



# Newsletter

## December 2018

### POVERTY IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Did you know that in 2018 Montgomery County counted 291 people living in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs and living outdoors? Although homelessness has decreased by 37% since 2013, the need for community support remains evident.

While Rahab's Hope's mission and ultimate goal is central to transitional housing, we have become aware of the need to extend our support. We have begun taking steps toward preventing homelessness through our Rental Assistance (RA) program. Our program addresses the needs of households seeking financial support for security deposits, first months rent and rental arrears that will lead to eviction.

As our organization continues to grow, we are seeking new ways to reach the needs of our community. Rahab's Hope has recently connected with Clarifi in order to better serve our program participants with additional financial literacy training. We are also looking to collaborate with other non-profit organizations fighting to make change in the face of poverty.



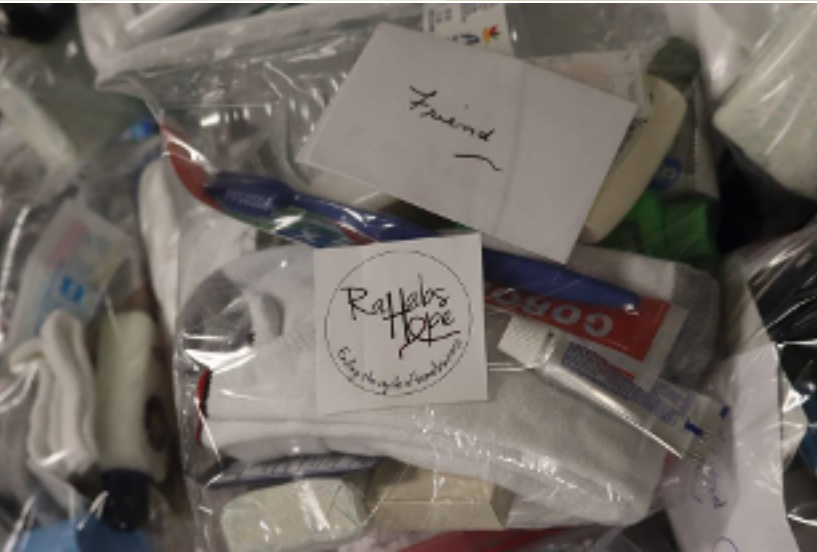
### PROGRAM TESTIMONIES

"I was in a situation where if Rahab's Hope would not have helped me with rent money I could not get the chance to restart my life. It was a ray of hope to get this help and a step in making me move forward in life and a very big burden taken away. It was truly a blessing."

- Rental Assistance Recipient

"Rahab's Hope helped me from getting evicted. I am a single mother with a 1 year old daughter. I am trying to adapt to new mommy life and trying to uphold new responsibilities. I ran into a situation where I needed assistance. I called several places and started to get discouraged. I was then provided Rahab's Hope contact information. What I loved most is that I was really dealing with a desperate situation and needed help right away. Rahab's Hope stepped right in a made this a priority. Rahab's Hope saved me and my baby from getting evicted. Many many thanks and much appreciation."

- Marcia



## HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR SERVICE IN 2018

### Rental Assistance

- ❑ 1 single woman exited the shelter
- ❑ 3 families avoided eviction

### Additional Support

- ❑ Referrals to food pantries
- ❑ Referrals to behavioral health services
- ❑ Referrals to additional financial support services
- ❑ Connected a family with 4 children to the Angel Tree ministry through Zion Baptist Church (Ambler) for Christmas gifts.

### Furniture distributed

- ❑ (4) mattresses + (1) box spring
- ❑ (2) dressers
- ❑ (5) pillows + bedding
- ❑ Laundry basket + curtains

### Service Project

- ❑ 119 care packages were distributed to the impoverished in Norristown in October
  - ❑ Volunteers and donations from ECRI + donations from Staffingplus made this possible.

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- ❑ Volunteer with us during our fundraisers.
- ❑ Donations
  - ❑ Toiletries and winter supplies
  - ❑ Donate at [rahabshope.org](http://rahabshope.org) today
  - ❑ Contact your employer about their matching gift program
- ❑ Shop with [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select Rahab's Hope (in King of Prussia) and Amazon will make a donation to us because you shopped.
- ❑ Join our board/team and fill the role as a Marketer, Treasurer, Secretary or Fundraising Coordinator.