

November 2018

THANKSforGIVING

Your support gave relief to those in need

REDUCING SUFFERING, EMPOWERING LIVES: Your support makes it possible every day

Scared, Vulnerable, Desperate: Karima's Story

That is how Karima arrived at Face to Face. She had assumed care of her mentally ill sister-in-law's three young children, who are 9 months, 2 years, and 5 years old. Both the sister-in-law and her dad are long-time guests of Face to Face. By taking the children into her care, Karima spared them from suffering through separation and placement in foster care. When she approached authorities for help, she received three different conflicting answers from child welfare

agencies, making it difficult for her to get the financial support she needs to care for them. Karima is currently bringing them to the Dining Room to eat and relying on Face to Face for diapers.

That is where you come in. The skilled interventions of the Face to Face lawyer and social worker started immediately. They reached out on her behalf and were able to help get the oldest child, a kindergart-

ner, enrolled in school. Next, they pointed Karima to resources for daycare for the other two children, and encouraged her to get back to work as required for kinship care. They helped her make a plan and promised to assist her through the frustrating process. **You made this possible.** You made it possible for this generous woman to trust a plan forward. You helped protect these children. They have a brighter future today because of you.

Two Ambulances In One Day

On a busy Tuesday this past summer, there were two serious health incidents that happened in the Dining Room. One of our male guests had a seizure, and then another had a stroke less than an hour later. Because of you, our staff nurse and the volunteer nurse practitioner were there at each guest's side in seconds, administering care and comfort. A staff member called 911, while other staff and volunteers reassured the other frightened guests. **Because of you,** and the intervention that you made possible, both men reached the hospital in time for rehabilitative care. **You were the healing presence.** One of those guests, upon returning to Face to Face, recalled his thoughts once in the ambulance and said, "I have never felt such love and care before." You were that love and care.



Identity is Everything



"I do not have ID. Therefore, I can't get food at the food pantry. I can't register my child for school. I can't even cash a check." We hear this from our guests regularly, and **because of you,** we are able to help.

In the past six months alone, 247 people have

applied for an ID through Face to Face: either a Birth Certificate or a non-driver ID. Through both our Legal and Social Services Centers we submit ID applications and payments on our guests' behalf. Here in Pennsylvania, non-driver IDs cost \$30.50.

Depending on the state, a birth certificate can range from \$7.00 to \$35.00; most of the requests we submit are for Pennsylvania which charges \$20.00 per certificate. Having ID is essential in our society. A guest who received an ID, **thanks to your support**, told us "I was able to secure my living situation" and that receiving their ID was "life-saving". **You made this possible. Face to Face is a beacon of hope in Germantown. You are holding up the light.**



You Built It, Mow Here They Come

Your capital campaign dollars helped renovate Face to Face's lower level into a bright, welcoming space dedicated to educating children. On Monday, August 22, 2018, the first preschool children were welcomed into the building. Our education partners, Mercy Neighborhood Ministries, are providing engaging academic and physical learning opportunities to holistically develop each student. Your support helps Face to Face offer social, dining, legal and health services to all the school families. These services help the struggling families manage the challenges of living in poverty. You are making a difference in the lives of these children.





EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

Face to Face's staff attorney, Anna Brickman, was a longtime public defender and saw firsthand how even non-convictions can prevent people from obtaining housing and employment. Many employers and landlords turn people away because of blemishes on their criminal records. Most non-convictions are eligible for expungement. Thanks to your support and Anna's expertise, the Face to Face Legal Center held its first criminal record expungement clinic on October 13, 2018 to help clear clients' records and get a fresh start.

BREAKFAST

We have all heard that eating breakfast is a key to good health. Now our clients can enjoy that benefit at Face to Face. In July, we began serving a nutritious breakfast every Friday. Guests are greeted with warm coffee and a varied buffet of cereals, juices, fruit and eggs. With your support, we hope to expand our breakfast service to every day we are open.





"Face to Face feeds us well and gives us a shower when needed. God bless you."



"Face to Face has a positive impact on people more than any other organization I've ever been to. It provides tranquility and professionalism above any other."



"Thank you for your donation. Face to Face is worth the investment. We receive respect, honesty and love. It's such a positive place to visit."



"I appreciate the supporters commitment to Face to Face and helping us."

(photo credit to Robyn Graham)



Once again, Face to Face is preparing for more than 150 guests to join us on Thanksgiving Day for a traditional holiday meal. Please consider dropping off a cooked and sliced turkey on: Tuesday, November 20th or Wednesday, November 21st at 12:00 p.m.

For more information contact Shara Dunham at shara@facetofacegermantown.org We are also accepting pies for Thanksgiving Day.



WINTER COATS (ESPECIALLY MEN'S LARGE AND XL) WINTER HATS **GLOVES** (WARM, LARGE MEN'S & WOMEN'S) **OLIVE OIL EVAPORATED MILK COCONUT MILK** SPICES (ALL WELCOME) **GROUND COFFEE** SUGAR PACKETS SEPTA TOKENS DEODORANT

SAVE the DATE

Turkey Trot November 22, 2018 9:00 a.m. Wissahickon Drive Register at www.facetofacegermantown.org

Volunteer Training "Traumas of Poverty" January 22, 2019 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Face to Face RSVP Becky@facetofacegermantown.org

Health Expo March 30, 2019 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Face to Face Gymnasium

Auction April 13, 2019 Chestnut Hill College

Ambler Movie Night May 8, 2019

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2018 SUMMER (May to August) 6698 Meals were Served Showers were taken uests received **Birth Certificates** Specialized Foot Care were obtained

Your Support Makes a Difference





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