

Newsletter of Home Comforts

*A Non-Profit Organization Dedicated to Helping the Mentally Ill Establish and Maintain
Their Own Homes*

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October 2019

Dear Friends of Home Comforts,

It has been about a year since our last newsletter, and we would like to share with you what has been happening since then.

We are continuing in our efforts to assist the mentally challenged people of Bexar County as they transition to independent living. Requests come to us through CHCS, the VA, SAILS, Christian Hope Resource Center, Crystal Counseling, Haven For Hope, and other healthcare professionals and organizations.

Approximately 180 clients have received Welcome Baskets during the first nine months of 2019, and we have been able to provide basic home products to these people, but we have received no grant money or foundation bequests this year and the coffers are almost bare. Individual donations have declined to almost nothing, but we are trying our best to keep the ministry going.

With this in mind, we have recently partnered with another community action organization, Jefferson Outreach. This program has been successful in obtaining available grant money from health, county, and charitable organizations, and we hope to take advantage of their expertise in this area to obtain income for Home Comforts.

Jefferson Outreach provides transportation to appointments, support for home bound seniors, and other information regarding services available to seniors to help them remain independent. These services do not overlap with Home Comforts' services, but together our organizations can support each other in meeting this wide range of needs in our community. Both organizations are independent 501c3 non-profits.

Another change to Home Comforts is that we are bringing some new membership to our board. Several current board members have expressed a desire to retire or reduce their involvement. Jim Gerhard, a founding member of Home Comforts, has stepped down as president but has agreed to remain on the board. We recognize his expertise and experience in the mental health field and want to retain that support. Norma Chavez will replace Jim as president. Norma has worked in the medical field since 2008 in the areas of hospice, nursing home care, and behavioral health. She is part of the Crisis Intervention Team along with first responders and serves on the board of Jefferson Outreach and will add much experience to Home Comforts. Welcome Norma!

If you are looking for a place to give back, Home Comforts can use your help in several ways. First, 100% of the work involved in collecting, packaging, and delivering Welcome Baskets is provided through volunteers, and we need help in these areas. The time required is very flexible,

so if you have the willingness to serve in this way, we can find a way to work with whatever time constraints you may have.

Also, we are always in need of items to help set up individuals in their new homes, and we would appreciate donations. Check bexarhomecomforts.org to see a list of items that we supply to our clients.

Finally, we will gratefully accept monetary donations to keep this ministry operating; whether a one-time or recurring donation, we would appreciate your support. We recognize it is important for donors to know that their charitable contributions truly fund worthwhile causes. We wholeheartedly believe that this organization is making a positive difference in the lives of one of the most overlooked populations in our community, and we are happy to answer any questions you may have about Home Comforts. If you would like more information, please contact Pat Thompson at 210-364-0915 or e-mail us at evershomecomforts@yahoo.com

We want to thank all of you for your generous support over the years and hope that you will continue to support our organization so that we can continue to help the chronic mentally ill.

Sincerely,

Pat Thompson
Executive Director

Make Donations to:
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