



CRAWFORD HOUSE

Halfway House for Women

From the Executive Director

Welcome Spring. Welcome Change.

Like the new beginnings of budding trees and blooming flowers, Crawford House has some new beginnings this Spring, also. At the end of April, Administrative Assistant, Marilyn Mizeski, retired after eight years of employment at Crawford House. We appreciate Marilyn's contributions and are certain that retirement holds more than its share of new adventures for her.



Marilyn's departure left open another new beginning that allowed Crawford House the opportunity to welcome Sheila Reilly. Sheila's position combines the part-time administrative assistant's position with the part-time development assistant's position to form a new, full-time administrative position. Welcome Sheila.

Another change that has come with Spring is that Crawford House welcomed the new Director of Development, Ann Rotunno. Ann comes to us as a former Director of Special Events with the American Cancer Society. Welcome Ann.

With all the changes that have arrived with Spring, Crawford House is thankful and appreciative of one constant: *Your continued support.* It is with your ongoing contributions and the efforts of our staff and Board of Trustees that we can continue to offer 'new beginnings' to the recovering women at Crawford House year-round.

Linda M. Leyhane
Executive Director

The Robert Wood Johnson Trust Awards \$500,000 Grant to Crawford House

The Johnson Company which manages The Robert Wood Johnson 1962 Charitable Trust has issued Crawford House a \$500,000 grant in the form of a 'challenge' or 'match'. This means they are 'challenging' Crawford House to raise \$33,000 and then the charitable trust will 'match' this amount with a 4-to-1 ratio of \$125,000 each year for the next four years.

This is an extremely generous donation. The Board members, staff and residents are grateful to have this opportunity and additional fundraising efforts have already begun.

Thank you Robert Wood Johnson 1962 Charitable Trust.

Save ~ the ~ Date

Thursday evening, October 20, 2011

for

**The 2011
Harvest Dinner**

So mark your calendars:

The Princeton Marriott at Forrestal,
100 College Road East, Princeton, NJ
6:00 pm

Crawford House, Inc.

Crawford House was established in 1978 to provide residential treatment to women who are in early recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. Based on the twelve-step recovery model of Alcoholics Anonymous, the program is designed to facilitate physical, emotional and spiritual healing in a safe and mutually supportive community.

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Ann Rotunno

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Crawford House is licensed by NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Addiction Services

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Association of Alcoholism and Drug Addiction
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Board News

Planned Giving

Definition: Planned Giving is a set of ways a donor can leave money and/or assets to a nonprofit organization at the time of his/her death; or a way to invest money so that the donor receives benefits during his/her life and then bequeaths the remaining funds to the nonprofit.

Brothers and long-time supporters of Crawford House, James Parmele and Charles Parmele, IV, know exactly what Planned Giving is all about because they are the first two supporters to establish Planned Giving through our Barlow Legacy Society. We would like to extend a sincere thank-you to them for initiating participation in the crucial role of deferred giving.

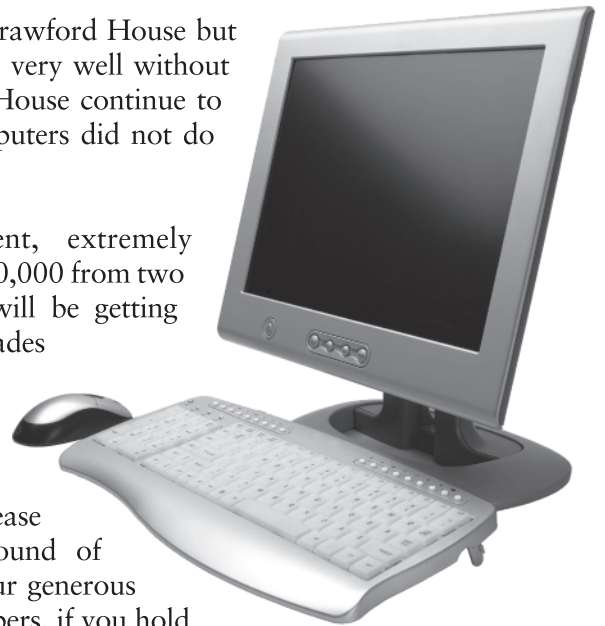
Yearly, quarterly and one-time contributions help to keep the doors of Crawford House open to homeless and indigent women in recovery but Planned Giving allows us to ensure that door will stay open for many years to come. Please consider deferred giving through the Barlow Legacy Society. For more information on the Society, various types of deferred gifts, or other Crawford House fundraising efforts, please contact Ann Rotunno in our Development Office at 908.874.5153 or at devdirector@crawfordhouse.org.

Thank You for the New Computers!

Computers. They don't run Crawford House but Crawford House wouldn't run very well without them. Nor would Crawford House continue to excel and progress if our computers did not do the same.

Fortunately, with the recent, extremely generous donations totaling \$10,000 from two of our Board members, we will be getting badly needed computer upgrades this summer. Faster and more reliable computers will make the lives of all Crawford House staff much easier and more efficient. So everyone please give a hardy, appreciative round of applause to these and all of our generous Board members. (Board Members, if you hold the newsletter up to your ears you can hear the ovation!)

In all seriousness, on behalf of the staff and residents here at Crawford House, we thank you for this generous and important donation. The Board members continue to support Crawford House with their time, experience and financial contributions. For this we are extremely grateful.



Volunteer Review

Susan Falotico ~ Beth Brown ~ Suzanne DeClue ~ Christine DeClue ~ Jacqueline DeClue
Bill Herbert ~ Sharon Clark ~ Kerrie Nelson ~ Kathy Pavlisak ~ Kelly Martin

Where to begin? It's such a nice dilemma to have so many volunteer stories from which to select! This batch of Crawford House volunteers have done everything from prepare meals to painting doors. And since it's nearly lunchtime I'll begin with our volunteer meal-preparer, Kelly Martin.

Kelly is a sophomore in high school who dedicates one weekend day a month to making a meal for all 22 residents of Crawford House. She loves trying to create different meals each month and finds her time at Crawford House very rewarding. "I was extremely grateful and realized how much I meant to them when I received a note thanking me for my time and effort."

Kelly learned from her parents the importance of giving back to her community. She followed in her older sister's footsteps by choosing to make a meal at a local women's-based organization. Her choice of organizations was Crawford House. Kelly graduates in two years and we're hoping she has a classmate waiting in the wings to fill her very helpful shoes.



Our volunteer, Bill Herbert is the front man for a large and diverse group of people from Blawenburg Reformed Church that gives their time and talents to Crawford House. Bill stated simply, "We do God's work. I am just the coordinator of the various projects at Crawford House; it's the many members of the church that do all the volunteering."

Members with gardening expertise instructed residents on creating and maintaining a vegetable garden. They spent an entire Saturday designing and planting the lovely area. A few women volunteered to teach baking and soup-making skills. In addition to the gardening, baking and cooking a couple of church members have conducted

computer training for residents for almost a year. It seems there is no limit to the types of volunteering from the members of the Blawenburg Reformed Church nor is there a limit to their volunteering overall.

Current Board member and former Vice President of the Board of Trustees, John Brown has been very active with Crawford House over the last several years. He has provided us with valuable time and contributions. However, another valuable contribution that has come from John is his daughter, Beth Brown, and her three daughters, Suzanne, Christine and Jacqueline.

With paint and brushes in-hand (donated by John) Beth and her daughters came by earlier this year to help spruce things up by painting many interior doors. The family affair made quick work out of their project and they are eager for their next opportunity to help out at Crawford House. "I encourage my children to share the responsibility of making the lives of others better in any (big or small) ways," commented Beth. "There will be a time (or times) in all our lives when we, too, will require help."



It isn't always work, work, work at Crawford House. Just ask any of the residents who got to spend an evening creating fabulous, hand-made Easter cards with volunteers Sharon Clark, Kerrie Nelson and Kathy Pavlisak. The three crafty women showed up with pre-prepared bags of the basics to make a greeting card along with boxes containing a wide assortment of trimmings. From there, every card that came out was as unique as the woman who made it.

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Sharon, Kerrie and Kathy have been volunteering at Crawford House for some time and though always creative, it isn't always a craft project; they have also taught dance lessons. However, at least one of the residents I spoke with claimed the holiday greeting card evening was her favorite. She expressed how wonderful it was to see the individualism of each resident's cards and get new ideas from the volunteers.

Susan Falotico – Montgomery Woman's Club

President of the Montgomery Woman's Club, Susan Falotico, is a continuing source of spiritual and physical well-being for the residents at Crawford House. For over a year she and other M.W.C. members have been teaching yoga classes on Monday nights. Although they have offered other exercise-related courses, yoga has become a well-loved routine. Additional support comes from outside the woman's club, too. Various yoga instructors from around the area have connected with Susan and provided their instruction as well.

A slightly different mind-and-body experience happens when the club provides and prepares various special meals throughout the year. The woman's club tries to prepare four meals a year. But whether it's at the summer barbeque or the holiday dinner; the ladies at Crawford House receive full stomachs and happy hearts. The holiday dinner is an especially generous occasion. The club members not only prepare a lovely dinner, lead songs and festivities, but they provide gifts bags to each resident filled with much-loved items such as postage stamps, calendars and phone cards.

The ongoing involvement of the Montgomery Woman's Club leaves the staff and residents of Crawford House feeling blessed not only around the holidays but all year long.

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