

An Introduction to the House of Hope

BY STAFF WRITER, AMANDA KRIESCHER

For more than twenty years, House of Hope has been building hope one room and one person at a time, providing safety and self-sufficiency for young parents experiencing homelessness. Their mission is to provide a safe and supportive place where young parents and children experiencing homelessness will become confident, independent, and successful members of the community. They envision a future where every youth knows what it feels like to have a home.

WHERE IT BEGAN

House of Hope was founded in 2000 by community members who saw a gap in services for young parents in Brown County. Initially located in a four-bedroom home, they quickly realized the need for housing and services for young parents experiencing homelessness was more significant than anticipated. In less than a year, they outgrew the original home and opened a new facility with ten rooms at 1660 Christiana Street in Green Bay.

In 2018, House of Hope completed the Key to Hope capital campaign to expand the shelter facility and program. In the summer of 2019, House of Hope opened its newly expanded shelter. Additionally, House of Hope advocated for the passage of the 2019 WI Act 22, which allows 17-year-olds to access emergency shelters. House of Hope is one of the only shelters in the region providing emergency shelter services to 17-year-olds.

HOUSING STABILITY PROGRAM

In 2013, House of Hope began its Housing Stability Program. This program provides youth and families with children with rent and utility assistance and intensive case management services to help them search for and obtain housing. In recent years, House of Hope expanded the program to include thirteen units of low-barrier, low-income housing for young adults and families with children receiving housing assistance.

THE HOPE CENTER

In 2020, House of Hope opened a youth shelter, The Hope Center, to provide essential services to support at-risk, pregnant, or parenting minor youth. The Hope Center is the



only nonprofit shelter care facility in the State of Wisconsin that will not separate minor youth experiencing homelessness from their children.

DROP-IN CENTER

In December 2022, House of Hope opened a 24/7 youth drop-in center to provide a safe space for young people ages 14-21 experiencing housing instability or homelessness. The Drop-In at House of Hope offers programs that empower youth to grow, thrive, develop supportive connections, build skills, gain stability, and continue their education.

HOUSE OF HOPE'S DIAPER GREEN BAY

In response to the fact that one in three families in America struggles to provide clean diapers for their babies, House of Hope, in collaboration with Green Bay Doulas, launched *Diaper Green Bay* in 2018. Since its inception, the diaper drive has collected over 300,000 diapers. The 7th annual *Diaper Green Bay* collection is going on now through July 20, 2024. Their goal for 2024 is to collect 50,000 diapers to help families in need in the Green Bay area. You can help by contributing diapers and baby wipes at more than 35 area locations. Open or partial packages of diapers are acceptable. The most needed items are larger diapers (sizes 4-7) and potty-training pants (Pull-Ups) in all sizes. Donations benefit House of Hope and other local agencies.

THE COLLECTION EVENT will be held at House of Hope on Saturday, July 20. Please stop by between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to drop off your donation of diapers and baby wipes. Enjoy complimentary snacks, tour the shelter, and visit the Brown County United Way HubCAP mobile vehicle. Learn more at www.houseofhopegb.org/diaper-green-bay.

MAKING AN IMPACT

Since its founding, House of Hope has been positively impacting the community and remains committed to doing so

for as long as there is a need. Below, see what House of Hope has done for those who have experienced its impact firsthand.

“When I stayed at House of Hope, they provided my children and me with all the hygiene items we needed. As a 20-year-old single mom, it was so helpful we didn’t have to spend our money on those things, which made it easier to save extra funds for an apartment. As a former resident, the House still helps my family with hygiene products and diapers that help us get by when I don’t have the funds to do so. I am beyond thankful for House of Hope for helping my children and me.” – ALLISON

“Being at House of Hope was a very empowering experience. They helped me become the mom I wanted to be and gave me confidence to apply for a job. I’m excited about my future. I haven’t felt that way for a long time.” – RENE

HOMELESSNESS ENDS WITH AN OPEN DOOR

House of Hope is committed to ensuring that every child in the community has a safe and stable environment to learn and grow. Their vision is for every child to experience the security and comfort of having a home. They provide a supportive place where youth, young parents, and children facing homelessness can become confident, independent, and thriving members of the community. House of Hope offers a nurturing environment that empowers young families to grow, thrive, and transition out of homelessness towards self-sufficiency.



CONTACT US

If you have any questions about House of Hope or would like to come for a tour, please contact Liz Krumwiede, Community

Engagement Coordinator, at lizk@houseofhopegb.org or 920-274-0948.