



SHELTER • FOOD • CLOTHING • RECOVERY • EMPLOYMENT • HOUSING • HEALTH • MENTAL HEALTH • SOCIAL SERVICES • OUTREACH

## PROFILE

### A CLIENT'S PERSPECTIVE: **Joshua's Story**

Joshua was an “all-American girl” in high school, a cheerleader and lover of sports, when she started experimenting with drugs and alcohol. Many young people are lucky enough to get away with that kind of behavior and move on. Joshua was not one of them.

After years of addiction, she came to the Hope Center's Recovery Program for Women. Seventeen months later, she's retaken control of her life and wants to start


“These apartments will give women the chance to transition out into a drug- and alcohol-free environment.”

**Joshua**

over. She recognizes just how critical the Hope Center's new permanent housing for women in recovery will be for women in her situation, and how beneficial it will be to have it right next door.

*“I'm so excited about the new apartments the Hope Center is building for women. They will offer low-cost opportunities for single women in recovery. These apartments will give women the chance to transition out into a drug- and alcohol-free environment.”*

*There's also a big kitchen – that's good for women because we like to cook and be together, but we can also have the privacy of our apartments.*

*Instead of starting off running when we leave the Hope Center, we can start small and build. Many women tell me that they get lonely when they leave the Hope Center since they're used to so many people being around so the apartment setting will be great. I wish the new apartments were complete today!”* 

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Lexington, Ky. 40588

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360 W. Loudon Avenue  
Lexington, KY 40508

**FACILITIES/PROGRAMS**

Emergency Shelter  
Ball-Quantrell Jones Center  
for Women  
George Privett Recovery Center  
Fayette County Detention  
Center Recovery Program  
HopeMobile

**PHONE:**

(859) 252-7881

**WEBSITE:**

www.hopectr.org

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Cecil Dunn

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The Hope Center's mission is to care for homeless and at-risk persons by providing life-sustaining and life-rebuilding services that are comprehensive and address underlying causes.

W O R D S O F  
**H O P E**

www.hopectr.org | WORDS OF HOPE | JULY 2009

## A Place of Their Own

### Helping Women in Recovery Find a Home

We've wanted to make permanent housing available for our women clients for some time now. I'm glad to say we are on our way.

Let me set the background. Women addicted to drugs and alcohol enter our women's recovery program at the Ball-Quantrell Jones Center for Women on Versailles Road. Those who complete the program are typically there for a minimum of six months and many are there nine months and longer. They get sober, they learn about their disease; they learn how to live with their disease without drinking or using.

At this point, they are ready to take responsibility for their own lives on their own. One substantial obstacle they face is finding a place to live that will accept them and that they can afford.

You see, these women are just getting back on their feet, so they don't have great financial means to begin with. The majority of them have been victims of domestic violence. Then there is the fact that they have a history of substance abuse and, in many cases, a criminal record.

I want to make the point that, in every case I know of, the



Cecil Dunn

criminal record was a direct result of the substance abuse. It is the addiction that leads to behavior that brings these women into conflict with the criminal justice system. *(The same is also true of many of the homeless who have mental health issues.)* If there were

no addiction, there would be no criminal record.

Nonetheless, the criminal record exists, and it frequently gets in the way of finding a place to live.

That's why we've wanted to build a permanent housing facility for our women, so that we can provide that housing at a rate they can afford and without concern


about the lives they have left behind. We already have one for our men clients. Hill Rise Place is a 40-unit apartment building occupied by graduates of our men's recovery program.

Now, thanks to a federal grant awarded to us by the Kentucky Department for Local Government, we will begin construction in the near future for a 44-unit apartment building for

women. It will stand directly next to the women's recovery center on Versailles Road. The grant is a Neighborhood Stabilization Grant funded through the recent stimulus package. It will not only help stabilize the neighborhood, it will help stabilize the lives of many women.

Similar to what Hill Rise Place does for men, this facility will provide drug- and alcohol-free permanent housing to women in recovery, and it will provide an atmosphere that supports their continued sobriety. Indeed, the proximity of this building to the recovery center will help these women stay in touch with the programs, policies and mentors that helped them establish their

recovery in the first place.

As part of the grant application, we held a public hearing on the prospect of building these apartments. Over seventy women showed up. As they asked question after question, their enthusiasm grew. It became obvious that these units will fill a pressing and compelling need. I'm deeply pleased that we will be meeting that need. 

**Thanks to a federal grant awarded to us by the Kentucky Department for Local Government, we will begin construction in the near future for a 44-unit apartment building for women**

# Hope Center Garden

Many people say that gardening has great therapeutic value. Clients at the George Privett Recovery Center are finding truth in that statement. A garden that started with the goal of providing additional nutritious food for clients has grown into a community project with many benefits.

Earlier in the spring, we decided to plant a small garden, but needed some advice on how to get going. We connected with Sherry Maddox, a master gardener, who met with us several times to offer advice and suggestions. She arranged for Patti Meads with the Woodford County Cooperative Extension office to come and test our soil. All was well so we had to green light to move forward.

We had a plan to get the soil tilled, but that fell through so we thought we'd have to put the garden on hold until next year. Then Nancy Sleeth and Will Sears with Blessed Earth visited the Hope Center one day. During our talk we mentioned our disappointment over the garden. Nancy then volunteered to arrange to have our garden tilled and cover the costs.

Now the ground was ready, but what would we plant? That very week our phone rang and it was Springhouse Gardens located in Nicholasville. They said they had some

extra vegetable plants and asked if we could use them. We said, "yes!"

Thanks to everyone who helped, the Hope Center garden is well underway. If you'd like to assist with the garden in any way, please contact Kim Livesay at [klivesay@hopectr.org](mailto:klivesay@hopectr.org) or 859.252.7881. 🌱



## Beaumont Presbyterian Shares the Bounty

Beaumont Presbyterian Church supports a community garden called The Croft. Twenty plus gardeners participate. One of the goals of the Croft is to share their harvest with individuals who may be hungry. This year they are specifically focused on contributing part of their bounty to the Hope Center.

They have designated a bin for the Hope Center where gardeners place extra produce or items they would like to donate. Each day, one of the gardeners is scheduled to bring produce from the bin to the Hope Center. Between all of our locations, the Hope Center serves approximately 1,200 meals a day. This "bounty" being provided by the gardeners is indeed a blessing to our clients. Many thanks to Beaumont Presbyterian and all the gardeners! 🌱



*Today our clients, volunteers and staff are tending the garden and hoping for great results.*



**A Place of Their Own  
Helping Women in Recovery Find a Home**

State Representative Jesse Crenshaw, Councilwoman Peggy Henson, Mayor Jim Newberry, Hope Center Executive Director Cecil Dunn, Governor Steve Beshear, Hope Center Board Chairman Doug Ezzell, and Kentucky Department of Local Government Commissioner Tony Wilder attended the \$1.7+ million check presentation. The Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds will be used to build permanent housing for women.

### FOR THE RECORD / Services provided for April - May (at the Emergency Shelter unless otherwise noted)

<b>Meals Served</b> (including Privett Center & Women's Center) . . . . . 26,015	<b>Mobile Outreach</b> . . . . . 1,116	<b>Men's Recovery Admissions</b> . . . . . 31
<b>Nights Lodging</b> (including Privett Center) . . . . . 12,746	<b>Volunteer Hours</b> . . . . . 1,095	<b>Housing &amp; Employment</b> . . . . . 313
<b>Clothing Issued</b> . . . . . 6,075	<b>Health Clinic Visits</b> . . . . . 888	<b>Hispanic Program</b> . . . . . 456
	<b>Mental Health Services</b> . . . . . 3,375	<b>Women's Recovery Admissions</b> . . . . . 12

### INCOME (April-June)

<b>Grants</b> . . . . .	\$657,572
<b>Individuals</b> . . . . .	\$43,643
<b>Churches</b> . . . . .	\$5,708
<b>Businesses</b> . . . . .	\$48,843
<b>TOTAL</b> . . . . .	\$755,766



# Book Project Benefits Hope Center



Local author and photographer John S. Hockensmith just released a new book, *Spanish Mustangs in the Great American West: Return of the Horse*. The book includes amazing photos of mustangs and focuses on their influence on native and developing cultures throughout American history. A portion of the first edition profits will be donated to the Hope Center.

“While I was shooting photos for the book, I spent three weeks on the Blackfeet Reservation.

I observed high levels of addiction in this community. In fact, horses are often used to reconnect children to something other than drugs and alcohol,” Hockensmith said. “At first, I thought to donate a portion of the sales to that community, but realized I should start with the people at risk in our own community. That’s why a portion of the sales will go to support the Hope Center’s recovery programs.”

An exhibit of the art images from the book will open at the Headley-Whitney

Museum on August 20. A portion of the sales from pieces sold at the exhibit will also benefit the Hope Center. Insight Media is a sponsor of the exhibit and the book. Insight Media General Manager, Connie Joiner, serves on the Hope Center Board of Directors.

*To get a copy of the book, to see sample pages, or for more information, go to [www.finearteditions.net](http://www.finearteditions.net) or call 800.972.8385.*

## Top 5 Things We Need

- Razors
- Toothbrushes/ toothpaste
- Women’s personal hygiene items
- Towels
- New underwear (men’s and women’s)

*See full list of needed items at [www.hopectr.org](http://www.hopectr.org)*



The Hope Center provides services to the homeless in Lexington, Kentucky, including the immediate needs of food, shelter and clothing and the longer-term needs of detox and substance abuse recovery, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness, health clinic services, employment counseling, life skills, housing support and transitional housing.

## The WARM program

The Hope Center, along with the HopeMobile, recently participated in an outreach event at Bluegrass Community Health Clinic’s soccer tournament and health fair. The Hope Center set up a booth with information about the Center and the WARM program, the Wellness and Recovery Management Project that is designed to serve individuals affected by HIV and substance abuse. The WARM program is a new addition to the Recovery Program. Hope Center staff offered

HIV testing and prevention counseling, with both English and Spanish speaking staff available for questions.



DONATE ONLINE [www.hopectr.org](http://www.hopectr.org)

### Save the Date!

Rood & Riddle Kentucky Grand Prix  
Saturday, August 15  
Kentucky Horse Park

*Portions of this exciting equestrian event benefit the Hope Center.*

Leave a legacy of hope by including the Hope Center in your Planned Giving. For more information, please call Heather Mitchell at (859) 252-7881.