

HOUSE OF HOPE, INC.



SUMMER 2011

40 YEARS OF HOPE TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!!

Join us in celebrating the past 40 years and looking forward to many more years of Hope.

Last year's dinner was a huge success and this year promises to be even better. Please help us to honor all those that have been a part of House of Hope, Inc. since 1971.

We will be serving a traditional Thanksgiving style dinner. There will be a silent auction with something for everyone. The entertainment this year will be a short documentary film about the history of House of Hope, Inc.

As many of you know, House of Hope, Inc. needs more space to serve the many clients that suffer from addiction. The proceeds from "40 years of Hope" will go towards our Expanding Hope project. Check out pg 2 of this newsletter for more information on our current endeavor.

TICKETS ARE \$50 EACH

They can be purchased in person or by mail at:

House of Hope, Inc.

Or from:

Diane Norland, Nancee Mason, Mark Johnson, or one of our board members.

**THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 15TH**

5:30PM Social Hour &
Silent Auction

6:30PM Dinner

7:30PM Silent Auction
Wrap-Up

8:00PM

Film documentary

"40 Years of Hope"

Guest Speaker:

Arden Bradshaw

(Mr. Bradshaw was an
original member of the
board of directors in
1971)

Event Location:

Country Inn & Suites

1900 Premier Dr.

Mankato, MN 56001



Direct Phone Numbers

Executive Director: Nancee Mason	385-7601
Office Manager: Arlene Kreutzer	385-7600
Billing: Misty Ellingworth	385-7610
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Marketing Director: Mark Johnson	385-7611
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House of Hope, Inc.

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www.houseofhopemn.com

HOUSE OF HOPE III—FAIRMONT, MN



Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement and success have no meaning.

Ben Franklin

For the past year, we have been working on finding additional space for House of Hope, Inc. This lovely facility in Fairmont, MN (Martin County) has been vacant for a number of years and we feel that it may be the perfect place for an expansion of our services. We have a purchase agreement in place and are taking the steps necessary to determine if the site will be a good fit for the House of Hope. This 26-bed facility that would be used for adult men and women and allow us to serve the ever-increasing number of adults suffering from chemical dependency.

Since the property has been vacant for so long, we will need to do some renovations to the building and some major cleaning. If we close on the property, it is our hope that the work will be completed early this fall and that we will have staff hired and trained to start admitting clients by the first of the new year. We will post job openings as they come available and are planning an employment fair for this fall. Watch our website for dates and times.

We accept clients from all over the state of Minnesota and currently about 20%-30% of our clients come from Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties and 15%-20% of our clients come from Martin County. The logical decision was to become a regional treatment center.

Currently we serve 29 men and 7 women in Mankato. This expansion will NOT change our services in Mankato. It will simply allow us to serve an additional 26 adults.

The printing and mailing of this newsletter was sponsored by the generous donations from Subway.



MEET THE STAFF

In each new edition of our newsletter, I will be highlighting one staff member. House of Hope could not continue without the hard work and dedication of our employees.

A little about Stephan.....



Stephan Rocheford
Full-time Cook

I am a HOH alumni from 2004. I have a son named Julian who just graduated HS and is on his way to college in Morris, MN. I have just purchased a mobile home and will be moving in August. I love the Vikings, movies, and spending time in Alexandria with my parents. I have been cooking professionally for over 30 years.

I love my new job here at House of Hope and am grateful for a chance to "give back" to the place I called home for 6 months!

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

At a fundraising dinner, a father of a child with learning disabilities delivered a speech that would never be forgotten. He offered this question:

“When not interfered with by outside influences, everything nature does, is done with perfection. Yet my son, Shay, cannot learn things as other children do. He cannot understand things as other children do. Where is the natural order of things in my son?” The audience was stilled by the query. The father continued, “I believe that when a child like Shay, who was mentally and physically disabled, comes into the world an opportunity to realize true human nature presents itself, and it comes in the way other people treat that child.” Then he told the following story:

Shay and I had walked past a park where some boys Shay knew were playing baseball. Shay asked, “Do you think they’ll let me play?” I knew that most of the boys would not want someone like Shay on their team, but as a father I also understood that if my son were allowed to play, it would give him a much-needed sense of belonging and some confidence to be accepted by others in spite of his handicaps.

I approached one of the boys on the field and asked (not expecting much) if Shay could play. The boy looked around for guidance and said, “We’re losing by six runs and the game is in the eighth inning. I guess he can be on our team and we’ll try to put him in to bat in the ninth inning.

Shay struggled over to the team’s bench and, with a broad smile, put on a team shirt..I watched with a small tear in my eye and warmth in my heart. The boys saw my joy at my son being accepted.

In the bottom of the eighth inning, Shay’s team scored a few runs but was still behind by three. In the top of the ninth inning, Shay put on a glove and played in right field. Even though no hits came his way, he was obviously ecstatic just to be in the game and on the field, grinning from ear to ear as I waved to him from the stands. In the bottom of the ninth inning, Shay’s team scored again. Now, with two outs and the bases loaded, the potential winning run was on base and Shay was scheduled to be next at bat. At this juncture, do they let Shay bat and give away their chance to win the game?

Surprisingly, Shay was given the bat. Everyone knew that a hit was all but impossible because Shay didn’t even know how to hold the bat properly, much less connect with the ball. However, as Shay stepped up to the plate, the pitcher, recognizing that the other team was putting winning aside for this moment in Shay’s life, moved in a few steps to lob the ball in softly so Shay could at least make contact.

The first pitch came and Shay swung clumsily and missed. The pitcher again took a few steps forward to toss the ball softly towards Shay. As the pitch came in, Shay swung at the ball and hit a slow ground ball right back to the pitcher. The game would now be over. The pitcher picked up the soft grounder and could have easily thrown the ball to the first baseman. Shay would have been out and that would be the end of the game. Instead, the pitcher threw the ball right over the first baseman’s head, out of reach of all team mates. Everyone from the stands and both teams started yelling, “Shay, run to first! Run to first!” Never in his life had Shay ever run that far, but he made it to first base. He scampered down the baseline, wide-eyed and startled. Everyone yelled, “Run to second, run to second!” Catching his breath, Shay awkwardly ran towards second, gleaming and struggling to make it to the base. By the time Shay rounded towards second base, the right fielder had the ball. The smallest guy on their team who now had his first chance to be the hero for the team. He could have thrown the ball to the second-baseman for the tag, but he understood the pitcher’s intentions so he, too, intentionally threw the ball high and far over the third-baseman’s head. Shay ran towards third base deliriously as the runners ahead of him circled the bases toward home. All were screaming, “Shay, Shay, Shay, all the Way Shay!” Shay reached third base because the opposing shortstop ran to help him by turning him in the direction of third base, and shouted, “Run to third! Shay, run to third!” As Shay rounded third, the boys from both teams, and the spectators, were on their feet screaming, “Shay, run home! Run home!” Shay ran to home, stepped on the plate, and was cheered as the hero who hit the grand slam and won the game for his team.

“That day”, said the father softly with tears now rolling down his face, “the boys from both teams helped bring a piece of true love and humanity into this world.” Shay didn’t make it to another summer. He died that winter, having never forgotten being the hero and making me so happy, and coming home and seeing his Mother tearfully embrace her little hero of the day! — May your day, be a Shay Day.

House of Hope, Inc. is a treatment facility that provides a safe environment for individuals who desire to rebuild their lives from addictions.

HOUSE OF HOPE, INC.



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL FUNDRAISING EVENTS THIS SUMMER. PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR ALL OF THEM! www.houseofhopemn.com

REMEMBER THE DUCKY DASH FOR HOPE ON JULY 24TH @ 1PM. THERE ARE STILL DUCKS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION. YOUR DUCK CAN WIN \$1,000.

**First Annual House of Hope Golf Tournament
GOLFIN' FOR HOPE**

The tournament will be held at North Links on Sunday Aug 14. There will be a 2:00pm shotgun start. The cost is \$75 per golfer or \$300 per team. This will be 4 person scramble format. We would like to have a minimum of 18 teams of 4, and a maximum of 36 teams of 4. Get your team signed up now as space is going fast. If you don't have a team, let us know and we will get you matched up with other golfers.

