Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



It's a great way for HT and our supporters to stay connected and share information.

Looking Ahead...



Beginning in January 2020, Temporary Housing Foundation will begin offering a full-time housing counseling program to all of Centre County. For people with low or moderate incomes who are ready to buy their own home, need help with improving credit, or have questions about how to work toward stable and permanent housing, we provide budget assistance, credit counseling, and home buyer education classes. For more information: call (814) 237-4863 or email Ginger at ginger.c@housingtransitions.org.



Proud to be part of the CCUW Partner Network
 Visit us at housingtransitions.org



A little bit of rain didn't stop us from having fun with delicious food and great music from our generous sponsors! Hundreds came out to celebrate our Third Annual Food Truck Rally last October. With help from many dedicated volunteers, including those from Kappa Alpha Theta, Phi Sigma Sigma, Kappa Delta, Housing Transitions brought in more than \$2,700, which helps to keep our Centre House Shelter doors open! A big thank you to everyone who attended and helped make this event a success!



Doan's Bones serving up delicious food



Hops and Vines singing in the rain



Centre County Commissioner Mark Higgins enjoying good eats!



The Weiner Wagon!

Now Accepting: New Board Members

We currently have openings on our HT Board of Directors! HT has an active and dynamic Board of Directors that represents and advocates for our mission in the community. Members help to shape and develop the direction of our organization. Do you have an interest in joining our team of dedicated community members? Email: mwasikonis@housingtransitions.org

Housing Transitions Thanks...



The Centre Foundation Giving Circle

We were honored to receive a \$3,000 grant from The Giving Circle to use toward making our Centre House Shelter safer while also making it more "user friendly" for our residents, staff and the community!



The Alternative Christmas Fair at UBBC

The fair was held December 8th, and Housing Transitions was excited to participate in this unique giving event again! The fair gives local charities the opportunity to raise funds in a group setting, and visitors have the chance to learn about those non-profits. Fair goers can then write one check to cover multiple donations and receive gift cards to notify honorees of the gifts made in their names. We would like to extend a special thank you to HT Board Members, Edie Binkley, and Della Smith for representing us at this event!

For Thanksgiving this year, the Council of Lionhearts donated 15 food baskets, which were distributed to clients in our shelter and supportive housing programs.



Volunteers for the Centre County United Way Day of Caring (DoC) did an amazing before and after on a monster shrub at a home that will be offered for sale to a First Time Home Buyer!



Mount Nittany Health volunteers also painted an entire home on DoC that will be offered as an affordable rental!



On Giving Tuesday, volunteers from the PSU Athletic Department spent the day giving the walls of Centre House a much needed face lift!



Temporary Housing Foundation...

THF Annual Meeting

The Temporary Housing Foundation Annual Meeting of the Board will be held at 5:30pm Wednesday, January 22 in room 220 of the State College Municipal Building. All are welcome!

THF recently completed renovation on this adorable duplex, that will offer two rent-reduced units in the Borough of State College. The ability to offer these two rental homes was made possible with the help of many entities including the Borough of State College, Envinity Inc., The Centre County United Way Day of Caring, and the Keystone Mountain Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters.





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Centre House Shelter: (814) 237-5508
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Openhouse

Winter 2020

A Newsletter of Housing Transitions

A message from Development and Community Relations Coordinator,
Karl Gassmann

Upcoming Events:

*Boots Band & Barn
June 13th, 2020*

*THF Annual Meeting
January 22nd, 2020*

**Souper Bowl Party
January 30th, 2020*

**Cornhole Tournament
TBD*

**Please stay tuned to
our website at
housingtransitions.org
to stay up to date on all
our events! We need
community support to
keep our shelter open
and continue to provide
programs to help house
the homeless!*

Please allow me to introduce myself. I am Karl Gassmann and I have been with Housing Transitions, as a supportive services coordinator and shelter supervisor, since February. In October, I accepted the position of Development and Community Relations Coordinator, and I'd like to share how, in my short time here, I've come to view our organization.

The reset button. It's what you're told to press when your device isn't functioning properly. It's usually a last resort, but it's also not the end of the world. Hitting the reset button means you've recognized a problem and taken the first step to a solution. The next step is crucial, and it should be taken with care. When you hit the reset button, it means change. Changing priorities, changing habits- even changing your whole outlook on life. Change is often necessary, but it can be daunting. For people in a state of housing crisis, coming to Housing Transitions can feel like going back to square one. There are many reasons for why someone may deal with housing instability, but when a client comes to Housing Transitions, they're presented with options that fit their situation. We're the troubleshooters.

A good troubleshooter can help you identify problems and present solutions, but the very best can teach you how to recognize and address issues before they require a "reset". But more than anything, a good troubleshooter is an ally. Someone to help you tackle life's obstacles without infringing on your autonomy. Over the past year, I've seen countless people, with their own unique circumstances and challenges, be met with caring and competent guidance from our staff.

Last year, **Mary Daniloff** helped 86 individuals secure their own lease through the Rapid Rehousing Program. **Joanne Pagan** helped 93 individuals who were homelessness or at-risk find affordable housing. **Jan Reasinger** helped ensure that 90 individuals with physical, mental, and medical disabilities or illnesses could continue to live independently in their own home. And through the work of **Jennifer Stahl** and **Catie Harpster**, Centre House provided shelter and case management to 82 individuals. This is merely a snapshot of the impact our staff has on helping people find stable housing.

Working at Housing Transitions has allowed me to see, firsthand, how a community can tackle complex issues. Ten months ago, I started a journey in learning about what we do and who we serve. Along the way, it's shown me who we are.

YES, I'd Like to Help!

Every gift helps us continue to provide a pathway from crisis to stability!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift made payable to Housing Transitions

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other: _____

Mail to Housing Transitions, PO Box 1391, State College, PA 16804

or donate online at housingtransitions.org

Thank you for helping to build a better future for our community!

Shelter Wish List

For groups and individuals who wish to donate items needed at Centre House shelter, here is a list of current needs. Please call 237-4863 with any questions.

- Laundry Detergent, Fabric Softener Sheets
- Dishwasher Powder and Liquid Dish Soap
- Floor Cleaner, Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Juice, Coffee, TeaBags, Soup, Crachers, Nut Mixes
- 13 Gallon Trash Bags
- Quarters for Laundry/Bus Fare, CATA Bus Tokens
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Deodorant, Body Wash
- All-Purpose Cleaning Spray
- Lysol Wipes, Floor Cleaner, Comet
- Dry Line White-Out
- Gift Cards to CVS, Weis, Giant, Wal-Mart, or Target, for work clothes, shoes, etc
- Gas Cards