

Dear Friends,

This month I wanted to share an "insider's view" of what happens in the lives and hearts of Hope Alive's resident women and children.

When I came to Hope Alive this morning, I was feeling pretty overwhelmed after a late night board meeting, multiple competing grant deadlines, a deepening deficit from our summer months, and a never-ending task list. I was met by Jody Julian, who announced there was water leaking out of the light fixture in the dining room.

We walked over to the house, and my imagination was running wild thinking about the new plumbing problems we would face (one AC unit went out last weekend.) We found the moms mopping up water off the dining room table. They had already discovered the source of the problem: an upstairs bathroom with a shower curtain hanging outside the bathtub from a child's early morning shower.

The mother of the child felt terrible and as she lowered her head and went back upstairs, I followed her. I reassured her that everything was okay, told her not to worry about this little problem, and gave her a hug. This overwhelmed mother broke into tears and thanked me that Hope Alive is here for her and her children. She showed me the Bible verse from Jeremiah that she keeps posted on her doorframe as a constant reminder of the hope and a future that God promises. What an amazing "God Find" as we like to call these moments!

Puts things in perspective doesn't it? All of a sudden my day didn't seem as overwhelming. These precious women and children are the reason we are here. Their struggles are complicated and challenging, but they lovingly support one another as they press on toward a promising future. Thank you for partnering with us in this amazing journey of faith. To God be the glory!

Committed to His service,

Sue Oehmig

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Founder and Executive Director

p.s. Read my weekly blog to learn more about Hope Alive!
<http://hopealiveinc.blogspot.com>

Fourth Annual

Resident Achievement Banquet

Thursday, October 13, 2011, 6:00pm

Dutch's Daughter • \$30 per person

Join us as we celebrate the inspirational progress of our residents!
Check out our website or call for more information and registration.

Register online at www.hopealiveministries.org

Through The Eyes Of Our Children

The summer is over and everyone is back to school. As we wrapped up summer vacation, we asked the children what they learned this summer and about their hopes and dreams for a new school year.

Here's what they had to say:



A pirate adventure was an exciting and memorable experience this summer. Special thanks to PNC Bank for making this educational field trip possible.

What was your favorite thing this summer?

That's a hard thing to answer – just fun things – getting wet in the rain, riding horses. We went on a pirate ship and went to a fire house and got to play on the fire truck.

Made new friends here at Hope Alive.

Probably the drama. Someone who was an actor came and taught us how to use different voices and ways we can stand and position our bodies according to our character.

Miss Ashley! She is awesome, and she is so fun. I love Miss Ashley.

What did you learn about God this summer?

We went to VBS (vacation Bible school) – I want to go back to VBS.

We learned songs about God. Me and T are doing one of the songs we learned for our talent show. I really want the talent show to be now because all the moms are going to be there. Then we are doing Jesus Loves Me in sign language at the end.

I learned something new – I learned a few new Bible scriptures, and I learned that God is more important than anything.

What are you looking forward to in school this year?

It's really awesome even though I'll be in second grade. We are all going to the same school. I think I'll like math.

I'm looking forward to see how I succeed in school and to meet my new teacher.

Meeting all the new people – that's fun. I like being on schedule and learning everything that I need to learn. I won't be behind.

How do you feel about your mom going to school too?

I feel good that she's trying to help us and do good things and maybe we'll get a new home of our own.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be a nurse, a fireman, an artist and a superstar. I want to be a nurse to check teeth to see if they are good.

I want to be a teacher and a paleontologist, so I was thinking I could be a paleontologist and then teach paleontology. I want to teach people who are more mature – like fourth or fifth grade.

This is the hardest question of all. Probably either a designer, a hairstylist, a medical technician, or a dentist.

I'm not sure, but in real life I want to be what God wants me to be.



Walk this way ... Help The Homeless Mini-Walks

As a new beneficiary of Fannie Mae's Help the Homeless Program, Hope Alive has a unique opportunity to raise substantial funds to serve homeless families, but we need your help! Now through November 6 you can join a scheduled Mini-Walk in our community benefitting Hope Alive, or better yet, host your own Mini-Walk. Help us reach our goal of recruiting 3,000 walkers and raising more than \$100,000! Check out our website, email info@hopealiveministries.org or call to see how you can get involved and make a difference for homeless families!

Hope Alive Mini Walk – Sunday, October 16, 1-4pm

A walk on Hope Alive's nature trail. Enjoy the beauty of fall foliage in northern Frederick County. (Rain date Sunday, October 23)

Maze-a-Thon at Crumland Farms – Saturday, October 29, 10am-3pm

Enjoy eight acres of twisty-turny fun through the Crumland Farm Corn Maze. Perfect for the young and young at heart.

Walker registration fees:

- \$20 for youth (age 25 and under)
- \$30 for adults

To register, download a walker registration form at www.hopealiveministries.org or register at the mini-walk.

Because You Said YES

Families served in 2011: 10 (cumulative since opening in 12/06: 38)

Children served in 2011: 22 (cumulative: 74)

Bednights* in 2011: 3,474 (cumulative: 26,566)

Average length of stay: 8 months

- Five resident women started college classes – three for the first time!
- One mom passed her state GED exam!
- Eight school-age children received tutoring all summer and are ready for the new school year!
- A mom acquired a full-time job!
- Another mom paid off \$300 in debt and established her first savings account!
- Two children received overdue physical exams!

Statistics are as of July 31, 2011 * a bednight = one person per bed per night

Gabe, Caleb, and Jeremiah deliver school supplies from Faithpoint United Methodist Church's children's ministry for our moms and children.



In honor of:

Jesus Christ by Christian Hackett

Avadna Coghil by Prue Kestner

Stephanie Curran's birthday by Betty Baggett

Barbara Dangler by Marian Meyers

Jan Dinterman by David and Marianne Brown

Elizabeth and John by their mother Barbara Donaldson

Hope Alive Graduates by John and Pat Frizzera

Stanley Robeson by Dwight and Laura Robeson

Ronald and Lori Warrenfeltz by Affinity Incorporated

In memory of:

Beverly "Aunt B" Carter by Terri Rowe

Mom and Dad Ebner by Tim and Kathy Ebner

Anna Irene Ennis by Mary Ellen Eaton

Jay Graff by Gary Rosenberger

James Hawse, Jr. by Mary Ellen Eaton

Gifts Given

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