



# Genesis House, Inc.

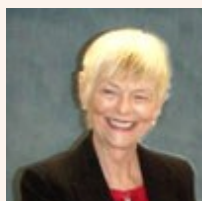
...a new beginning

## Summer, 2017 Newsletter

## Message from Mary Allen, Founder and President of the Board of Directors

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This is our first summer Newsletter! We are sending it to keep everyone informed on recent events at Genesis House, Inc. Our resident assistance, counseling, and education programs continue to grow and improve. We have several new part-time staff members, counselor interns from three universities, and a new education grant to help the children of our residents.

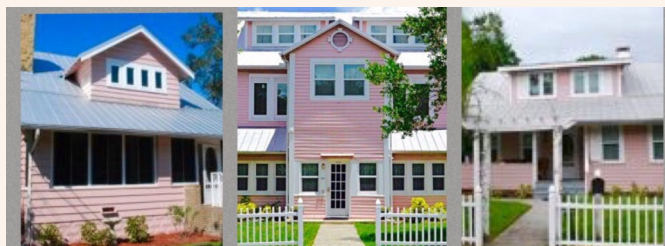
Genesis House hosted its 3rd Annual Christmas in July. All residents and staff enjoyed an early evening celebration where Santa visited and brought all of the children new

backpacks full of school supplies.

In October, we will be celebrating 40 years of providing safe shelter. We will continue to grow and change to meet the needs of homeless women and their children, student mothers, and homeless and abandoned pregnant women. We are also now sheltering a few older homeless women who are referred by other agencies for short-term emergency shelter. With your help, we assist our residents to become educated, employable, and secure stable living situations. I offer my sincere thank you for your continued support!

*Mary Allen*

IT IS THE MISSION of Genesis House, Inc. to provide emergency shelter for homeless women and their children, long-term housing for student mothers with children, and shelter for homeless pregnant women. Genesis House, Inc. is committed to providing a safe, supportive, caring environment. Education, self-discipline, self-reliance, and independence from public assistance are earnestly promoted. Counseling, personal improvement classes, and appropriate health care are obtained for all residents.



## Resident Achievements

In addition to providing safety and shelter, the mission of Genesis House, Inc. is to help our residents continue their education and achieve independence. We are proud to announce that after much hard work and dedication, Whitney, a resident and mother of two, received her G.E.D. diploma and is on her way to becoming a student at Eastern Florida State College! Everyone enjoyed celebrating this milestone accomplishment in Whitney's life!



**"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.**

**-Mother Teresa**

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Donations are tax deductible, 501(c)(3) EIN: 59-1595818. Florida solicitation of contributions registration number: CH12963

## 2017 Birth Announcements!



Destiny...February 17  
Dixie...April 19  
Nixie...April 28  
Sir Tae Vion...May 12  
Hadassah...May 20



"Motherhood: All love begins and ends there."

—Robert Browning

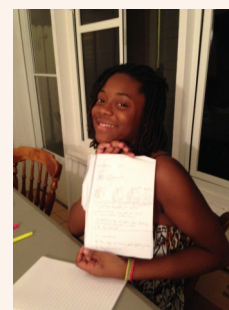
## *E.N.G.A.G.E. Program: "Everyone Needs to Get A Great Education"*



We are proud to report that our E.N.G.A.G.E. program, made possible by a grant from the Shirley E. Nolan Foundation, is working! Under the direction of Kelly Wixted, the program was started in August 2016, and since then we have had several children advance academically in the classroom, with two of our students earning the "Most Improved Award."

Most notably, Jeremiah came to us in late August in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. His reading level was low and he was so significantly behind in math that he was facing being held back. Fortunately, after many months of participation in the Genesis House E.N.G.A.G.E. program, Jeremiah rose two whole years in his reading level and improved dramatically in math. Jere-

miah is now moving on to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and we are very proud of him!



## *Kendyll Bliss Celebration*

On Saturday, May 13, 2017, the life and legacy of Kendyll Ryann Bliss was celebrated at Spessard Holland Park in Melbourne Beach. It was a beautiful day for all who came out to support this cause so close to the Genesis House heart. During Suntree United Methodist Church's recent Brevard Mission week, participants helped us with the groundwork for Kendyll's Secret Garden. Look for pictures of the completed project in an upcoming newsletter.



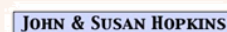
## 2017 Annual Golf Tournament

The 2017 Genesis House, Inc. Golf Tournament at Duran Golf Club was a huge success, raising over \$30,000! Participants enjoyed a variety of fun games, auctions and competitions in addition to the 18 holes of tournament play. The course was in spectacular condition, and we're al-

ready looking forward to next year's event. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped put the event together! We could not have done it without you!



A "Special Thanks" to these generous sponsors that helped make the 2017 Golf Tournament possible!



## Christmas in July!!

On July 23, our administrator Kristen and her husband Ron generously opened up their home to the Genesis House residents and staff for a summer "Christmas in July" bar-b-q. Everyone enjoyed swimming, hamburgers, hot dogs and cupcakes before Santa made a surprise visit with gifts for all! The children received new backpacks and school supplies for the upcoming year, and everyone had a wonderful time!



## Genesis House Resale Store Coming Soon!

Genesis House is excited to announce that we are opening a resale store in September 2017!

**Genesis Boutique** will be located at 529 E. New Haven Avenue in Downtown Melbourne and will offer a variety of women's apparel, accessories, and home goods, all thoughtfully curated to provide a unique selection of low-priced, quality merchandise.

In addition to donations, we are accepting items for sale on consignment to be included in the product mix.



**If you are interested in volunteering as store staff, or have items to donate and/or consign, please email us at:**

**genesisboutique321@gmail.com.**

Follow us on Facebook and watch our website for hours of operation and more information to come!

## Numbers for 2017

Since January 1, 2017, Genesis House has provided/served:

9,480 Nights of Shelter;  
65 Women & Children;  
&  
15 Students

### Governing Board

Mary Allen  
Michael D. Allen  
Carol Ashwell  
Laura K. Chiesman  
Janice K. Hill

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Dave Ashwell  
Bernard Bryan  
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Dr. Devin Datta  
Beth-Anne Fairchild  
Charles Favor  
John Fielding  
Michael Foley  
Susan Hammerling  
Michael C. Hill  
John R. Hopkins  
Mary Kay O'Toole  
Msgr. David Page



## *Help Us Celebrate 40 Years!! October 21, 2017*

Genesis House 40th Anniversary Gala! Plans are underway to hold a '40s-themed dance featuring the Melbourne Swingtime Band! Come dance the night away in the Melbourne Auditorium as we celebrate this awesome milestone! Individual tickets are \$40 in advance, \$50 at the door; become a \$500 table sponsor to receive 8 tickets and two bottles of Champagne; a \$1,000 table sponsorship secures 8 tickets, advertising for the event, two bottles of Champagne, and a pitcher of martinis!! Now

THAT'S a celebration! Formal invitations to follow. Please visit our website for more information.



Please visit us at our new website! [www.geneshousefl.org](http://www.geneshousefl.org)