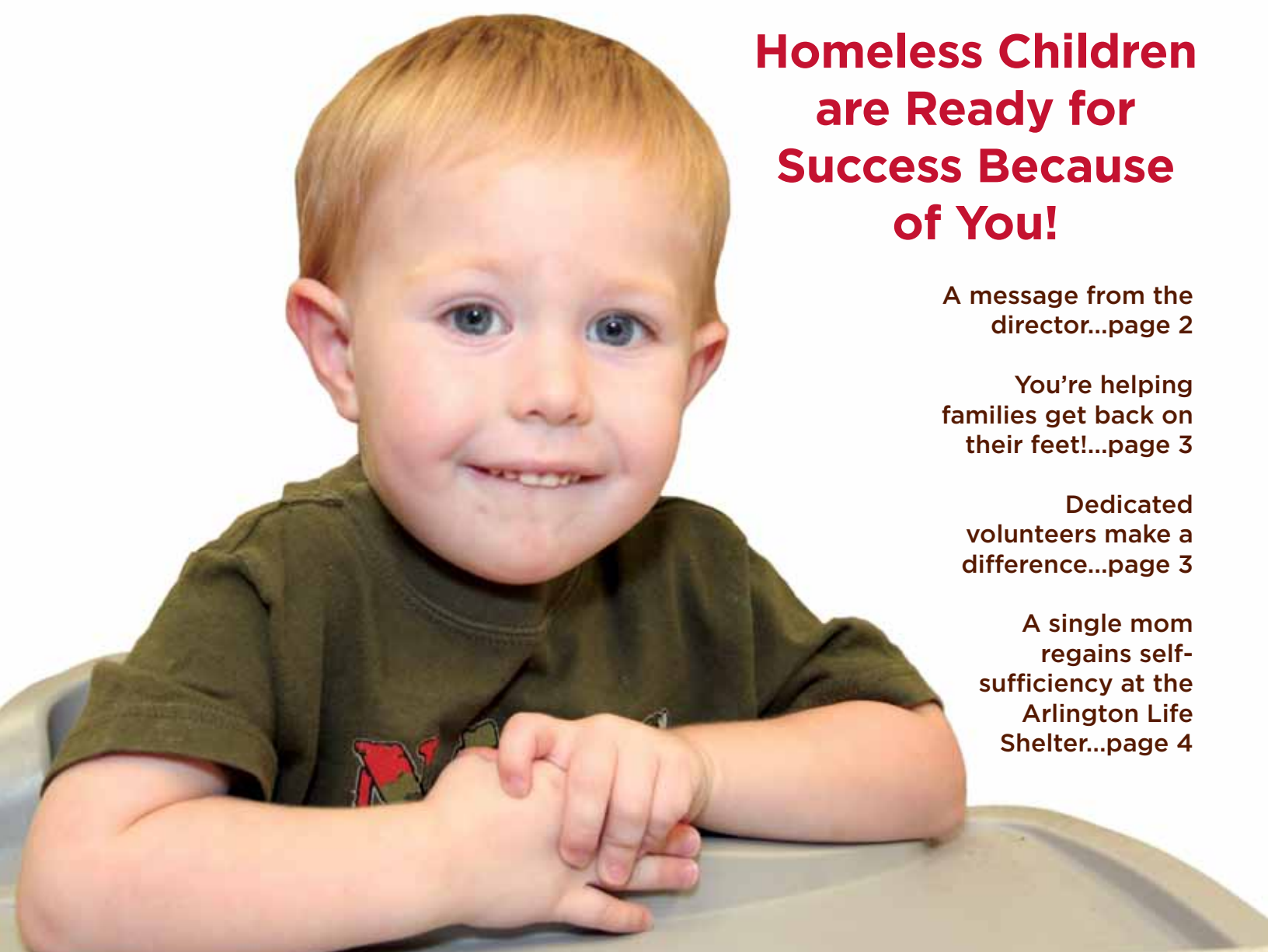


# SHELTER

RESTORING HOPE TO THE  
HOMELESS THROUGH YOU



## Homeless Children are Ready for Success Because of You!

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Becky Orander, MSW  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## dear friend,

We're busy planning for our big 25th anniversary Home for the Holidays gala, and I'm thrilled to celebrate all that the [Arlington Life Shelter](#) has accomplished since its inception in 1987. As great as it is to reflect on our growth over the past quarter-century, I am even more excited to look forward to how we will build on our success and continue to serve our area's homeless for the next 25 years — and beyond.

Since that cold winter night 25 years ago, when the Arlington Life Shelter first came to be, we have been wholly focused on helping the struggling members of our community regain self-sufficiency. And in the course of 25 years, we have grown from a simple emergency shelter to a place where our homeless neighbors can recoup, renew, and restart their lives.

Our focus on education and job placement has always been key to accomplishing our mission and will continue to be in the years to come. Teaching our clients vital skills, like how to conduct a successful job interview, and helping them secure a stable source of income equips residents with the tools they need to succeed in their new lives as productive members of our community.

It is abundantly clear to me that we could not begin to accomplish all that we have without the support of you — our community.

To the huge number of faith groups who have supported us along the way, who have helped us serve nearly two million meals to our residents throughout the years, thank you. Your dedication to our community is deeply appreciated.

And to the friends like you who have provided funding and given of your time, we're able to remove the barriers that hinder success and help to break the cycle of poverty for younger generations, thanks to you. I'm full of gratitude to you for making our work possible.

I hope you'll join us on December 6 for our Home for the Holidays celebration as we reflect on the 25 years behind us and look forward to the 25 years ahead. See you there!

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CELEBRATING  
25 Years

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# You're Helping Families Get Back on Their Feet

Thanks to your help, struggling families have a safe place to turn for shelter this fall. Families like Clarice and Patrice's appreciate all that you do to enable them to recover from hard times.

Clarice and Patrice have had their fair share of hardship in the past year, and they know the fear of not having shelter for their precious children, Dee, Matthew, and Joseph, all too well.

As these loving parents felt their opportunities shrink with the economy, they fell on hard times and had to move in with Clarice's brother. But they quickly found the house too crowded for both families, and with three small children, they had to find a stable place to stay — fast.



*Clarice, Patrice, Dee, Matthew and Joseph*

Two months ago, they found the [Arlington Life Shelter](#). Ready and motivated to turn their lives around, Clarice and Patrice enrolled in classes, and Clarice was able to find a job nearby. After such struggle, the importance of working hard to earn money is not lost on Clarice.

"I have to work for the kids," she says with emotion.

The Shelter has helped the family enroll in free childcare through a partnership with the YWCA, so now Patrice can focus

on the job hunt during the day while Clarice works. If everything goes as planned, within a couple of months, the family of five will be able to rely on two stable incomes.

"Thank you!" Clarice says to Arlington Life Shelter's generous donors.

It's easy to see that this hardworking family is getting closer to self-sufficiency with each day that passes at the Shelter, thanks to friends like you.

## Dedicated Volunteers Make a Difference



*Mary Ann receives a silent auction item — helicopter rides courtesy of Ray Bailey — for the Home for the Holidays gala*

Mary Ann Van Siclen has spent the majority of her life giving back to her community, but it seems that nothing has affected her as profoundly as her work with the [Arlington Life Shelter](#).

Mary Ann became a member of the shelter's Board of Directors last year and says it has been very rewarding and eye opening to witness the good work the shelter does.

The Shelter has changed Mary Ann's perspective on homelessness. She appreciates the way each of the residents commits to securing employment and bettering themselves.

"I'm extremely proud of the work the shelter does," she says.

We're thrilled that Mary Ann is leading the charge on the Third Annual Home for the Holidays gala event this year, which will celebrate our 25th Anniversary. She and her team have brought

in some really exciting auction items, including helicopter rides, Disneyland tickets and more.

Thanks in large part to Mary Ann, the 25th Anniversary celebration will be one to remember.

We're grateful for Mary Ann's dedication and for the hard work of each person who gives their time to the shelter as a volunteer.

## THANK YOU!



With their recent gift of \$20,000, the Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Employees' Reaching Out (AERO) Club and the contributing employees at the Fort Worth, Texas facility have donated over \$100,000 over the years, providing almost 3,440 nights of service for those in need. What a tremendous blessing to our community!

## JOIN US!

### Home for the Holidays — a Celebration of 25 Years of Service December 6, 2012

Help the Arlington Life Shelter celebrate 25 years of service to those in need and share your compassion for the homeless this holiday season. Join us for dinner, a silent auction, entertainment and inspiration. To purchase tables or individual tickets, contact Liesl Gray at 817-548-9885 ext. 2116 or [lgray@arlingtonlifeshelter.org](mailto:lgray@arlingtonlifeshelter.org).



## WISH LIST

Coffee  
Lysol  
Home Depot gift cards  
Plastic forks, spoons, & knives



*Amber, Corbyn and Christian at the shelter*

## A Single Mom Regains Self-Sufficiency

When Amber first turned to the [Arlington Life Shelter](#), she admits she was terrified to bring her young boys to a shelter. Thankfully, she now recognizes that making that call was the best decision for her family during their difficult time.

As a single mom, it's up to Amber to support her boys Corbyn, 1, and Christian, 2, on her own. Providing food and shelter for the boys with only one income was challenging. But when Corbyn suffered from serious health problems as an infant, Amber was unable to balance a job with daily trips to Corbyn's doctor's appointments. Her meager income quickly dried up.

Unable to pay rent and with no where else to turn when her money ran out this past June, Amber called the Arlington Life Shelter.

As soon as the family arrived at the shelter, the recovery began. Corbyn and Christian were enrolled in daycare, and Amber began to take full advantage of the resources the shelter offers.

One of the classes Amber took focused on how to conduct a successful job interview. Time spent here paid off, and she is now delighted to have landed a steady job in retail. Having this income allows her to save up for her family's future.

Amber is so thankful to donors like you who make the Shelter an option for homeless families like hers.

"This place is a huge lifeline. If it weren't for here, we'd be in our car," she says.

Next on the list for this young family is securing affordable, stable housing. Once Amber has saved enough money to move her family out of the shelter into a home of their own, she hopes to return to college and one day work in the computer industry. She has already completed more than a year and a half of classes for an IT degree, and she has her sights set on finishing her education.

Thank you for helping single moms land back on their feet! Your generous support truly makes a difference.



**Arlington  
Life Shelter**

**Together, we shepherd  
homeless men, women and  
children toward a lifestyle  
of self-sufficiency.**