

A Message from Ruth Herold, Executive Director

Spring has sprung, as have abundant transformations at Elizabeth Gregory Home. **Highlights include:**

- Completed our expansion project: We held an open house in early March with over 100 in attendance. Mayor Murray participated in the ceremonious ribbon-cutting, and the plaque of appreciation for all who generously contributed time, talent and resources was unveiled. The crown jewel of the project: adding showers, which allows EGH to meet all basic essential needs of homeless women in one stop.



L-R Pastor Ron, Mayor Murray, Ruth and Board President, Bob Chamberlain

- Welcomed three new members to our Board of Directors: Charlie Spaeth, President of Shaffer Corporation; Mary Denny, Psychologist; and Ray Munger, Deputy Director of University Heights.

- Hired our first Development Manager, Elizabeth Stevenson. For more information, see her article in this newsletter.

- Celebrated our 10th Annual Spring Dinner: Over 270 attendees witnessed the acknowledgement of long-time volunteer, Joan Overland; the presentation of a plaque naming our new Moe-Lobeda Wellness Center in honor of Pastor Ron Moe-Lobeda; and inspirational words from April and Crystal, each of whom shared her experience with homelessness and the impact of Elizabeth Gregory Home on that journey. Thanks to the generosity of many, over \$92,000 was raised which will go along way to help fulfill our mission.

As we move into our new spaces, we will be launching new programs and services, and would be delighted to hear ideas for offerings from our community supporters. If you would like to share your thoughts, time or talents, please contact Program Manager Maisy Lane at mlane@eghseattle.org.

Farewell Words from Pastor Ron Moe-Lobeda

As I leave the board of EGH and depart from University Lutheran Church, I will cherish all of you who have been on the front lines of making Elizabeth Gregory Home what it is today, as well as all of you who have ensured the viability and sustainability of EGH with your gifts, time, and prayers. Most importantly, I will hold in my memory all of the women who have entered the doors of EGH and found a place to call "home," whether for a moment, a week, a month, or a year. To leave this place knowing that the women of EGH will continue to have this home as their refuge is a dream come true and a source of hope for all of the women who are yet to pass through the doors of EGH.

Please visit EGHSeattle.org to read the whole article by Pastor Ron Moe-Lobeda

HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN GIVE BIG!

Despite glitches with the online donation system, on May 5th, many of our generous supporters persevered, resulting in EGH raising over \$14,000 that will directly support our programs and services. Thank you!

Mattie Is Finally Home



Mattie is quick with a smile and kind word. She has good reason to smile these days as she just moved into her own one bedroom apartment through Seattle's Senior Housing Program. "My apartment is so nice," exclaimed Mattie. "I love my bathroom."

Mattie lived most of her life and raised her family in Omaha. After her daughter was killed by a drunk driver, she had to make a change and moved to Seattle. What she discovered was that life here is more expensive and her meager income from Social Security didn't stretch far enough to make ends meet. Thus she found herself homeless three years ago.

"I thank God for all the women here at Elizabeth Gregory Home," Mattie said. "At first I thought this place was just like the other shelter programs for homeless, but it's different.

Staff and other women are nice to me here and they don't treat you like you're homeless."

Mattie didn't know it the first time she walked through the doors of Elizabeth Gregory Home, but the resources and connections she made here helped her navigate the provider network and secure housing. EGH not only offered her a safe place to rest during the day and hot nutritious meals, but afforded her access to computers where she was able to complete an application online for Senior Housing. EGH staff connected her with St. Vincent DePaul of St. Catherine's Parish. They were able to provide her with a security deposit with a mere three hours notice!

Mattie was greeted and welcomed by her new neighbors on her first day in her apartment. When they noticed she didn't have any furniture, they brought over a small couch and a rocking chair.

"I was afraid that once I got housing I wouldn't be allowed to come back to EGH," Mattie said. "I'm glad I can still come here." For Mattie and many other women, Elizabeth Gregory Home's Day Center continues to serve as their ongoing support network where they know they are always welcome.

Welcome Development Manager Elizabeth Stevenson

My first two weeks at Elizabeth Gregory Home has gone by so quickly, but it also feels like I have always been here. It must be that same sense of home and community that the women who frequent EGH talk about. I have heard things like "Why is everyone so happy here?" and at every turn the women are helping each other. In my over twenty years of working in nonprofits, and over a dozen years of raising money for homeless shelters, this is a new experience. I attribute it to my new co-workers; Michele who is on a mission to find housing for 52 women this year, and Sandra who always has an eye out for something that she knows someone needs, like a new wig for one of our transgender clients. Maisy has her hands full working with the women in the transitional home and working to develop partnerships to bring new programming to the Day Center. Ruth keeps everything moving forward. Her acumen in "herding cats" is admirable and she continually reminds us of EGH's core values of Inclusion, Respect, Empathy and Community.



This community of women is small but fierce. Fierce in its protection of one another and fierce in its perseverance to overcome any challenge. I feel privileged to join such a wonderfully positive community of women. Please feel free to contact me at (206) 729-0262 ext 1006 or via email estevenson@EGHSeattle.org

Needs List

Items we need right now:

Flip flops
Razors

Thank You!

Items we ALWAYS need:

Stretch or Sweat Pants in larger sizes XL - XXXL
Underwear (larger sizes) and Socks

Do you like to sew? We have a great need for bivy sheets for each woman to use when resting on a mat at the Day Center. You can make a bivy sheet by folding a king size sheet in half, then sewing a seam to close the bottom and another up one side to form a bag for sleeping. Please contact Michele at 206-729-0262, ext 1005 if you are willing to help us out!