



Winter 2025

NEWSLETTER



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Executive Director David Bethuram and Program Director Natalie Watson illustrate the way our lives touch one another.

UPDATES

Stories of how Becky's Place continues to change lives.

AROUND THE SHELTER

See what is happening at Becky's Place!

Dear Friends,

In a time when so many forces threaten to divide us, we are deeply grateful for the gift of faith. Dorothy Day, founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, understood this truth profoundly. She once said, “We cannot love God unless we love each other, and to love we must know each other.” Her words inspired countless “foot soldiers of mercy” to welcome others with open arms, recognizing Christ in every cold body, hungry mouth, and weary spirit they encountered.

This same mission lives on in our work at Becky’s Place every day. We are proud to share the stories captured in our winter newsletter. These stories bear witness to the unwavering dedication of our staff, who embody our mission daily.

They also reflect the incredible support of you—our partners and advocates—who join us in caring for anyone in need, regardless of faith, gender, race, or ethnicity. Together, you stand with us, invest in our mission, and walk and pray alongside us.

Even now, we are continually moved by the beauty we see each day. It shines in the stories of hope unfolding around us and in the generosity of our amazing volunteers and donors. Dorothy Day also reminded her supporters, “I beg you not to abandon each other... we are each one responsible, one for another.”

While the full impact of your contributions may never be measured in this life, please know that your partnership has brought life-changing hope to countless homeless women and children. Together, we continue to answer the call to serve.

In awe and gratitude,



David J. Bethuram

David J. Bethuram
Executive Director
Secretariat for Catholic Charities

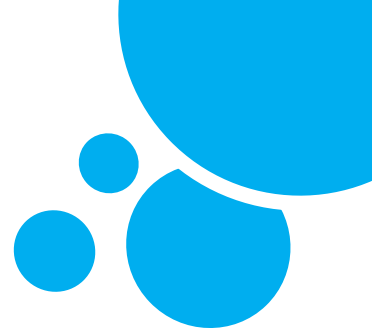


Natalie Watson

Natalie Watson
Program Director
Becky’s Place

MEREDITH'S JOURNEY:

A STORY OF HOPE AND RESILIENCE



When Meredith* arrived at Becky's Place, she carried the weight of uncertainty and separation. Having come to us from another shelter, she faced a language barrier, limited resources, and a deep longing to reunite with her family. Meredith's daughter lived in Indiana, but due to landlord restrictions, Meredith could not stay with her for more than two weeks without risking eviction for them both. The rest of her family lived in Florida, leaving her in a difficult situation compounded by medical issues.

During her time at Becky's Place, Meredith embraced every opportunity to improve her circumstances. She participated in budgeting workshops, found a part-time job, and used her bilingual skills to translate our materials from English to Spanish, greatly enhancing accessibility for other residents. Meanwhile, her case manager worked tirelessly to address the barriers to her reunification, ultimately gaining the landlord's approval for Meredith to live with her daughter without violating the lease agreement.

As Meredith prepared to transition to her daughter's home, we celebrated this milestone as a community. With plans in motion to reunite with her extended family in Florida, her story reflects the best possible outcome. Meredith's resilience, the skills she gained, and the connections she built at Becky's Place have set her on a path to a brighter future. Her journey is a powerful reminder of the importance of compassion, advocacy, and perseverance.

**Name changed for privacy*

RESIDENT UPDATE

We are currently serving 11 women and seven children. Nine women are employed and diligently saving money. The other three are actively job searching. We recently celebrated four residents and eight children moving out successfully into permanent housing.

Becky's Place continues to serve as an unofficial call center for our community, answering 2-3 calls every day from men, women, and families seeking resources for a myriad of challenges.



18 Residents
and seven children are at
Becky's Place



4 Families
have moved into
permanent housing



2-3 Calls
every day are fielded by
our team at Becky's Place

TURNING A HOUSE INTO A HOME:

A Resident's Inspiring Journey

At Becky's Place, we are constantly moved by the resilience and determination of the women who walk through our doors. Among them is a resident whose story exemplifies strength, hope, and the power of hard work.

When she arrived at Becky's Place, this remarkable woman had a dream—and a plan. She had found a rundown house that she could purchase on contract, offering her the chance to create a home of her own. Without hesitation, she committed herself to transforming the space, turning it into a safe and welcoming place to call home.

Despite the challenges, she embraced the opportunity with unrelenting energy and resolve. Working full-time and often taking overtime shifts, she spends every spare moment learning and making repairs to the house. With little experience, she has been teaching herself as she goes, tackling each project with determination and resourcefulness. Her dedication is truly inspiring. After long overnight shifts, she heads straight to her house to continue working, determined to see her dream become a reality. Her story is a testament to the power of perseverance and the human spirit's ability to overcome obstacles.

At Becky's Place, we are honored to support her journey and share in her triumphs. Stories like hers remind us why we do what we do—to provide a foundation of stability and encouragement for women striving to create a brighter future. Her hard work is a beacon of hope, inspiring everyone around her to believe in the power of dreams.





80'S DANCE PARTY

Saturday April 5th 2025

7:00 - 10:00 PM | ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SHAMROCK CENTER
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM

Each year, Becky's Place provides services to more than 100 homeless women and children designed to move them into sustainable living situations. Becky's Place is committed to providing shelter and creating hope for all in need. For more information visit BeckysPlaceBedford.org

PURCHASE TICKETS OR SPONSOR THE EVENT



JOIN US FOR OUR SHELTERBRATION FEATURING:

- Silent Auction
- 50/50 Raffle
- Best 80's Hair and Outfit Contests
- Live DJ - Pam Thrash
- Food by Agape Catering
- Caricature Artist

To donate an auction item,

CONTACT LYNNIE HUGHES

Email: events@ccbin.org Phone: 812-275-5773

Get ready to party for a purpose at the Becky's Place 80's Dance Party! Join us for a night of 80's music, food, fun, and entertainment to support homeless women and children in our community. Tickets are just \$35 per person, and the evening will feature a live DJ spinning your favorite 80's hits and a caricature artist to capture the memories. Don't miss this chance to dance the night away for a great cause!

Raffle License: 16486

BeckysPlaceBedford.org • Becky's Place 1108 5th Street Bedford, IN 47421 • events@ccbin.org

RUN FOR HOPE 5K RECAP

The 2024 Becky's Place Run for Hope 5K on Thanksgiving Day was another heartwarming success! More than 320 participants came together to run, walk, and support homeless women and children in Bedford. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and attendees, we were able to raise over \$21,000 for Becky's Place.

The crisp autumn morning was filled with community spirit, gratitude, and determination to make a difference. Families, friends, and volunteers cheered as runners crossed the finish line, symbolizing hope, and new beginnings for those in need. Thank you to everyone who made this event impactful — your generosity and compassion continue to change lives. Be sure to mark you calendars for next year's race, Thursday, November 27, 2025



23-24 ANNUAL REPORT

In case you missed it, be sure to review our full 2022-2023 Annual Report to see the impact we had on helping homeless women and children in our community. Scan the QR code or visit BeckysPlaceBedford.org to read the full report.



 Facebook: Becky's Place Bedford
www.BeckysPlaceBedford.org

AROUND THE SHELTER:



- Thanks to a generous grant, the entire downstairs of the shelter will be updated with new flooring from Axom's Flooring. This new flooring will help to provide a safe and warm place for our residents.
- Thanksgiving Dinner at Becky's Place was provided by the community and prepared by our residents. Several staff came by to enjoy the dinner with our residents. It was a good time of fellowship and the meal was delicious.
- Becky's Place continued our annual Christmas Program to ensure our residents and aftercare participants had a beautiful Christmas. A big "Thank You" to Melissa Shaw for coordinating this again, and for the Bedford community that sponsored and purchased gifts. Your support is greatly appreciated by the women and children.
- At the end of January, Becky's Place participated in the Point in Time (PIT) count, a crucial effort to assess the number of unhoused individuals in our county. This annual initiative provides valuable data to better understand homelessness in our community and inform resources and services to address it. In collaboration with the Men's Warming Shelter, our team worked to ensure the count is thorough and accurate, helping to shine a light on the challenges faced by those without stable housing. Together, we are committed to raising awareness and creating solutions for our neighbors in need.
- On February 9th, volunteers at Becky's Place hosted a heartwarming Galentine's Party for the shelter's residents, creating an evening filled with joy and community. The event is designed to celebrate friendship and support among the women. The volunteers' thoughtful planning and heartfelt efforts made the evening truly special, reminding the residents that they are valued and cared for during their time at Becky's Place.
- We are excited to welcome Lynnsie Hughes as our event coordinator. Lynnsie will assist with planning and promotion for the events that take place to support Becky's Place. Please give her a warm welcome.





Becky's Place
1108 5th St. • Bedford, IN 47421



Community Partner



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HOW YOU CAN HELP

Becky's Place Monthly Volunteer Meeting

If you would like more information about volunteer opportunities, please call the shelter at (812) 275-5773.

Leave a Legacy

Have you considered how a planned gift to Becky's Place can impact lives for years to come? Including Becky's Place in your will continues your ability to serve our mission of providing help and creating hope to those in need. To learn more about how you can plan a lasting gift through legacy planning, contact Jim Maslar at 317-236-1588 or jmaslar@archindy.org.

Donate Online

Did you know you can contribute to Becky's Place online? It's easy and secure. Visit beckysplacebedford.org. Donations can be set up as a monthly or one-time gift. Contact Cheri Bush for more information at cbush@archindy.org or 317-236-1411.

