



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



Keep People In Their Homes Campaign Impact

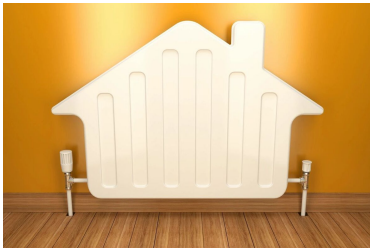
In July we completed the "Keep People In Their Homes" campaign and we were able to serve 4 families (including 6 adults and 6 children). **Read the stories and testimonies of Montco residents that benefitted from your generosity.**

A single mother of 4 children received financial assistance toward her rental



arrears so that she and her children could stay in their home. **Here is her testimony:**

"I'm a single mother of 4 children. My daughter Brooklyn had major spinal surgery (Laminectomy for Tether Cord release), which caused a total decrease in my financial responsibilities. I work in Lancaster and live in Pottstown. I had to shorten my hours and travel back and forth to work when Brooklyn had surgery on 5/23/22. I also had to care for my other children who were in school. My mental head space was not in the right place and I prayed and tried to keep a calm heart during my hardship - time caring for my daughter while in the hospital. I didn't have support, just myself, which was difficult. I greatly appreciate all of the help given from this agency. God bless you all."



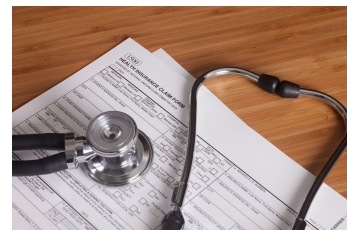
A married couple faced ongoing financial challenges since 2021 after a job loss and reduced hours at work. After regaining employment, they were still unable to catch up with past due bills while trying to maintain current expenses. **Rahab's Hope covered more than half of their rental arrears to lighten the**

financial burden.

Testimony:

"Asking for assistance can be difficult. Rahab's Hope is a supportive organization that made me feel comfortable throughout the entire process."

We assisted **a single senior who fell behind on July's rent** due to changes in her health condition which now affects her ability to work. Although she receives a fixed income, the loss of employment makes it challenging for her to make ends meet.



After paying her past due rent, she is now up-to-date and has access to community resources to meet further financial needs for medical and household related items.

The breadwinner of a family of four was unable to pay rent after testing positive for

COVID. Due to his lack of paid time off (PTO) benefits, he was unable to produce any income while away from work. Rahab's Hope was able to partner with Orion Communities to pay one month of the families rental arrears.



2022 Updates



So far in 2022, Rahab's Hope has provided rental assistance to **50 households** including **66 adults and 55 children** with an average amount of \$2,087.82 per home.

Additionally, we were able to provide hotel assistance to **7 households** that included 10 adults and 2 children.

This year we have seen substantial financial growth. Our **revenue has quadrupled due to generous donors and grant funding.**

Check it Out!

View the [National Association of Counties diagnostic tool](#) to take a look at Montgomery County's high housing costs and population growth in comparison to surrounding areas. This website discusses findings regarding the vacancy rate within the county, what percentage of renters are spending more than half of their income on rent, and proposes recommended policies to support those experiencing housing insecurity.



A recent article from [The Philadelphia Sunday SUN](#) reports data that was presented at the September 15th Commissioners' board meeting. This data shows that the number of families waiting for shelter has "more than doubled" since last year and the number of individuals that have been served by street outreach has increased by 32%. It goes on to mention that \$1.2 Million dollars have been allocated to Your Way Home Street Outreach services to help with hoteling, adding more staff to help support needs of the unhoused, and other supports.

Single Adult Shelter coming to Pottstown, PA:

Last month Pottstown's Zoning Hearing Board voted to support the building of Beacon of Hope shelter. Follow the link above to find out more details regarding planned number of rooms, length of stay, and more!

Meet our New Board Members

This summer, we added three new board members. Welcome Hailey, Diana and Anissa!



Hailey Walter- Board Secretary



Diana Georgeou - Board Treasurer



Anissa Jones - Board Member

We Need YOU!

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of neighbors in Montgomery County. If you would like to get involved and serve, please click the button below to find out about our different volunteer opportunities.

Happy fall! Be blessed.

With much appreciation,
Rahab's Hope / Team

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