



# Season's Greetings

*From Our House to Your House*

*Thank you for your generous support  
that helps homeless families  
enjoy a blessed holiday season and  
gain hope for the New Year*

## Simon House Receives Grant and Other Gifts



Simon House Director Pam McCalla receives Kentucky Colonel Award from Paul Schulte

### Simon House Receives Kentucky Colonels Grant

Simon House was the recipient of a grant awarded by the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels on Sep-

tember 9, 2010. The award of \$18,000 will be used to make needed outside renovations to the Simon House including repair of the handicap ramp and restoration of the soffits and fascia boards for the entire building.

These repairs will greatly enhance the appearance of the house and will deter further weather-related damage. Watch for these improvements in the coming months!

### Jim Beam Donation

Jim Beam employees donated the proceeds from their company picnic to Simon House. The

company matched employees' donations of \$851, for a total gift of \$1,702.

### KSU Football Team Contributes

The Kentucky State University Football Team donated the MVP Wal-Mart award to Simon House totaling \$150 in Wal-Mart gift cards.

Below, Jim Beam Plant Manager Nathan Crosley presented a check to Simon House Director Pam McCalla.



### Mark Your Calendars

for these Important  
2011 Dates



**Friday, February 4** — Lasagna with Luigi at Good Shepherd Church, 1050 Leestown Road.

**Monday, May 2** — Deadline for Mother's Day gifts in memory or honor of mothers.

**Friday, May 13** — A Night in Margaritaville, Frankfort Country Club.

**Please support Simon House at these events!**

## From the Director's Desk

After three months at the Simon House, I have learned much about homelessness in Kentucky and the agencies that support those who find themselves homeless. In the media, "homeless" people are almost always portrayed as alcoholic men living in a box in an alley. There is still a negative connotation of the label "homeless," so many agencies are using the term "precariously housed" to include all those who need support. I find this definition can include many more people: those who are one step away from homelessness; people for whom the absence of a single paycheck can mean eviction, whether because of job loss, illness, or problems in the household; people who are doubled and tripled up in a household due to low wage jobs where the stress level is usually high; and people who are recovering from a time of illness, disease, or incarceration.

I am so grateful for the resources that have been given to Simon House, and I seek every day to be responsible in allocating them to do the most good for the most people. Our United Way and Kentucky Housing Corporation grants account for much of our funding. BUT the response from those in Kentucky with other donations and special grants for the residents, former residents and people at-risk in the community is AMAZING! I am impressed that despite economic cutbacks, the state government employees still bring in needed items. The churches in the area respond with generosity and goodwill. Organizations like Jim Beam and KSU actually seek us out to help us. We are blessed as well with individuals who give regularly to the Simon House. With Christmas quickly approaching, many calls and emails I receive ask how to make Christmas special for those in the house who are in transition to permanent housing.

Each month, our outreach to at-risk single mother families has increased. Our volunteers have been faithful and have increased in number as well. Our hope is to expand our volunteer base so we can have volunteers in the evening hours allowing our single mothers time to cook and spend individual time with their children. Although I am still the only employee, our staff now includes a contract case manager and AmeriCorps member as well. Together we are seeking to provide the support needed to help our residents and former residents move forward to achieve their goals and give a hand to those who find themselves in a precarious position.

~Pamela McCalla

## Staff Spotlight: New AmeriCorps Member Provides Volunteer Coordination Services

Wendy Bebe moved to the United States in August 2009 from the south west province of Cameroon, a place called Edondo titi.



Wendy Bebe

She left her position as a nursery school director to be married to another Cameroonian who lived here. After finding herself in an unhappy marriage, she unexpectedly became a single mother in June 2010 relocating to the Simon House with her young,

beautiful daughter Njomi (born in May 2010).

Wendy hoped to settle quickly into a new life with her daughter, but she holds a bachelor's degree in British Common Law which was not applicable to her future goal of becoming a nurse.

In September 2010, seeking to serve others and eventually obtain a nursing degree, she applied to be a member of AmeriCorp with Build Corps of the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky (HHCK). HHCK awarded Simon House an AmeriCorp position and it seemed a good fit for her to apply for it. In October, she moved out and started her service at Simon House. Wendy's position has three components: Aftercare case management for former residents, a community outreach resource for the Simon House (including housing),

and our volunteer coordinator/supervisor. In the month since starting her service, she has had several training days, made contact with several former residents and community residents, increased the number of volunteers and provided oversight to two volunteer groups.



Wendy with Miss Kentucky 2010, Djuan Trent, at the Capitol on November 9 where First Lady Jane Beshear and Miss Kentucky announced the proclamation to make November 14-20, 2010 National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week.

## Simon House benefits from Go Frankfort Volunteers

Simon House welcomed a group of 14 volunteers on Saturday, November 6 from Go Frankfort, and organization committed to making Frankfort a better place to live and work for all people.

The volunteers from Kentucky State University, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and other groups rolled up their sleeves to undertake several repair and carpentry



Students from Kentucky State University helped with painting and other tasks.



Director Pam McCalla welcomed Go Frankfort volunteers

projects. They worked on the kitchen in one of the apartments that is being renovated, painted several rooms, built shelving for a kitchen, and completed several other needed improvements.

Wendy Bebe (with baby) thanks Go Frankfort Volunteer.



## Simon House's Ongoing Volunteer Needs

Simon House depends on the generosity of volunteers to accomplish many of the tasks needed to support our residents, former residents, and precariously housed families in the community. If you are interested in volunteering contact

Wendy Bebe  
208 W. Campbell Street  
(502) 223-2138

Our needs include:

- Office work
- Transporting residents
- Tutoring
- Watching children
- Helping with fundraisers and special occasions
- Repairs and maintenance
- Leading resident education classes

## Open House

Simon House welcomed visitors and neighbors on Sunday, September 26 at an Open House. Visitors were given a tour of the facility, shown several opportunities for helping with donations or services, and offered tasty refreshments during their stop.

Executive Director, Pam McCalla, welcomed Dr. Amanda Lange at the Open House



Students from Bluegrass Community College helped with the Open House

Many guests at the Open House were friends of Simon House, some having served as past Board Members, volunteers, and supporters.

However, others were there for the first time to learn more about the organization and what they could do to help.

Board members Melissa Russell, Tim Ford, and Lori Haddix were on hand to greet guests at the Open House.



## "A Night in Margaritaville Donations Sought

Simon House's fourth annual fundraiser, "A Night in Margaritaville," will be held Friday, May 13, 2011. Our goal is to make the event even more successful than in previous years. To do that, we need your help.

We are now accepting donations of items for our live and silent auctions. Items that have sold well in previous years include baskets, gift certificates, handmade jewelry and crafts, and artwork. Please contact Simon House to arrange for your donations.

You can be a sponsor for "A Night in Margaritaville" by sending your donations marked "Margaritaville sponsorship" to Simon House. Sponsorship levels include:

- **Platinum Sponsor** – \$2,500 or more
- **Big Kahuna** – \$1,000 to \$2,499
- **Cheeseburger in Paradise** – \$500–\$999
- **Parrot Head** – \$250–\$499
- **Friends of Simon House** – Under \$250

Simon House is a 501©(3) status organization as determined by the Internal Revenue Service. All gifts are tax deductible.

Simon House is supported in part by



### Do You Need a Christmas Gift?

Consider giving your family and friends a Simon House Kroger gift card. The card comes with a value of \$5.00, and a percentage of all money added to the card goes to Simon House. Cards can be used to purchase groceries, gas, or medications. To obtain gift cards, contact Simon House at (502) 223-2138.

## Some Current Needs at Simon House

- Laundry Detergent
- Laundry Softener
- Trash Bags
- Cleaning Supplies
- Dishwashing Liquid
- Bath Tissue
- Paper Towels
- Baby Wipes
- Disposable Diapers
- Shampoo and Conditioner

Kitchen items including:

- Casserole dishes
- Cookie sheets
- Cake pans
- Cupcake pans
- Pizza pans
- Small kitchen appliances
- Flatware
- Pots and pans
- Kitchen utensils

## New Furnishings Needed

Many improvements have been made at Simon House during the past few months. Apartments are being painted, bathrooms and kitchens updated, and outside repairs completed. It has been several years since new furnishings have been provided in the resident apartments, and there is a tremendous need to replace the bedroom furniture in all six apartments. If your group is interested in a project, please

consider donations to be used for furniture. We would like to purchase matching furniture at the following costs:

- 12 beds @ \$550 each
- 6 chests of drawers @ \$330 each
- 6 desks @ \$270 each

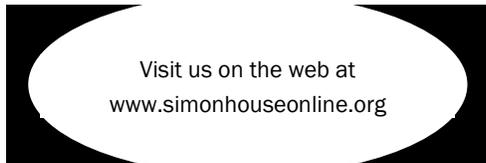
Groups or individual could furnish an entire apartment for \$1,700 or contribute for individual pieces as priced above.



**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)



**Simon House Board of Directors**

Kyle Thompson, Chair  
Ann Crowe, Vice-Chair  
Alathea Hamilton, Secretary  
Bernadette Smith, Treasurer

Tim Ford  
Lori Haddix  
Joe Hancock  
Karen Liebman

Becky McKee  
Karen Mucci  
Betty Powell  
Melissa Russell

**Would you like to continue receiving the Simon House Insider?**

To economize, future editions of the Simon House Insider will be available in electronic format. We will be glad to put you on our email list to receive quarterly newsletters. Newsletters also will be posted on our website. To ensure you receive our newsletters by email, please complete and return the following information or sign up online at [www.simonhouseonline.org](http://www.simonhouseonline.org):

First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return to:  
Simon House  
P. O. Box 5174  
Frankfort, KY 40602

## Be a Christmas Angel

### Support Simon House with your End-of-Year Tax Deductible Donation

Simon House depends on its many supporters to donate toward the shelter and care of homeless women and children throughout the year. As the end of the year approaches your generosity is especially important as we meet 2010 budget obligations and plan for needs in 2011. As you have noticed, costs are rising markedly, and Simon House cannot dodge these increases. Utilities, food, supplies, and all other costs will be higher in 2011.

Your generous donation in December will provide a significant portion of the support we need, and you will receive a tax deduction as well.

Please consider being a Christmas Angel for Simon House this year by donating as you are able.

The cost to provide shelter and other services for a client at Simon House for one day averages \$7.70. Would you consider supporting one resident for a day, a week, or a month?

Please clip this form and enclose in the envelope with your donation.

**Yes, I want to be a Christmas Angel for Simon House by making my donation as follows:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Gain your **Angel Harp** with a donation of \$54 to support one resident for a week.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Obtain your **Angel Wings** with a donation of \$108 to support one resident for two weeks.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Acquire your **Angel Halo** with a donation of \$216 to support one resident for a month.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Provide an **Angel Sponsor** gift for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

