

»»»SUMMER 2023«««

BLUE HAT MINISTRIES

Volunteers / Partnership / Fund Raising



CELEBRATING LIFE TOGETHER AS FAMILY



EVENING OF FINE DINING A SUCCESS!

Thank you to all the volunteers and donors that made the 2023 Evening of Fine Dining such a success! We raised \$25,000 from that evening and are welcoming two new members for our Board! The \$25,000 is being matched by Pennies from Heaven and we are so grateful for all the work we can do for our Dependent Adults! If you are interested the speech given that night has been posted to our website, "Let me Tell you about Yesterday!"



**SUPPORTING CLIENTS
TO GET WORKING**



SHARING HOLIDAYS TOGETHER



PARTNERSHIP WITH AFC'S

ADULT FOSTER CARE HOMES SUPPORTED

2 months of service

>>> DILEMMA

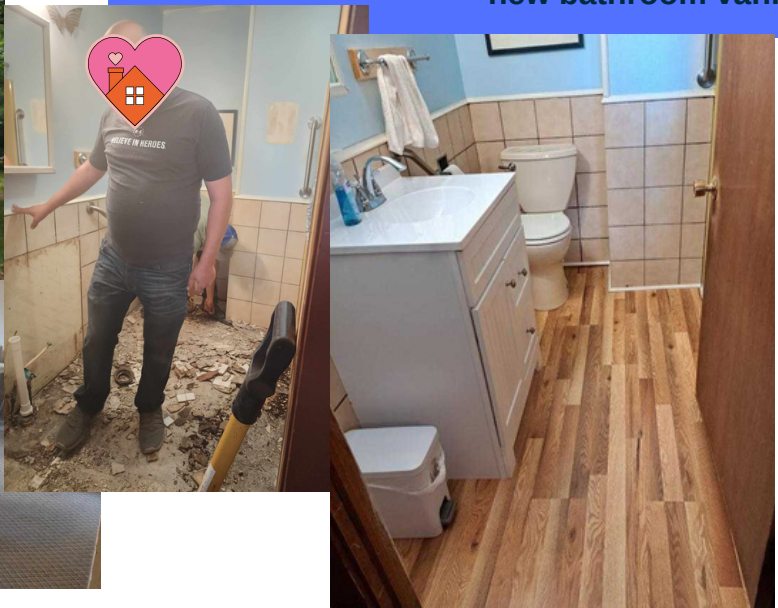
As I began my journey seeing all the different housing arrangements available for adults that are dependent on a bit more help, I learned about Adult Foster Care Homes (AFCs) / Group Homes. As is the case with foster care of minors, there is also a stigma on foster care homes for dependent adults, which discourages well-meaning business owners from embarking on the venture of owning and operating amazing AFCs. There is also an extreme lack of funding and support for AFCs, so in just the last 5 years we have seen multiple homes, in Mason county alone, close their doors! This leaves our clients and many like them desperate for housing solutions that also provide things like staff for medications and meals. These homes also report difficulty finding and retaining staff and the staff report feeling overworked and underappreciated.

>>> SOLUTION

We have been pursuing ideas for how we can support these homes and help them keep their doors open. We want to provide solutions not criticism. We also realize how much work it takes to care for 6-20+ disabled adults. So, when we see buildings and yards in need of care we want to help by providing solutions and resources! Just as you might go on a mission trip in a foreign country to help those that are poor of finances and physical health - we have that same mission field right here in Mason County! We have had small successes in supporting the AFCs before this, but I am so proud to report that this last month with a group that chose to give one whole work day - we were able to clean up the roof, trim trees with dangling branches and replace a bathroom floor for one of our local AFCs!

SUPER VOLUNTEERS

The owners and staff of the AFC reported that they were very impressed by the volunteers' kindness toward the residents and their hard work! Some of the volunteers have since approached me about wanting to do more volunteer work like this, as they didn't even know about these homes and how much help they needed! It was a group effort - as this company brought the volunteers and covered expenses such as hauling away waste and more, BHM brought in volunteers for the following days of finishing the floor project and donated the new bathroom vanity!



HARVEST FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!!

Friday, October 27, 5-9pm at the Inn at Ludington

NEW EVENT PLAN

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

Set at a historic Inn - originally owned by Pharmacist Dr Latimer
- you start your evening with a drink of his **Youth Elixir!**

Take a tour through the many
Garden Games with Prizes!

Then purchase a **Renaissance Style Smoked Turkey Leg!**

Schedule your night around our events such as
Pie Eating Contests, Sack Races and more!

Watch for more details to come on our facebook

>>> VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Help us with planning and decorating the days and weeks prior
- Or just come the day of and man a game or food stand!
Any help is appreciated
- Contact Lena to see where you can best be used

>>> FOCUS ON RAISING MONTHLY SUPPORT

While our grants and large donors have been a phenomenal shot in the arm we know that our long term staying power is in people that support us monthly! We have a great and easy to use set up for this online at www.bluehatministriesinc.org

At the Harvest Festival we will focus on providing a great time for all ages while taking the opportunity to share how much can be done for dependent adults with monthly giving commitments of all sizes!

>>> KICK START

If you have been on the fence about becoming monthly givers - here are some things your money can go a long ways in supporting -

\$25/ month - grocery and cooking support to two adults

\$50/ month - rides to medical appointments for five adults

\$100/ month - residence repairs, needed furniture and more!

Go ahead and start your giving pledge today :)



