



# Insider

## “A Night in Margaritaville” Fundraiser a Huge Success

More than \$18,000 were raised for Simon House by the fourth annual fundraiser, “A Night in Margaritaville,” which was held Friday, May 13, 2011 at the Frankfort Country Club.

The event featured both live and silent auctions with hundreds of quality items donated by local, regional, and national businesses and individuals. Spectacular new items introduced this year were three hand-painted patio umbrellas donated by local artists Sallie Clay Lanham, Charlotte Morgan, and Mary Lou Payton.



Other auction items included gift baskets, jewelry, art work and home décor, auto services, entertainment, clothing, and dining options.

The auctions were made possible by more than 150 generous donors of live and silent auction items.

The event was supported in large part by nearly 50 wonderful sponsors including the Platinum Event Sponsor, Permit America (Jim and Mary Simpson). A list of all contributing sponsors is avail-

able at Simon House’s website: [simonhouseonline.org](http://simonhouseonline.org). Please join us in thanking these generous sponsors.



The new Tiki Bar offering Margarita tastings was also a very popular addition this year.

See more photos and information about Margaritaville on page 2 and at [www.simonhouseonline.org](http://www.simonhouseonline.org).

Save the Date!

Next year’s fundraising event, “A Night in Margaritaville” will be held Friday, May 18, 2012.

Mark your calendar now so you won’t miss any of the fantastic fun, food, and opportunities to bid on exciting auction items.



The bidding, led by Auctioneer Ricky Poor and associates from Versailles, was lively and intense.



## From the Director's Desk

**Pam McCalla**



I have been at the Simon House for one year at the end of July. Being on the front lines with our city and county's most vulnerable citizens has been an eye opening experience for me. Here are some things I've learned.

**Our community outreach has grown due to the increased need.** In 2010, we served 153 low income "at risk"

families with occasional help. This year, at the end of June, we have **already helped 166 families!** On average, they come about twice a year to tide them over until finances or other help comes through. It is a trend that I (along with most of America) would like to see reversed. Some of it is, I believe, a sign of the economic downturns of reduced hours, unemployment and high costs for basic necessities for babies and children. A larger portion of the stories I hear were indeed like I expected. However, a few stories surprised me. I heard of a single mother who got ill and had a short hospital stay which had huge implications for both her income and the welfare of her children. As a working mother, she thought she could catch up but the bills snowballed until she almost lost her housing. Coming to our home-like atmosphere for temporary help meant she could begin to catch up. I also have heard too many stories of family members or friends with limited means coming almost directly from court with temporarily "inherited" babies or children in hand due to the short term incarceration of the parent. There is a great demand for the basic safety needs like high chairs, car seats and booster seats. I give away all but one of everything we get donated to Simon House.

**The residents who attend our program leave Simon House with more tools for success.** Over the last year, besides including financial seminars, higher educational support and basic living skills, we have added infant/child CPR and basic first aid and a parenting support group to our program.

**Due to continued support, we are able to expand our services.** The ability to offer services to the residents and community is **directly affected** by the **volunteers** who serve on the Board of Directors, spend hours at the house sorting donations, answering phones, helping with the house, yard and garden maintenance, transporting residents, offering educational seminars and doing odd jobs for the good of the organization. Just as valuable are the **businesses, organizations and churches** who regularly support Simon House with monetary donations and contributions of goods; as well as the **individuals** who regularly support our organization through **United Way**, direct giving or other donations. The **Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky** has awarded us two AmeriCorps Build Corps member positions to help residents and referrals with housing needs and one-on-one financial counseling. The **Kentucky Housing Corporation** has continued to support our program with ESG funds. The **City of Frankfort** grant continues to support the Frankfort citizens we serve as well.

Thank you to all those supporters who make our community better through their support of Simon House. It has been a wonderful first year!

## Margaritaville (continued)



Champagne glasses with diamonds were available again this year. Many took a chance on winning the one-carat diamond, a portion of which was donated by Joe Rosenberg Jewelers, while others took home a beautiful cubic zirconium.



Guests enjoyed the music of D. J. Junie Redden and many took advantage of the dance floor at the end of the evening.



New this year were treasure chests sold by pirates throughout the evening. The treasure chests sold for \$10 but contained jewelry, gift certificates, or other items worth at least the purchase price or more. Many enjoyed these surprise items.

Plan to join in the fun at next year's "A Night in Margaritaville," that will be held on Friday, May 18, 2012.

## Mother's Day Donations Help Other Mothers

For the second year, Simon House received significant donations for Mother's Day. These are given in honor or in memory of donors' mothers or other significant persons.

This year more than 60 contributions were received totaling almost \$3,000. A list of donors and those they honored or remembered can be found at [www.simonhouseonline.org/2011MothersDayGifts.htm](http://www.simonhouseonline.org/2011MothersDayGifts.htm). Special Mother's Day cards were sent as requested by the donors.

These gifts of appreciation for donors' mothers also

help Simon House give a new start to mothers and their children who were previously homeless. Money is used for a variety of services that help these mothers including parenting classes, financial management programs, job training and much more.



# Ways You Can Support Simon House. . .that Cost You Nothing

## Kroger Cards

Those who use Kroger gift cards from Simon House are making substantial contributions for our work. Kroger has provided \$434 to Simon House thus far for purchases by Simon House friends.

If you have a card, please use it as often as possible. If you need a card, contact Simon House at 502-223-2138. Simon House receives a check from Kroger for 4% of all amounts re-loaded on these cards.



With these cards you can purchase all the items you normally buy — groceries, gas, medications, and more — at a Kroger store.

Just add value to your card with cash, check, or credit card at the Customer Service desk or at check-out.

If 40 people load just \$125 per month on their Simon House Kroger Cards, Simon House would receive \$200 every month — a tremendous help for the women and children Simon House serves.

## Yard Sale

Several families recently joined together to have a neighborhood yard sale with all proceeds going to Simon House. They raised a total of \$350. Besides the financial help to Simon House, the families benefited from recycling items they no longer used.

## Donate to Goodwill in Frankfort

Simon House appreciates the generosity of many people who bring donations of clothing, household items, children's toys, and more to our facility. However, because of limited space, we cannot store items that are not needed immediately.

However, you can take clothing items directly to the



Goodwill store in Frankfort and they will still benefit Simon House.

When you take your clothing donations to Goodwill, tell the person receiving them that you want credit for the items to go to Simon House. You should receive a receipt.

The credit can be used for clients to purchase items they need such as clothing for growing children and household items when they move to a new apartment.

## Tell Others About Simon House

You can be an ambassador for Simon House by spreading information about what we do and our needs. Tell family, friends and colleagues that Simon House was the first shelter for homeless women and their children in Kentucky.

- Simon House is a transitional living program for women who are pregnant or have children.

- We provide a safe, stable, and healthy environment.
- We encourage, educate, and empower residents to become self-sufficient.
- We also provide assistance to prevent homelessness among families in the community.
- Simon House is a nonprofit organization that depends largely on the support of the community.
- We gratefully accept donations and volunteer services.

## Second Quarter Gifts

Simon House wishes to thank the following individuals and organizations who have donated funds during the second quarter of 2011.

- Donn & Joan Adrian
- Mildred Aukerman
- Tracy C. Barnes
- Blackburn & Ward Funeral Home
- Mike Blair
- Steve & Jenny Clinger
- Vicki Easterly
- Robert E. Faesy
- First United Methodist Church
- Fox Creek Christian Church
- Frankfort Christian Academy
- Roberta Gabbard
- Tammie F. Gaines
- George and Janice Fowler
- Good Shepherd Church
- Roberta Gray
- H. Doyle Mills
- James Hall
- Scott & Mary Pat Hankla
- Mary Ellen Harmon
- Nicole Harmon
- Prentice Harvey
- Highland Christian Church
- Jack Hoover
- Immanuel Baptist Church
- Ralph & Jan Kelty
- Annette Leathers
- Dennis Martin
- Linda Martin
- Aileen McClain
- Ronald Morgan
- Donald & Lillian Nunnally
- Myna Panemangalore
- Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church
- Ed Pollock
- Presbyterian Women Circle 1
- Margaret Ratliff
- Bill & Rosetta Rush
- Gerald & Elaine Sims
- Scott Stevenson
- The Antioch Church
- Donald J. & Carolyn Waldner
- Women of the South Frankfort Presbyterian Church

## Many Improvements and Donations to Simon House

### Kraft Foods

Kraft Foods has selected Simon House as the distribution point for a quarterly donation of a pallet of their food products. Simon House shares the food with other local agencies including the Women's Shelter, Access Kitchen, King's Center, and the Senior Center.



### Frankfort Le Jardin Garden Club



Thanks to the generosity and hard work of the Le Jardin Garden Club, Simon House residents and staff have enjoyed spectacular flowers in front of the house this year.

### Kohl's Volunteers

Volunteers from the Frankfort Kohl's store prepared a vegetable garden for our residents. Besides their

volunteer work, the Store has donated \$1,500 for our children's program. The money has been used to purchase pull ups, school clothes, and school supplies.



### Major Renovations Completed

Two projects that were described in previous newsletters are now completed. Jimmy Bailey, an Eagle Scout candidate, renovated one of our resident apartments including new flooring, upgrades to the kitchen and bathroom, and painting. Thanks Jimmy!

Work funded by the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels included repairs to the facility's handicap ramp and restoration of the soffits and fascia boards on the exterior of the building and wrapping of window frames with aluminum to prevent further deterioration of the wood.



**Simon House**

P. O. Box 5174  
208 W. Campbell Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Phone: 502-223-2138  
Fax: 502-223-9808  
E-mail: [simon@fewpb.net](mailto:simon@fewpb.net)

Visit us on the web at  
[www.simonhouseonline.org](http://www.simonhouseonline.org)

## Dine to Donate in Support of Simon House

Join us for two delicious meals and an opportunity to support Simon House through the Dine to Donate program at Applebee's and Carino's.

On **Friday, August 26**, you can eat lunch or dinner (from 11:00 a.m. until closing) at Applebee's, 1307 US 127 South in Frankfort. Take along the enclosed flyer to give to your server. Ten percent (10%) of your bill will be donated to Simon House!

If you don't have time to eat at Applebee's you can take advantage of their Carside to Go service. Just call in your order (502-875-6117) and then pick it up. Be sure to bring the enclosed flyer so Simon House will benefit from your meal.

Besides helping Simon House through this donation program, you can celebrate Women's Equality Day in recognition of women being given the right to vote in the United States on August 26, 1920 when the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was signed.



Join us again on **Thursday, September 15** between 11:00 a.m. and closing at Carino's Italian Grill, 1301 US 127 South, Suite 600 in Frankfort. Present the enclosed flyer to your server to make a donation of 10% of your bill to Simon House.

You can also order in advance by calling 502-223-4401 and then picking up your Curbside to Go order. Give your server the enclosed flyer for Carino's to make your donation to Simon House.

### Current Needs

#### For Clients

Paper towels  
Cleaning supplies  
Brooms and mops  
Trash bags  
School supplies

#### For the House

Paper shredder  
Coffee grinder (for donated coffee beans)

#### Volunteers

On the last Saturday of each month, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, those interested in volunteering can attend an orientation session at Simon House (208 W. Campbell Street, Frankfort). Following the orientation, volunteers can assist with small maintenance jobs around the house and discuss other volunteer opportunities which may interest them. Upcoming dates are:

August 27  
September 24  
October 29

