MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In this newsletter you will see the passion and dedication of Brisben’s donors, volunteers and clients. My deepest thanks to all of you. While we could not provide a safe and stable environment for those in need in our community without your financial support, I humbly and graciously must ask the following: The week prior to Thanksgiving is National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week. Please consider sending a donation and sharing this information with your family and friends.

The holiday season and cold weather will soon be upon us. Please remember those in our community who have very little and may seek shelter during the winter season. Your donation, no matter its size, will make a difference in the life of someone experiencing homelessness. I also encourage you to come and volunteer. We appreciate any time, services and special skills. Please email us at info@brisbencenter.org and our volunteer coordinator will contact you.

“Success has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It’s what you do for others”

— Danny Thomas

A Unique Fundraiser

Genevieve O’Conner, a 16-year-old student at Saint Michael the Archangel High School and daughter of Katherine and Mike O’Connor, sponsored a wonderful fundraiser for the Brisben Center on September 9. Genevieve planned, produced and did all of the leg work for this fundraiser.

She and several of her friends held a dance performance in which they performed nine different ensembles and solos. After the performance, she and her fellow dancers offered a potluck social for the entire audience to enjoy.

The theme of the performance was "Make A Difference" and Genevieve did just that! She raised more than $700 for Brisben. We thank all who participated in helping our area’s homeless population!

Meet Diane

Diane was a temporary Brisben resident who is full of joy for life, a positive attitude and a strong faith in God. She was a longtime George Washington University employee and a homeowner and never expected to be homeless. Layoffs and a lost job eventually led to the loss of her residence and childhood home of 50 years. To read more about Diane’s story and how her big heart touched lives at Brisben, go to www.brisbencenter.org/brisben-perspectives

Meet Bryan

The Brisben Center sported a well-groomed yard this summer thanks to this fine young man! Bryan is a local high school student and member of Salem Fields Community Church youth group. He spent part of his summer vacation mowing and taking care of Brisben’s large property. Bryan came every week to volunteer his time beautifying the Brisben Center for our residents.

Great Job Bryan!
Brisben Facts

In FY 2017 Brisben served 502 clients.

Of those people:
• 255 were male.
• 170 were female.
• 77 were children.
• Of those clients, 45 were veterans.

The average cost per client was $28 per day. The average length of stay was 54 days.

The shelter provided 27,108 bed nights.

Financial Fact:
In spite of a frugal budget and raising more private contributions than expected, Brisben ended the year with a small deficit.

Contributions

Your monetary contribution is important. Big or small any additional contribution will Help Brisben Help the Homeless.

It’s easy to donate online. Go to www.brisbencenter.org/donate-funds.

Or send a check in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you to the OPP Shop in King George for its exceptional leadership and volunteers. Each year the Shop is one of the leaders in financial support to the Center.

The OPP Shop is a regional thrift store, and a ministry of the Episcopal churches of King George County. It is entirely volunteer supported and invests all of its profits back to the greater community, supporting more than 30 organizations.

Thank you to everyone at the OPP Shop and the King George Episcopal churches for being an all-star supporter to Brisben, and the greater King George community!

Meal Program News: Mt. Ararat Baptist Church’s many small groups are committed supporters of Brisben’s meal program. Bill McHale’s small group prepared and served an outstanding dinner.

Interested in serving? Visit www.brisbencenter.org/mealprogram to get more information and check-out open dates for breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Thank you to the hundreds of Meal Program volunteers!

Brisben’s Executive Director Kim Lally and Resource Officer Roger Trott represented the Center at the Fredericksburg Area Association of Realtors (FAAR) 2017 Expo: Fast Track to Excellence on September 13. It was a great opportunity to thank the many realtors and service providers who support the Brisben Center. We thank FAAR and the Fredericksburg Realtors Foundation for their committed support of the Center’s care for the homeless.

Sedona Taphouse, Fredericksburg’s most popular restaurant, has selected the Brisben Center to be the beneficiary of its November Steak Out for Charity campaign. Every Monday in November, for lunch or dinner, get the Black Angus Flat Iron Steak with garlic whipped potatoes (a $15.90 value) for $6. For each meal purchased, Sedona will donate $1 to Brisben. (*** a separate soda or alcoholic drink purchase is required.)

Thank you to Lifepoint Church and its more than 200 volunteers who totally refurbished Brisben’s eight family rooms — from paint and new windows dressings to brand new furniture. The faces of our families radiated with pride and thankfulness. Lifepoint volunteers also prepared meals and donated many additional items. Thank you for all the love and generosity!