



housing.employment.learning.purpose.
UMOM HELP PROJECT

UMOM NEW DAY CENTERS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN

The Next Steps

2010 - 2011

“Every two minutes a child becomes homeless in America.”

UMOM New Day Centers Background

UMOM is the *largest homeless shelter for families in the State of Arizona*... providing family emergency shelter for up to 120 days and family transitional shelter for up to two years. Combined services provided on the campus include case management, counseling, childcare, after-school and teen programs, a full service kitchen and culinary school, wellness center, educational classes, and a clothing bank for our families. To ensure success, UMOM also offers housing, employment services, and case management for one year after a family or resident leaves the shelter. A year after leaving UMOM, more than 90% of families remain housed and employed.

UMOM is one of the few homeless shelters in the country to be fully accredited through COA – the National Council on Accreditation – setting the highest standards and ethical practices. UMOM serves more than 1,200 homeless and low-income persons each year at its main campus, and provides management of the year-round Watkins Emergency Shelter Program for the City of Phoenix - a partnership of more than 17 years that benefits 120 single women and 18 families each night.

Of the 20,000 homeless individuals in Arizona, more than half are single mothers with two or three children. Prior to coming to UMOM, the average homeless family moved every 70 days. Providing these families with a home, safe environment, and the opportunity to break the cycle of homelessness, is UMOM’s mission. Rather than children being separated from one or both parents and placed in a child crisis center, foster care, or with CPS during a period of homelessness, UMOM enables parents and children to remain as a family unit while providing all the necessary means for regaining self-sufficiency. Last year, nearly 70% of our families were placed in a transitional program or in permanent, affordable housing.

Six years ago, the UMOM Board of Directors embarked on a strategic planning process that led to a new campus site planning initiative. To further this initiative, a committee composed of key staff, board members, and volunteers was formed. The quest to provide housing and services for an additional 60 families (for a total of 156 families – more than 550 individuals, two-thirds of whom are children) culminated in the purchase of the Days Inn/Super 8 located at 3333 E. Van Buren, across the street from the current campus. A phase I capital campaign raised \$18,000,000

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and provided the ability to assist with the purchase of the properties and enough renovations for an October 2009 move-in of 112 families.

During this time, UMOM was awarded a contract to open a 56-bed shelter for women who are victims of domestic violence; absorbed the Haven House program from the YWCA; and completed a merger with Helping Hands Housing Services to add four affordable housing facilities to UMOM services. This venture into providing and managing an affordable housing component provided UMOM with a foundation for the development of the former campus property.

UMOM ... The Next Steps

Now that UMOM families are settling into their new campus home, we begin the next phase of our \$23 million capital development campaign. To provide housing and services for the new capacity of 156 families, to complete the building components, and to satisfy the costs of earlier construction, we are launching the \$5 million phase II segment of the HELP (Housing, Employment, Learning, Purpose) Campaign.

We celebrate the early successes of having the opportunity to purchase two relatively solid hotels across the street from the old campus, of having the expertise of builders and engineers to assess its viability, of assembling loans to purchase the properties, and of the remarkable generosity of churches, corporate, foundation and government grants and most of all, gifts from individual donors. Donors who have shown compassion for the children and their families who have fallen on difficult times, but are fortunate to have UMOM to turn to for support and hope.

With the ability to purchase and renovate the new facilities in seven years less time than it would have taken to rebuild in stages on the existing campus, new opportunities became available. Because UMOM owned the seven acres on which the old campus was located, we were able to collaborate with the Neighborhood Revitalization Program to create the third level of breaking the cycle of homelessness – permanent, affordable housing that really is affordable. Through tax credits and at no cost to UMOM, the former campus is in construction of the first phase of 80 affordable housing units. Application for the next tax credit will be made in March 2011 to accommodate an additional 60 units on the property. This is a benefit of the capital development plan, but receives none of the campaign funds.

Through the expanded new campus providing emergency and transitional shelter, and the new affordable housing opportunities made possible through this capital development effort, UMOM is one of only three homeless shelters in the nation providing this continuum of housing and services.

Completing this \$23 million campaign is critical to the well-being and development of our families and to the overall positive impact on our community.