

Franklin County Homeless Shelter

121-123 S Main Street, Chambersburg, PA 17201 * 717-267-3669 * www.sccap.org



Mary (not her real name) a single mother came to the Franklin County Shelter because she had nowhere else to go. A failed relationship left her homeless with two school-age children. Being homeless was hard for her, but for her son with Autism it was incredibly difficult. She knew he needed stability. That was the reason she had been a stay at home mother until the break-up of her relationship.

Each year the Franklin County Homeless Shelter provides more than 4,196 nights of care to Franklin County Families. Building hope and helping families create a plan to improve their lives.

She met with the case worker at the shelter and quickly came up with a plan. She was smart and determined – as the mother of a special needs child she had to be both. She lacked support and, aside from the shelter, she felt incredibly alone. One of the shelter’s partners, World Harvest came to meet with shelter families on a weekly basis. They make dinner for residents and spend time with families so they won’t feel so isolated during a time of crisis. Mary took advantage of the opportunity and made friends with the families visiting from World Harvest Church. Along with her Shelter Caseworker and shelter staff, the support she received from the community members from World Harvest made a huge difference. Mary felt hopeful for the first time in years!

Mary was smart. She had a post-secondary education. She’d made the right decisions, but life had thrown her some pretty big curve



Nearly 20% of the individuals coming to the Franklin County Homeless Shelter have mental health issues.

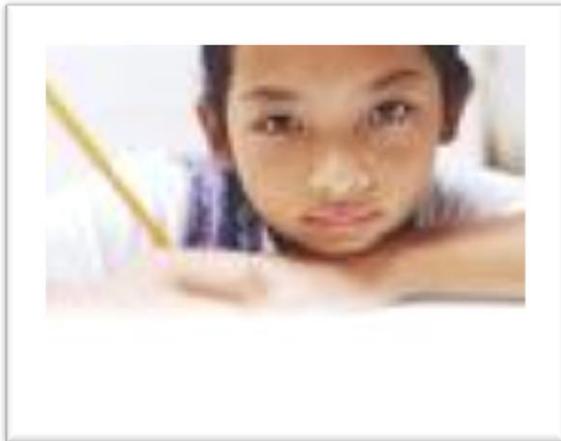
balls. She was not only smart, but as she regained hope for the future, her motivation to accomplish her goals returned. She quickly found a job in a physician’s office and began working around her children’s schedule. Once she began earning an income, her focus changed to finding housing. Housing was a little more difficult because

she wanted to remain in the district that had supports for her autistic son. She searched diligently and finally found a safe apartment that she could afford.

Mary and her children are now stably housed, settled into the community, and are doing well.

Program Funding - \$268,194

Emergency Solutions Grant	\$159,897
HAP, and Mass Shelter Funding	\$28,837
Grants and Foundations Including (United Way)	\$35,000
Churches and Individuals	\$44,460



Outcomes For The Franklin County Homeless Shelter

- Families/Individuals served per year – 103 families, 121 individuals
- Nights of care – 4,196
- Cost per family - \$2,603.82
- Average length of stay – 50 days
- Percentage of families participating in case management and goal setting – 100%
- Percentage of families finding or enhancing employment - 69%
- Percentage of families finding safe, affordable housing – 87%

Family Satisfaction

- 83% of participants found the program Very or Extremely Helpful
- 87% of participants felt like they were treated with respect



Meeting the Mission of SCCAP

The Franklin County Homeless Shelter staff work with a family to identify their immediate and longer term needs. They help the family create a goal plan and help them create steps that will enable them to meet their goals. Frequently the family is under or unemployed sometimes due to lack of skills or due to underlying health or mental health issues. Staff work with SCCAP partner programs or community partner agencies to help families meet their needs. Once the underlying issues are managed and adequate employment is found, the goals move to finding housing. Typically housing assistance is not available due to funding cuts, so staff assists the clients in finding housing that they can afford in the long term and then help them create a budget that works. Housing stability is a huge step toward helping families stabilize and move out of poverty!