

Sarah Letson

From: Deborah's Place [egolden@deborahsplace.org]

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To: Sarah Letson

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Deborah's Place eUpdate

Volume 2, Number 1, August 2010



Notes from Home

[A Woman's Words](#)

Every month we will share a poem, story, or perhaps a few short sentences from a woman of Deborah's Place who has allowed us to share a piece of her life with you.

"To be homeless is very lonely, cold and sad. Searching for warmth, a voice, a smile is heartbreaking...To live at Deborah's Place is a gift from God - a chance for a woman to become a success."

- Rita*, Deborah's Place Tenant

"I enjoy my life now. I find a purpose to get up in the morning and am more capable of handling challenges that life brings my way."

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- Kathy*, former Deborah's Place Tenant

**names changed to protect privacy*

Feeling Well Critical to Doing Well

What could you accomplish if you couldn't bathe regularly, wash your clothes, or clean your home?

Since 1985, Deborah's Place has provided housing and supportive services to women who are homeless. We have served over 3,500 women, and over the past 25 years we have learned that feeling well is critical to being able to achieve goals such as maintaining housing and employment.

As we all know, part of feeling well is being able to wash your hair, brush your teeth, wear clean clothing, sleep in fresh sheets, and have access to the supplies one needs to be healthy. However, the hundreds of women we serve have very limited income or none at all and are unable to afford every-day items such as toiletries and cleaning supplies. Although Deborah's Place provides them with as much as we can, we simply do not have the funding to regularly purchase these items for all of the women we serve.

This is where you come in.

You can help the women of Deborah's Place create healthier, happier lives for themselves by donating one of the items listed below. Your donation will ease our urgent need for self and home-care items as well as support our mission to break the cycle of homelessness for women in Chicago.

Help women who are homeless reach their goals with a donation of these much-needed items:

Full-size shampoo & conditioners
Body wash and loofas
Body lotion
Deodorant
Toothbrushes and toothpaste
Laundry detergent
Cleaning supplies: mops, brooms, spray cleaners, dish soap, sponges
New twin-sized sheets
New twin-sized comforters
New towels
New shower curtains, liners and hooks

To make a donation, contact Stephanie Dixon at (773) 722-5080 or email sdixon@deborahsplace.org

[The complete Deborah's Place Wish List is available on our website.](#)

Mayor Daley Visits Deborah's Place to Kick

Did You Know?

Deborah's Place specializes in reaching unaccompanied adult women who are considered by the system to be the "hardest to house" and who represent 43% of Chicago's single homeless population, a larger proportion than any other U.S. city.

For these women, Deborah's Place is often their last option after having been terminated from other programs and housing.

With a zero-barriers-to-entry policy, we accept all women, regardless of history or treatment participation, who meet basic eligibility requirements for our programs.

Help us spread the word about our programs and services!

Become our fan on Facebook and LinkedIn, follow our updates, and suggest us to your friends

Find us on Facebook 

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Off 100,000 Homes Campaign



Mayor Daley meets RJA tenant Ruby and several other tenants and staff

Chicago Registry Week, which occurred August 23-27, mobilized hundreds of volunteers to create a by-name registry of those who are staying on the streets and in shelters. Mayor Daley's press conference in the courtyard of Deborah's Place Rebecca Johnson Apartments in East Garfield Park this month marked the official start of the campaign.

The campaign and Mayor Daley's press conference were featured on ABC 7, NBC, WGN TV, the Chicago Tribune, and the Chicago Sun-Times. To learn more about the press conference and view media coverage, visit the [News & Events page of our website](#).



Mayor Daley announces the Chicago phase of the 100,000 Homes Campaign at Deborah's Place building in East Garfield Park

Deborah's Place Serves 17% More Women in Fiscal Year 2010

In our most recently completed fiscal year (FY10), the housing programs and supportive services provided by Deborah's Place helped **450 women** to achieve permanent housing, sustainable



income, and greater self-determination. Highlights of the impact Deborah's Place had on these women include:

- **50 women moved** from the streets/shelter to stable housing
- **20 women "graduated"** from our supportive housing to housing in the community
- **Zero women were evicted** or terminated from our programs, demonstrating our commitment to harm reduction and Housing First strategies
- **26 women obtained employment** and 95% who began FY'10 with employment maintained employment
- **100% of participants accessed core supportive services** that helped them to make progress toward their goals of improved housing stability, income stability, and quality of life.

Deborah's Place strives to provide the most compassionate, cost-effective, and results-oriented solutions to homelessness. In fiscal year 2011, our goal is to sustain our current level of services, expand our existing partnerships, and explore new collaborations to remain the key to helping hundreds of women find and keep their housing.

As always, we are grateful for your support and commitment to the women of Deborah's Place. *We could not do it without you.*



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*Help support the
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Place.*



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