



h.o.m.e., Inc.

47th Anniversary Celebration
& 2017 Department Reports

27th April 2017



Sr. Lucy Poulin
Founder and President

h.o.m.e.'s 47th Anniversary Celebration

St. Vincent De Paul Parish Hall

Thursday, 27 April 2017

5:45 P.M.

Agenda:

Memorial Moments & Opening Prayer

Introductory Comments

Pot Luck Dinner

Executive & Assistant Director Reports



Introduction of Board of Directors
Board Member Elections

Keynote Speaker:

Libbie Craig



Presentation to Lucy

Closing Remarks

Closing Circle & Sing Along



h.o.m.e. 2017 Department Reports

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2017 Department Reports

Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Reflecting on 2016, my first thought is to give thanks for community members and volunteers, who care deeply for the homeless and found many ways to reach out to them. Your time, concern, and resources, freely shared, made it possible for H.O.M.E. Inc. to provide the care and services described in this report. We saw an increase from 2015 to 2016 of individuals coming to our shelters, your help was, and is greatly needed.



2016 was a challenging and rewarding year. As the primary provider of shelter and housing services in Hancock County, H.O.M.E. and the Emmaus Center combined, provided 17,270 bed nights of shelter and over 7000 hot meals to men and women in need. In addition to providing basic service, H.O.M.E.'s income producing work continued to provide opportunities for residents and volunteers to create, build and work together in areas such as H.O.M.E.'s Sawmill, Daycare and Craft Departments. In these pages you will read about the people – board members, staff and community partners – who make this possible.

It is thanks to you that we were able to:

- Convert an apartment building in Bucksport from emergency shelter space into housing units which can house up to seven individuals in separate apartments.
- Begin construction on a new house in Bucksport. The house is 70% complete.
- Create a resource room to store supplies such as toiletries, blankets, coats and clothing. These items are distributed to residents as they enter our shelters and also to people in need in our area.
- Complete and open the Bargain Barn.
- Install two new roofs on the Transitional Housing units in Dedham.
- Create an in-house subsidy for H.O.M.E.'s Daycare program.
- Maintain, grow and improve all of our programs.
- Purchase and install a new Outdoor Wood Boiler.
- Purchase two new computers.
- Install two heat pumps in the Bargain Barn.
- Install an upgraded phone system.

- Provide 18 transitional housing beds in Hancock County.
- And most importantly, continue to provide emergency shelter at the Dorr House shelter for men, the St Francis Inn and Sister Marie House shelters for women and women with children, Mandala Farm and the Emmaus Center shelters for individuals and families.

One of the highlights of the Shelter department in 2016, was the restructuring of the Hospitality House Shelter in Bucksport which was converted to permanent housing. Chronically homeless individuals are able to rent small apartments at a subsidized rate. This building offers permanent housing, for those who have been chronically homeless or are highly vulnerable. We are excited to have vulnerable people out of homelessness for good.

Despite our progress, the need for H.O.M.E.'s services are greater than ever as more and more look to non-profits to respond to needs such as heating, healthcare and financial assistance in crisis. The patchwork of funding sources still leaves many gaps in the services that are essential to the wellbeing of low-income and homeless people. Through increasing local support and strong partnerships, we are leveraging every resource available to create the greatest impact.

There is still much to do. Homelessness continues throughout Hancock County and our state. Housing continues to outpace incomes, pushing more into homelessness. While we work to relieve this, H.O.M.E. staff continue to do this work alongside our most vulnerable neighbors.

Your support, through advocacy, volunteerism, and financial gifts, is critical to our work.

Gratefully,

Tracey Hair.

Executive Director

*Ralph, Julia,
Tracey, and
Millie at the
march against
violence rally in
Bangor.*



Bookkeeping

2016 was a very busy year for bookkeeping. We are always striving to keep the finance department running smoothly. Ruth and I work very hard to get all tasks completed.

With the transition of our executive director from Lucy to Tracey, we work closely to keep her aware of H.O.M.E.'s financial needs. She is a great asset to H.O.M.E. With the changes in donations and our new volunteer groups we hope we can create new donors for the future.

We all need to remember that H.O.M.E. helps the less fortunate and we take pride in providing those services. We all need to be kind and considerate to everyone.

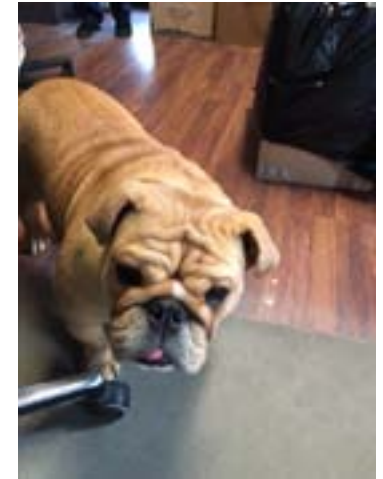
*Happy Days Ahead
Mary & Ruth*



Volunteers

As the new Volunteer Coordinator I hope to keep H.O.M.E.'s Volunteer Program running smoothly. I look forward to working with our regular groups this summer and excited to meet our new groups! If anyone is interested in bringing a group to Volunteer at H.O.M.E., please feel free to email me at

volunteer@homecoop.net.



Annabelle

REPAIRS NEEDED

New floor for volunteer center.

Mattress covers for all mattresses in volunteer center.

— Julie Ream



Boston University volunteers



*Saint Anselm's College
volunteers*



*University
of
Delaware
volunteers*

We are now collecting donations of great things to put in

h.o.m.e.'s Annual Benefit Auction and Yard Sale

Please plan to join us on Saturday, August 19!

*Please call us at 469-7961 if you have some
valuable stuff to donate. We can come and pick it up.*

*We also have on-going bottle and scrap metal drives and
need your continued support and donations.*

<http://www.homemmausa.org/Volunteering.html>

Sawmill and Shingle Mill

Sawyers – Clint Clagett, Eric Snow and Hanes Thibedeau

Shingle Mill – Clint Clagett, Eric Snow and Josue Tuc Tuc.

Wood Crew – Clint Clagett, Eric Snow, Josue Tuc Tuc, Hanes Thibedeau and Sam Lowell.

H.O.M.E.'s Sawmill continues to produce! The Sawmill is not only critical and central to our house building and rehabilitation program, it also provides an income through the sale of lumber to the public. In 2016, H.O.M.E. purchased a skidder. The primary purpose of the skidder is to pull logs out of the woods once they are selectively harvested. H.O.M.E. sells lumber, cedar shingles and edgings. What is not sold to the public or used for construction is used for firewood or sold as scrap wood. Last year the logging crew, which consists of Clint Clagett (sawyer) Hanes Thibedeau and Sam Lowell, brought in 7358 board feet of logs for the mill and we still have another truck load ready to haul. As I write this report the sawmill is humming!

The wood crew prepared almost 100 cord of firewood for H.O.M.E.'s winter season. Many of the buildings on campus in Orland are heated with Outdoor Wood Boilers. Many thanks go out to local residents and loggers who donated tree length firewood for the wood crew to process. We are grateful for these donations which help us keep the shelters warm for the winter months.



Total sales for the Sawmill in 2016 were \$6344.00 and sales from Cedar Shingles were \$6706.00. Eric and Clint are optimistic that sales will continue to increase as customers start to hear that we sell quality cedar shingles at lower prices.

Craft Store

The Craft Store is benefiting from some spring cleaning. It is also having a reevaluation of how to best display the inventory to facilitate sales.

Speaking of inventory, it is a goal to have the complete inventory finished by the end of March. This has been started by going through the stored items upstairs. Some changes will be that merchandise will be all down in the store area (unless damaged or being picked up by the crafter).

We have a few new crafters who have recently brought in some new products. It is inspiring that people want their merchandise in the H.O.M.E. Craft Store. One lady drove from Houlton to bring her things down.

Give us a month and we will have things all tucked away. Please drop by to see the changes.

Many of our items are available by mail order. Check out our catalog items at <http://homemmausa.org/Crafting.html>.



Front Office

This year the Main Office has had a complete change in staff. Julie is now working in fundraising and sadly Maggie passed away in October. Karen and Sandy are the new receptionists along with continued support from Pounce the Cat. The Trombe wall has been completed and the office is warmer than ever.

— Karen & Sandy



Learning Center

H.O.M.E. is continuing to provide classes, one-on-one tutoring, and transportation services to individuals working towards higher levels of education or job training. Along with supporting individuals academically, H.O.M.E. continues to support people in the pursuit of personal enrichment. Painting is still a very popular class, as well as our Spanish class. We are in hopes of getting some new classes to start up in the fall. We have started a class on the exploration of Chinese medicine during the winter and spring called Bodies Speak and the Heart Listens.



We also have new staff in the Learning Center. Shannon Carpenter is back and Heather Burgos is here to help with the scheduling of classes and administrative support. So far the transition is going smoothly.

— Shannon Carpenter



See the pictures in color and read this report on-line:
www.homemmausa.org

Check out the “Planet Emmaus” website:

<http://www.emmaus-international.org/en/who-are-we/emmaus-around-the-world/the-americas/united-states/home.html>

— or follow the links to Emmaus at www.homemmausa.org.

Stitchery Department

The stitchery department is lucky to have the state (ABLE) program people, which has increased the amount being made and added to the Craft Store inventory. Repair work on zippers, tears, hemming and shortening pants seems to be picking up and keeping us busy. We would like to see more lessons given and a lot more projects to bring more money in for H.O.M.E. We want to welcome Claire in and it seems that she is very personable and capable. We had good sales in the craft fairs this fall and hope for better sales next fall.

— Sandra

Garage

H.O.M.E.’s Automotive Garage is moving into new territory this year. With Joe York as head mechanic and Arthur Linscott, as assistant mechanic, the shop is pursuing an Inspection License. Joe York comes to H.O.M.E. Inc. with many years of experience working on vehicles and a great reputation for his work.

Joe and Arthur have begun repairing H.O.M.E.’s fleet of vehicles which include a plow truck, construction van, a dump truck for hauling wood and a van used for picking up donations of food and items for H.O.M.E.’s thrift store.

H.O.M.E.’s Garage removes barriers to transportation by providing low cost repair. Our goal is to repair cars and get them back on the road. In addition to car repair, our head mechanic, repairs donated vehicles for resale to people who live with low-income.

If you are interested in donating a running vehicle to H.O.M.E. Inc., please schedule an appointment with our mechanic at 207-469-7961.



Arthur Linscott

Joe York – Head Mechanic

Arthur Linscott – Assistant Mechanic

Marketstand, Soup Kitchen, and Food Bank



Marketstand Staff: Twila, Denise, and Maureen

Over the past year, many changes have occurred in the Market Stand/ Food bank at H.O.M.E. Our biggest shock was losing Mark. We were all grieved and confused by his sudden demise and it set us back. After we could collect our wits again we set about trying to pick up the pieces and begin to function, Maureen H. was hired as Market Stand manager and we discovered that she was more than capable of carrying us through.

The food bank has been running like precision clock work. We have stepped up production considerably in response to increase need for services. In review, last year

we were able to serve 38 food boxes for January. This year 71 food boxes were given in January. Six days a week we serve a hot meal to an average of 30 people. We are delighted to have the availability to serve so many. We are thankful for all the help we receive that enables us to continue our mission.



Beekeeping

Another year has begun here at H.O.M.E. Inc. The anticipation for what is to come this year is very exciting as we begin new programs designed to benefit our gardens and the food we grow for the community.

In our endeavor to provide healthy, organic foods we are pleased to announce that we will be joining the *Tri-County Bee Keepers Association of Maine*. With the decline in the bee populations from chemical spraying or mites that can wipe out whole colonies, we are working together to bring the bee population up and more sweet honey to our area.

Learning experience for ALL

— Denise M Linscott

Gardens & Greenhouses

We hope to have a more productive high tunnel greenhouse this year with better pruning and staking up of the tomato plants, more production of peppers and cukes. (We're looking at last season as experimental.) Some new items for the Farmer's Markets include pots of oxalis (shamrock), some with dainty pink flowers and dark pink "shadows on the leaves." Also we want to make note cards or bookmarks with pressed flowers from our gardens. The Bucksport market in particular is a fun meeting place for old and new friends, and often we enjoy musical performances. It's work but fun too!

Happy Spring,

— Millie



Millie at Ellsworth Farmer's Market



Daycare



My name is Jade Linscott and I have been working in the daycare for almost 3 years. I've had the title as director for roughly 6 months. H.O.M.E. Daycare has seen a lot of positive changes over the past year.

In that time we have accomplished many things on our "to do list" for improving our program and the daycare's appearance.

Our staff includes Allison Norris who is also on her 3rd year and Amy Smith who joined our team mid-year in 2016. Changing staff can be scary at times but I feel that our new team has been very effective in working together and making sure we provide the best possible child care we can offer. After some of these changes were made, we noticed an increase in enrollment and interest from the surrounding communities.

We hope it continues as we come into 2017!

Our staff has applied fresh paint to almost all our interior walls including vibrant animated pictures and cartoons. The atmosphere in our play room now portrays a welcoming, kid-friendly area where the children can play freely and let their imaginations be expressed widely.



We look forward to continually improving the appearance of our facility as an ongoing goal.

Every year we have annual trainings we are required to complete which includes renewing staff CPR/First aid (when necessary), basic water safety and our mandatory training through a government funded program called Maine Roads to Quality. In this training, we complete a course that meets the hourly annual requirement and offers a varied selection of topics

that stretch across the child care field.

Another training we do yearly is for our food program (CACFP) which is a program we use that encourages and supports young healthy minds and bodies while providing meal plan guidelines to follow for a healthy diet.

We have found over the years that the children are happy to eat according to our meal menus. They also learn the importance of eating healthy food while learning how to independently make good eating choices.



In 2016, our daycare provided services to 20 families with a total number of 30 children enrolled at some point during the year.

As we come into the new year, I hope to continue providing services to a multitude of families, both low-income and from the surrounding communities.

Let's make it a great, fun-filled year!

Thank you!

Daycare Staff; Jade, Allison & Amy.

Abby's Attic Thrift Shop

Route 1, East Orland, Maine

Sales were down a bit, mainly due to shortening the hours of operation, which was done because of budget and hiring limitations. There is, however, a sizeable regular and loyal customer base which helped get us through.

Thank you for your donations and patronage.



If you need clothing or household items, call Abby's Attic at (207) 469-7575.

Bargain Barn



The new Bargain Barn opened last August after much anticipation from the community. The eight months since then have been extremely eventful (and profitable)! This is all thanks to the many donations we receive from the public and the hard work of our dedicated volunteers! Thank you to everyone! One of the big steps forward during this season was the installation of two heat pumps, which keep the store nice and toasty. We were able to afford this expense due to a very generous donation from one of our benefactors.

We would not have been able to stay open over the winter months without this. It was starting to get awfully chilly around October, when they were installed. Staying open over the winter months allowed us to generate much needed income for H.O.M.E.

As for the future, we would like to start advertising through newspaper and perhaps radio. Up until this point, all of our advertisement has been through word of mouth, which has been surprisingly effective. One of our wonderful volunteer groups will be



building a handicap accessible ramp very soon, about which we are very excited. We would also like to start having sales more regularly to bring in new customers.

Once again, I would like to thank our volunteers and our customers for their continued support. Let's make 2017 a great year in the Bargain Barn!



Recovering value
Come in and see the new Bargain Barn!
We have all kinds of items for sale at bargain prices,
like dishes, furniture, toys, tools, and clothes.

Find yourself a bargain today!

We accept and rely on donations from the general public.

We are always in need of new stock,
— so please keep us in mind.

We even pick up donations locally!

“This Time”

You can read the current and many past issues of This Time on our web page, follow the link from

<http://www.homemmausa.org>,

with the pictures in color! ...and please let us know if that works for you and we can save the expense of mailing you the printed edition.

— Josh P., Editor

Emmaus International

This year in our work with Emmaus International we have seen several changes. We were able to send three participants to the World Assembly in Jesolo Italy. Each of them came back with enthusiasm about the movement which they shared with those at H.O.M.E.

Marking the 10th anniversary of Abbe Pierre's death, Emmaus International is putting the spotlight on the work of groups. Throughout the world, through collecting descriptions of projects and creating short documentaries, groups hope to carry on the memory and legacy of Abbe Pierre. These short stories give the viewer a snapshot into the diverse, grassroots struggle that is the reality of combating poverty throughout the world.

Since then there have been two regional council meetings in which one participant from each country is able to attend. In September the meeting was held in Pereira, Colombia and in February the meeting was held in Montevideo, Uruguay. The topics of these meetings were varied and diverse. They included everything from practical matters to workshops on working relationships to philosophical debates. Both H.O.M.E. and St. Francis were well represented at these events.

St Francis and H.O.M.E. are working together to gather donations and secure the funds to send a container to Emaus San Juan in Guatemala. Volunteers have been working hard for the last few months to separate and sort clothing and shoes from the overflow of donations in our thrift stores. We are currently looking to the community to help us collect additional donations of tools including hand tools, carpentry tools, gardening tools etc. We are also looking for donations of bicycles, sewing machines, and small appliances to fill the rest of the container. With support from Emmaus International's container fund and additional financial support from other community members, our goal is to send the container by the end of the summer.

This year, H.O.M.E. has applied to the International Solidarity fund of Emmaus International for the purchase of a new truck for the purpose of donation reclamation. The purchase of this vehicle will greatly aid us in our effort to collect and resell donations of furniture and household goods. Right now, H.O.M.E. collects all donations with a van, so purchasing a truck would streamline the process and save the backs of our workers. We hope to know if we will be receiving this support by May of this year.

In terms of upcoming activities, Emmaus in the Americas will be holding a training camp for thrift management and social work in the next year. Our groups are invited to participate. Members attending will learn

good practices of their respective trades and will have a chance to exchange ideas with members from groups all around the world. Groups from regions other than America are also invited to participate and H.O.M.E. would like to participate as well.

Having gained a year of experience, our National Delegate, Rosalani Moore, and our Group Delegate, Karen Botta, are becoming more comfortable and effective in their respective positions. Joshua Prochaska, who joined the board of Emmaus International last year, is also becoming accustomed to his responsibilities. We look forward to the coming year and the chance to contribute to an ongoing worldwide movement for peace and social justice.

— Joshua Prochaska

Maintenance

Plumbing, plumbing, plumbing – this has been the theme for H.O.M.E. Inc. maintenance requests during the last year. We've replaced the plumbing in our "situation room" which is the central location for all of the water pipes leading to the buildings on campus. After two major freeze-ups this winter, we have upgraded the system with help from Osbourne's Plumbing and Heating Company.

In addition to plumbing fixes, fence repairs and stove maintenance, the primary focus for the Maintenance department continues to be keeping the shelters maintained. H.O.M.E. Inc. has five shelters for the homeless and 18 beds for transitional housing. Our goal is to keep the water flowing, stoves burning and buildings safe... Many thanks to skilled volunteers who donate their time and the Orland Fire department for their support in keeping our buildings safe. A big thank you to you for your part in supporting this work

James Taylor
Maintenance

*James Taylor and
Volunteer Jayme
Ream repair the
planer in the
wood shop.*



Shelter

There was much change in the shelter department in 2016. Maine State Housing Authority changed their funding and program focus dramatically! Their new program is called Emergency Shelter and Housing Program (ESHAP) Maine Housing's new focus is on housing first and rapid rehousing models. Emergency shelters are now tasked with more responsibilities with a focus on permanent housing. For our office it means a renewed focus on finding permanent housing for those in our shelters especially those who have been in our shelters for a long time. While MSHA funding has not fully covered the new burdens on our system, it has helped us focus on finding permanent stable housing for many families and individuals



H.O.M.E. provided about 11000 bed nights for guests in 2016. Those nights were spread over our five shelters: Hospitality House, Dorr House, Mandala Farm, St. Francis Inn, and Sister Marie Ahern House. On any night, there were 42 possible guests in our shelters. During 2016, we saw an increase of 25 people in our shelters. Our Emmaus shelter in Ellsworth provided roughly another 6000 bed nights and 25 beds for the homeless.



The shelter office continued to run a backpack program and Christmas program. Thanks to the support of many individuals and churches, we were able to provide gifts for over 180 adults and children. About 80 children also received backpacks full of school supplies. Our Emmaus Shelter also ran a Christmas program helping many in the Ellsworth area.

Beyond the emergency shelters, we manage 20 permanent and transitional housing units. Beginning on January 1, 2017, we transformed the Hospitality House to permanent

housing. While we helped many through the years, permanent housing fits the need of many of the people we have helped in the Hospitality House.

Saving the best for last are the new peeps patrolling the shelter office. Amy Gray is our new primary navigator. The navigator position is a new position created through Maine Housing and their ESHAP program. Her role is to work with clients to navigate them into permanent housing. This includes building bridges between our clients and landlords. Once housing is found for a family or individual, her focus changes to helping clients to keep their housing. Kathy Walton has also joined the shelter office as part time navigator, part time administrative assistant, and full time helper. 2017 will be a great year with a great staff.

Sincerely,
Gerald Botta, Shelter Director
Amy Gray, Navigator
Kathleen Walton, assistant

Pottery Studio

Over the last year pottery has remained a consistent source of joy for those seeking an escape from their daily work and a chance to be creative. In the early part of the year we worked to increase our capacity to make ceramic sculptures. After creating a stock of sculptures, people are now able to come into the studio and finish pieces.

Volunteers have the opportunity to



have fun painting and decorating these sculptures which are later sold in our craft store to benefit HOME's many programs. This is a great way to give back to the community.

Housing

In housing we are working towards homeownership for at least three families over the 2017 year. The process can be long and hard however we are always optimistic. One of the greatest barriers for low-income families in obtaining home ownership is finding the money for the closing costs and the cost of the down payment. In addition to the struggle to save the money needed to close on a house, families tend to have a difficult time meeting the initial



credit requirements in order to obtain financing. With new vigor, H.O.M.E. is reaching out to donors, banks and foundations to help find a way to meet families half way in this process.

H.O.M.E. recognizes that for the program to make the biggest impact, each party must make a concerted effort to reach their goals. Families feel the most connected and take the most responsibility when they take an active part in purchasing and sometimes renovating or building the house they hope to call home. Our housing department hopes to incorporate these aspects more closely into the program through connecting prospective families with first time homebuyer courses and planning ahead for future builds with families in mind before construction even begins.

This year, H.O.M.E. is still in the process rebuilding a home that burnt down in Millvale. H.O.M.E. currently has twelve houses for sale. Many of these houses are in the process of being rented by perspective homebuyers while they work on overcoming the barriers to homeownership. Day to day, H.O.M.E. is working with families on an individual basis to find financing and become educated about what it means to be a homeowner as well as part of a community.

h.o.m.e. Inc.

Board of Directors

Tracey Hair - Exec. Dir. Bucksport	Lucy Poulin - Founder Orland
Rosa Moore - Assist. Dir. Orland	Denise Linscott, Staff Rep. Orland
Allen Snowman - Chairperson Bucksport	David Veilleux - Vice Chair Bucksport
Barbara Horgan - Secretary Bucksport	Dalores French-Treasurer Orland
Brad & Susie Craig Jefferson ME	Sharon Bray Orland
Michael Guare Bangor	Honorary: Helen Stummer Metuchen NJ

Wayside Chapel of St. Francis

Everyone is welcome to join us for services on Sunday at 10:30 AM. We are very thankful to have Pat Snyder as our organist.

Eucharistic Ministers: Sr. Lucy and Ralph. We miss Sr. Marie who led the services most of the time when Ralph was away.

We host AA meetings Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 12:30 PM.





Getting in the mood for the various holidays!





Christmas Wreaths and Centerpieces

Our wreath and centerpiece ordering information is available on our web page: www.homecoop.net.



Check out h.o.m.e. pictures in color and h.o.m.e. information, including these reports and our newsletter, *This Time*, on our web page at www.homecoop.net or www.homemmausa.org



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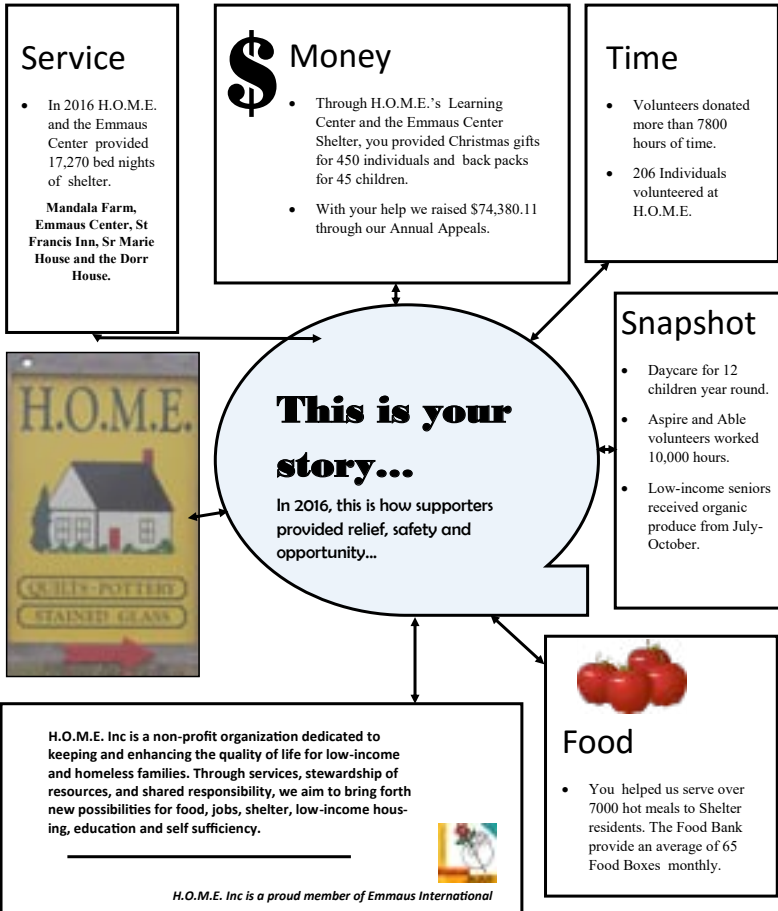
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WE CELEBRATE YOU!

Please do not discard this report!

Pass it on to someone else or return it to **h.o.m.e.** so we can hand it out again. We use them for publicity throughout the year.

Thank you.