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November 2017

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Smith:

As the year comes to a close, I am reminded of how grateful I am that you support CHI's efforts to develop affordable housing and break the cycle of poverty for the future.

Our mission is simple; to provide housing and human services that support social and economic independence. This year demand for our services has grown. We opened five new shelters, including the Workforce Development Center in Suffolk County, which provides on-site GED classes and vocational training to clients with on-site child care services to enable them to move toward self-sufficiency.

We continue to develop affordable housing options. The Modern, an 81-unit affordable apartment building, and The Waterwheel Condominiums, a 22-unit affordable and workforce housing development, both opened earlier this year. Recently CHI gained site plan approval for Buchanan Mews, a 42-unit affordable senior housing development.

With the belief that homeownership stabilizes neighborhoods, CHI has administered over \$15 million in down payment assistance grants since 1997, allowing 800 families to buy their first homes without fear of foreclosure.

We are proud of CHI's accomplishments but recognize the mission has grown along with our responsibility to confront it. Your financial support will enable CHI to meet the increased need for housing and services, especially to the children of our communities.

On behalf of CHI's Board of Directors, staff and most especially the families we serve, thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,



Alexander H. Roberts
Executive Director

Meet the Young Family...

Randi was a married mom with her own business, raising her 5 year old daughter, Abby, with her husband, Chris, who worked full-time in the union. Randi was a member of the PTA and Abby was in the Daisies. Everything looked great on the outside. No one knew that Randi was battling an opioid addiction.

That changed in April 2015. Randi's second daughter, Riley, was born testing positive for opiates. Child Protective Services immediately removed the children and charged her with neglect. Chris didn't know his wife was abusing drugs but vowed to stand by her, as long as she got clean, so the children's uncle assumed guardianship of the children. Chris's salary couldn't pay rent and they were evicted. Randi and Chris became homeless and ended up in CHI emergency housing.



For months Randi went through stringent measures to regain custody of her kids. She attended outpatient treatment daily and became active in a 12-step program. They became a family again, under one roof, in CHI emergency housing in Wading River. They met Brittini, a CHI case manager, who worked with them to set goals, connect to services and complete housing applications.



In September 2016, the Young family was accepted into CHI's Family Transitional-to-Permanent Housing (TPH) in Coram. A year-long program, it is a stepping stone that prepares families for permanent housing. For the first time in over a year, the Young's had a home with a kitchen. When they received multiple Thanksgiving dinners, Abby and Randi cooked the extra food, bought 75 Styrofoam containers and filled them with meals. They spent Thanksgiving Day as a family handing out meals to homeless people.

In TPH, Randi and Chris met Jessie, a CHI case manager. She visited the family regularly, working on budgeting, setting up medical care, and listening to concerns. When permanent housing opened in CHI's Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP) in East Patchogue, Jessie helped the Young family make the house their new home. They moved in January 2017.

Randy is over 2 1/2 years clean and speaks in institutions about her experience. She is a loving and attentive mother. Abby is a bright and well-adjusted third grader who loves to read and participate in Brownies. She has a full understanding of giving back because she knows what it's like to not have anything. Riley is 2 1/2 years old and likes to clean dishes and play with toys. Chris continues to support his family and loves coming home to them each night. This will be their first Christmas decorating their home as a family of four. Randi and Chris continue to work with CHI case managers to ensure they maintain self-sufficiency and remain in permanent housing.