



November 2008

# Housing for New Hope News

For information about our programs and housing, please visit [www.housingfornewhope.org](http://www.housingfornewhope.org) or call (919) 489-6282.

## A Day in the Life of Presbyterian Urban Ministry

For thirty years, Housing for New Hope's Presbyterian Urban Ministry has provided emotional and financial support to countless families with children, disabled adults, and seniors who, due to unforeseen circumstances and economic challenges, have been on the brink of losing their homes.

Each day, more than sixty calls are received from individuals and families requesting emergency assistance to keep their homes warm, to keep their lights on, and just to keep their homes. On Monday, October 27, thirty calls were already received by noon...

- 5:35 a.m.: "I need money for a deposit to get my water turned back on. Can I come in today?."
- 7:06 a.m.: "I'm calling to get help with one of my utility bills. I have a shut off notice for today"
- 7:26 a.m.: "The light bill people told me that the \$97 would have to be paid before..."
- 8:26 a.m.: "I am unemployed, and I was asking if someone could please help me out..."
- 8:43 a.m.: "I'm calling about a final notice on my light bill due November 7th..."**
- 8:53 a.m.: "This is a neighbor's phone number. I'm behind \$189 on my rent and need some help..."
- 9:05 a.m.: "I need help with my utilities. I have a three year old at home and a teenager in high school..."
- 9:19 a.m.: "I'm trying to find some assistance for my rent..."
- 9:24 a.m.: "I need help with my utilities..."**
- 9:34 a.m.: "I'm calling to make an appointment to help me get some medicine. I need it quickly..."
- 9:40 a.m.: "I was calling to see if you could help me with my utilities..."
- 9:43 a.m.: "I need help with some past due rent..."
- 10:09 a.m.: "I was calling for assistance with my rent..."
- 10:15 a.m.: "I was calling for assistance with housing funds..."
- 10:25 a.m.: "I'm calling to get some assistance with utilities..."
- 10:28 a.m.: "I was calling to see if you guys have any assistance to help with..."
- 10:35 a.m.: "I signed up last week to get my disability, but right now I need s..."
- 10:41 a.m.: "I'm calling cause I need some food..."
- 10:42 a.m.: "I was needing some help with my rent..."
- 10:49 a.m.: "My client doesn't have heat and can't pay her \$378 gas bill to get her gas turned back on..."
- 10:50 a.m.: "I'm trying to get assistance with my light bill, which I'm going to be losing this week..."
- 10:55 a.m.: "I was calling to find out if you all help with financial assistance for rent and deposits..."
- 11:23 a.m.: "I'm calling because I need help to pay my rent..."
- 11:24 a.m.: "I was wondering about getting some financial help with paying a past due bill..."**
- 11:39 a.m.: "I have not paid my rent for October..."
- 11:41 a.m.: "You have helped me in the past w..."
- 11:45 a.m.: "I'm calling for help with my rent fo..."
- 11:48 a.m.: "I'm calling for help. Our lights are..."
- 11:50 a.m.: "I received a disconnect notice for..."
- 11:59 a.m.: "Can you help..."

I worked until my health failed a few years back. Kidney disease stripped me of my strength, good health, the ability to pay my bills on time, even my dignity. I was referred to you by another dialysis patient whose family had received services. Your ministry helped me pay my rent. You also talked with me about my condition and told me some other places I could go for help. Each week, I make three to four visits to the dialysis center and take the handmade comforter you gave me each time.

I needed to find a new job. I did nails but was losing clients because of the economy, and I was not making enough money to make it. Finding a new job has been tough. I got behind on my bills, and you helped this month to keep my lights on.

My husband and I looked forward to retirement, enjoying life and each other. Instead, all we do is worry about co-pays, deductibles, and cancer treatments. The fear of cancer is bad enough, but the constant threat of having the lights and water cut off is worse. You helped us with utilities, and you helped me just by listening.

## Help Us Meet the Challenge with Our Challenge

Because of you, Housing for New Hope can respond to the challenges faced by the homeless and those at risk of homelessness in our community. Housing for New Hope is excited to announce an opportunity for your contribution to be doubled.

**New and increased donations to Housing for New Hope made between now and February 28, 2009, will be matched dollar for dollar by the Stewards Fund.**

We must receive no less than \$55,000 in new and

increased donations by February 28, in order to receive the matching grant from the Stewards Fund.

You can donate to Housing for New Hope in two ways: you can make a secure online donation by [clicking here](#), or you can mail your donation to:

Housing for New Hope  
18 West Colony Place, Suite 250  
Durham, NC 27705.

To learn more, please contact Eric Breit, Development Director, at (919) 724-0578 or [eric@housingfornewhope.org](mailto:eric@housingfornewhope.org).