

January 5, 2010

Greetings to all,

Wow it is already the 5th of January. Where are the days going? It is cold and busy here at Restoring Lives. We are getting new people and some old faces are coming in. Last evening we had a family come in who I have not talked to in a long time. She has hit some tough times and had to choose between paying the rent or eating. They paid the rent and called Restoring Lives for help with food until their food stamps come in next week. Last week a new client to Restoring Lives but a familiar voice from my previous job called and needed help with gas to get her daughter to the doctor. Tonight she came in to get food for her family and I was able to meet her children and husband. She has a special place in my heart and it was great to talk with her and her family. A special thanks to my father-in-law who helped while I was with my youth group in Wisconsin.

Last month was so full that I was not able to get a newsletter out. It was a month full of helping persons get Christmas, find housing, get food, and job hunt. It was also full of visits from supporters and people who had never heard of Restoring Lives. I received several phone calls and e-mails from people who just wanted to help. Many groups collected food, hats and gloves, and hygiene products for the youth and some college kids went out caroling and collected money to buy food with. It was a blessing to me to see all the love that is shared with the young people who come in here.

It was also a month of disappointments. We thought we had the zoning taken care of but a few people from the neighborhood have filed an appeal and we will need to address that in the next month. We also found out we were not selected for a grant we had applied for. We also ended the year in the red. For me that was very disheartening. We are about \$5,500.00 short to make all of our expenses for the year. We are going to have to double up our efforts in the next month to make that up and cover the beginning of the year expenses. I know that with your help this will be easily done.

Over the next month we should be hearing about the grant we submitted for the work on the house. If this goes through many of the house expenses will be covered. What we will need are skilled and unskilled volunteers to make all the work happen. The grant was set-up that most of the work would be done by us and that they would supply the materials. Be in prayer for this. We are also going to need someone to help keep the yard in good shape during the summer. If you are or if you know of a lawn business that is willing to keep it cut please let me know. Spring will be here soon.

Just a reminder that we do have a PayPal account linked to our website at www.restoringliveswest.org if you are interested in supporting us that way or you can send checks to: Restoring Lives West 709 S. Lynhurst Dr Indianapolis, IN 46214. Please keep the young people that use Restoring Lives in your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Hope Garrett