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BETHANY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY

Offers housing and support services to young immigrant women as they journey to independence

Since October, 2017 Bethany House of Hospitality has housed more than 49 women and 9 children from Central America, Africa and the Middle East. The average length of stay has been 6 months.

What did you do during Summer vacation?

The question that is a September back-to-school staple seems an appropriate way to update what's happening at Bethany House. The typical activities of summer had to adapt to pandemic precautions.

- Bike-riding was popular. One of our volunteers helped get the bikes in shape and accompanied small



groups in exploring the neighborhood and Lake Michigan trail.

- Volunteers continue tutoring residents in English and other classes through the summer.
- Several Bethany House residents volunteered throughout the summer with groups preparing and distributing food baskets.
- Those who received work permits this summer were discouraged from looking for work, both because of the (un)employment situation and the danger of exposing themselves—and everyone in the house—to Covid-19. Three residents had virtual jobs with *One Summer Chicago*, informing Chicago residents about COVID resources, food and community support, Census and voting info.

We would like to ask your help with some special needs:

- BHH is looking for new Google Chromebooks—low-end laptops (under \$300). These are most compatible with Google classroom and the current online study program. They are available at most stores and online at Amazon. You can view our Amazon wish list at [Bethany House Wish List](#)
- We currently have a volunteer therapist who works one afternoon a week. We are hoping to get a grant to hire a part-time therapist. We are open to volunteer English or Spanish speaking therapists who are trauma sensitive.
- We have a resident who needs braces for her teeth at a cost of about \$3000.

Monetary donations can be mailed to:

Bethany House of Hospitality
c/o Patricia Crowley OSB,
7430 N Ridge Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60645

Change is in the air as Autumn begins

Autumn in Illinois focuses our attention on change in its most beautiful and bittersweet aspects. That's true at Bethany House too. Over the last month we have seen significant transition among residents. Three moms with babies have moved on, but we have welcomed a family of two sisters from Pakistan. (They are hoping their two older sisters might join them, but for now they remain in detention in Texas.)

Our women have registered and are beginning fall classes (high school, college or GED). All classes and tutoring will be online.

Among the new faces at BHH are three interns who will be accompanying us. We welcome three interns, Sierra Calderon, an MSW candidate from NEIU. Maria Isabel Salazar, a nurse and graduate student at CTU and Frani from IVC a retired educational professional. We hope they will be able to attend in person.



Volunteers at Zakat Chicago help pack and distribute fresh produce

Learn more on our website:

bethanyhouseofhospitality.com

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