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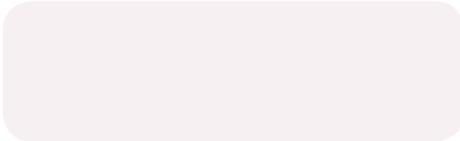
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Join Us!
**Fashioning Our Lives
Luncheon**

Thursday, November 7



Please join us!
Fashioning Our Lives
Hilton Garden Inn
November 7, 2013

Join us for this special luncheon as the women of St. Margaret's House share how they are fashioning their lives from the inside out and offer a glimpse of life through their lens. (See the enclosed response card or register online at www.stmargarethouse.org)



Winter Walk
Downtown South Bend
February 16, 2014



*Scan this code with
your smart phone to
visit our website!*



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HAPPENINGS

News & Notes from St. Margaret's House ~ Improving the Lives of Women and Children

October
Vol. 23 No. 3

I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me.

~ Matthew 25:35-36

Through Our Lens

What do you see when you look at life through your lens? Is it in focus? Bright? Inspiring? Right now our participants in Fashioning Our Lives are asking themselves that very question. They are bravely examining their story through photography and storytelling. They are discerning their past and present while preparing to embrace their next best step forward. Below is just a glimpse of what these St. Margaret's House guests saw through their lens during The Darkroom Project this summer. Join us for more stories through our lens at Fashioning Our Lives on Thursday, November 7, 2013. Your invitation is enclosed!

Jamien Fleming

I am a mother, daughter, sister, friend, student, survivor.

I'm a single mother of four, two boys and two girls. I'm a full time college student studying to be a youth social worker. I'm a giver by heart and I love to lend a helping hand. I use art to get away from life's chaos. Art is a brief release from my everyday struggle. It's my peace in the midst of the storm. I'm here alone with no family other than my children and my journey is a little different from those who have a support system, but still I manage to get things done, stay positive and rise above my situation. It's not the easiest. However, I have dreams and goals to accomplish and more importantly children that depend on me, so I appear to remain strong through it all. I am determined to excel.



Photo Right:
"My Bridge of Hope"



Robbie Carmon

My name is Robbie Carmon. I am a forty two year old mother and grandmother. I decided to be a part of this project in order to let go of my past, embrace the present, and accept myself for the future. I find I can do this through photography. I am able to express feelings and emotions in photos rather than words.

I am finding myself.

Photo Right:
"My Inspiration"



Photo Right:
"My beautiful daughter Jenna, who is a great helper"



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

We all look through the lens of our life's experience at the world around us. Often we think we know someone as we interpret their words and actions through our lens. Yet, when we stop and really listen and look at life through another's perspective, we gain a whole new view. On November 7, we will all be privileged to see the world just a little differently as the women of St. Margaret's House give us a glimpse of their world through their lens. They will share stories of their lives, their struggles and their victories through their words and photos. Join us at Fashioning Our Lives 2013, *Through Our Lens* on November 7, 2013 at the Hilton Garden Inn on the Campus of Saint Mary's College at 11:30.

P.S. When I look through my lens at the guests of St. Margaret's House, I see women of strength and character working hard every day to create better lives for themselves and their children. I also see a community of supporters who believe in these women, sacrifice and give to our work so that these women can achieve their goals. I love this view of life that I see through my lens. Thank you.

Kathryn A. Schneider, M.Div
Executive Director

Lessons in generosity!

...Sometimes it's the simple gestures that really touch us! We are overwhelmed by the recent generosity of local thirteen year old, Mia Simmons.

Mia recently celebrated her birthday. It's customary for kids to look forward to birthday celebrations complete with cake and birthday gifts from friends and family. This year, Mia had a different idea. She wanted to give back to the community, and she wanted her friends to get on board. When she was at a sleep-over and her friends were raving about her brownies she got a great idea. Instead of gifts given to her for her birthday, Mia asked her friends and family to support her by participating in a bake sale to support St. Margaret's House.

With the money given to her by friends, she bought ingredients, baked all sorts of goodies and held a bake sale at church! Mia's bake sale brought in \$157.57. She gave all the money that she raised to St. Margaret's House so that we could use it to help others. We are so grateful for people like Mia, and we are honored by her selfless gift.

Happy birthday, Mia!



MNC Radiothon



WOW!

Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU to those of you who supported our 1st Annual Radiothon! Our hearts are full! With your help, we raised \$31,559! We couldn't have done it without you.

We also want to send a special thank you to Mark McGill, Jon Zimney, Casey Hendrickson, and Paul Potet for their help in making this event a success. 95.3 Michiana's News Channel dedicated two days of their airtime to allow us to share our story with the community. We are so proud to announce that of the 229 donors, 90% of them were new! With the help of the radio station, the volunteers, and the community we are able to bring our story to an entirely new audience!

Thanks again!



St. Margaret's House volunteer Tammie Carr teaches a class on interviewing skills.



Want to get involved?

DONATE NEEDED ITEMS

- Sanitary napkins
- Spoons & forks
- Coats

VOLUNTEER WITH US

We need :

- Person to help with Access database
- Help with our Christmas Shoppe
- Cook/Kitchen help
- Handyman or woman to help on an as needed basis

Please consider including St. Margaret's House in your estate planning.

Volunteer Picnic

On September 10, our volunteers came together to celebrate and spend time with each other at our Volunteer Picnic. Despite the hot weather, 55 of our volunteers joined us for this event. Thank you to all of the volunteers for your continuous hard work and support! We couldn't do it without you!



BY THE NUMBERS ...

We beat the heat with over **900** popsicles this summer! What a yummy way to stay cool!



Find us on Facebook!

Don't forget to return your enclosed RSVP or register at www.stmargarethouse.org for Fashioning Our Lives!

St. Margaret's House Happenings is published quarterly by the Board of St. Margaret's House, Denise Berscheit, chair. St. Margaret's House is a project of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana and the Cathedral of St. James, South Bend, Indiana.

Thank you to REAL Services, Inc. for their participation in the sponsorship of SMH.

The scarf used in the design of this newsletter was painted by SMH Silk Creations artist Shenell Dean..