

June 2025

# NEWSLETTER



## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Executive Director David Bethuram and Program Director Natalie Watson reflect on a ministry of love.

## UPDATES

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

## AROUND THE SHELTER

See what is happening at Becky's Place!

# Dear Friends of Becky's Place,

Our mission to serve the homeless women and children across Bedford is made possible through your steadfast support and generosity. Your commitment fills us with deep gratitude and renews our dedication to being the hands and feet of Jesus, reaching out to our neighbors in need.

Every day, we are humbled by the growing number of individuals and families who come to us for help— those facing job loss, soaring food costs, a lack of affordable housing, mental health struggles, or the challenges of trying to remain independent. Their stories of hope, resilience, and perseverance inspire us and strengthen our resolve.

We are especially proud of the lives we've helped transform. A young mother with three children, once facing homelessness, received not only basic necessities but also care, dignity, and a sense of worth during an incredibly difficult time. Another woman, previously in a vulnerable situation, now lives in a safe and stable home and has discovered renewed self-confidence.

These moments of transformation are only possible because of your support. We are truly grateful for your partnership in this sacred mission. Every gift—no matter the size—brings hope, healing, and compassion to those who need it most.

Thank you for being the strength behind Becky's Place. As the need for our services continues to grow, we are honored to walk this path of service with you, bringing light to those in darkness.

With heartfelt gratitude,



*David J. Bethuram*

**David J. Bethuram**  
Executive Director  
Secretariat for Catholic Charities



*Natalie Watson*

**Natalie Watson**  
Program Director  
Becky's Place



# VIRGINIA'S JOURNEY

## A Story of Determination and Growth

In April 2024, Virginia arrived at Becky's Place, unsure of what the future held. She had been staying on a friend's couch, but when that friend faced eviction, Virginia had nowhere else to turn. Her two daughters were temporarily living with their father while she tried to get back on her feet. Despite working at a fast-food restaurant, she struggled to make ends meet.



From the moment she stepped through our doors, Virginia was determined to change her circumstances. She worked closely with her case manager, setting goals for stability and independence. One of the biggest hurdles she faced was her financial situation—she had accumulated significant debt. At first, Virginia resisted budgeting help, convinced she could handle it on her own. But over time, she built trust with her case manager and took a leap of faith.

As she followed the plan, Virginia saw her debts shrink, and for the first time in a long time, she felt a sense of control over her future. She worked hard, secured a promotion at her job, and began saving money. Though finding housing was a challenge, Virginia never gave up. She remained persistent, eventually securing a small but affordable apartment—a stepping stone toward her ultimate goal of homeownership.

In January 2025, Virginia moved into her own place, a milestone that filled her with pride. But her journey with Becky's Place didn't end there. She continues to visit, participating in support groups and aftercare gatherings, always eager to encourage others facing similar challenges.

Virginia's story is one of perseverance, growth, and unwavering determination. We are incredibly proud of her achievements and can't wait to see what she accomplishes next.

## RESIDENT UPDATE

We are currently serving 12 women and eight children. Eight women are employed and diligently saving money. The other four are actively job searching.

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

# A GRANDMOTHER'S STRENGTH:



## Margaret & James' Journey

In early January, Margaret\* and her grandson, James\*, arrived at Becky's Place, seeking stability and a fresh start. Margaret, a resilient and resourceful woman on disability with a limited income, had recently timed out of another program. Despite her challenges, she remained determined to find permanent housing and provide a stable home for James, a respectful and kind-hearted teenager.

From the moment they arrived, Margaret's warmth and generosity touched everyone around her. She was incredibly knowledgeable about available resources and never hesitated to share information with staff and other residents. She took care of her housemates as if they were family, often cooking meals for everyone and creating a sense of home within the shelter. James, following his grandmother's example, was always eager to help—whether it was assisting with chores or simply offering a kind word to those who needed it.

Margaret never lost sight of her goal. With determination and the support of her case manager, she tirelessly searched for housing that would be both affordable and comfortable for her and James. Her persistence paid off. In late February, they secured a wonderful apartment that suited their needs perfectly.

Though their time at Becky's Place was short, their impact was lasting. Margaret's kindness and wisdom uplifted those around her, and James left an impression with his maturity and generosity. We are incredibly proud of them both and thrilled to see them move forward into their new home. Their story is a testament to the power of perseverance, community, and the unbreakable bond of family.

\*Names changed for privacy

# A Totally Awesome Night



## 80's Dance Party Raises Over \$35,000 for Becky's Place

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 80's Dance Party in April such a fun and meaningful event! More than 250 supporters came together for a night full of big hair, bright colors, and incredible dancing—all in support of a great cause.

The energy was electric as guests hit the dance floor to relive their favorite hits from the 1980s. Laughter, neon outfits, and heartwarming generosity filled the room. It was truly a night to remember!

Thanks to the incredible support from our sponsors and attendees, we are thrilled to share that the event raised more than \$35,000. These funds directly support the homeless women and children who rely on Becky's Place for shelter, safety, and hope.

Your participation and kindness continue to make a difference in the lives of those we serve. From all of us at Becky's Place—thank you for joining us, for dancing with us, and for standing with us. We hope you can join us next year on Saturday, April 11 at the Shamrock Center.

## Join Us for the Becky's Place Sleep Out, Speak Out. Stand in Solidarity with Women and Children Experiencing Homelessness.

Each night, dozens of women and children in our community go without a safe place to sleep. At Becky's Place, we work every day to provide shelter, support, and a path forward—but we can't do it alone.

We invite you to join us in the Becky's Place Community Sleep Out, a powerful overnight event where individuals, families, youth groups, and community members come together to raise awareness and funds for the homeless women and children we serve. By choosing to sleep outside for one night, you'll help shine a light on the challenges of homelessness and raise critical support for our shelter.

**Date: August 1, 2025.** Stay tuned to our Facebook page for more information at a later date.

Whether you join us in person or participate from your own backyard, your involvement will make a difference. Together, we can bring hope and healing to those who need it most.



# AROUND THE SHELTER



- There are currently several support groups and self-help meetings taking place at the shelter. Volunteers offer Bible Study, GED Prep/Tutoring, SMART Recovery, application/interview assistance for our residents. A special events volunteer helps residents by providing meals, games and babysitting for holidays and birthdays.
- The basement of the shelter is filled with goodies for residents. Residents are able to “shop” in the basement for clothing, diapers, hygiene items, shoes, blankets, and jewelry. When a resident is ready to move out, they can find household items like dishes, decor, towels, etc. to help fill their new homes. All of the items are donated from individuals, businesses, and other agencies in the community.
- Coca-Cola provided us with \$1,000 for repairs around the shelter. This will be used to replace a nonworking part on our front door.
- A heartfelt thank you to Ryan Grice for stepping up to help with our bicycles. After reading about our need, he jumped in and has been working hard to get them back in shape—several are now rideable and ready for the kids at the shelter to enjoy. We’re so grateful for community members like Ryan who make a real difference in the lives of the women and children at Becky’s Place.
- We’re honored to have been recognized as the Bedford Chamber’s April Featured Non-Profit Member! This recognition highlights the work we do to support women and children experiencing homelessness in our community. Their interview with Ginny Fullen about the work of Becky’s Place can be found on their Facebook page. Thank you to the Bedford Chamber for shining a light on our mission and the families we serve.

# RUN FOR HOPE

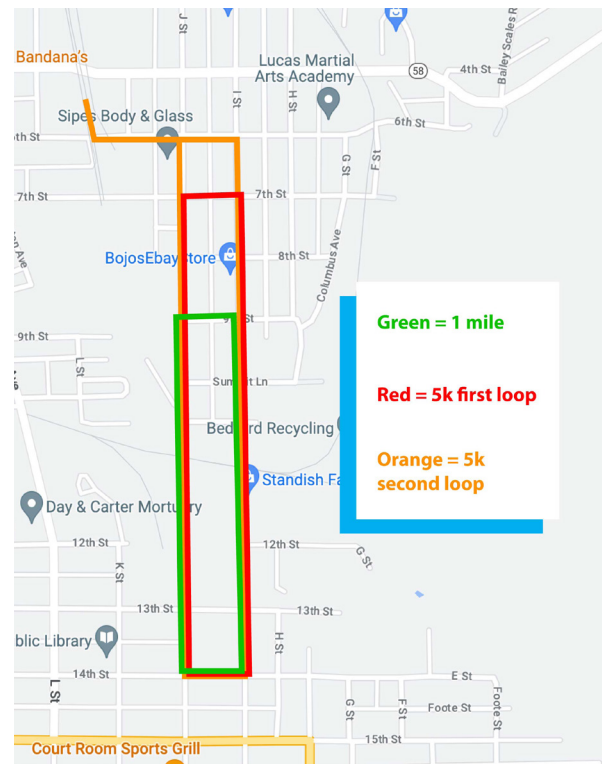
Join us for the annual Becky's Place Run for Hope 5k. All ages and fitness levels are welcome! The race will start and finish in Downtown Bedford at the Downtown Depot. All participants will travel through the downtown.

Enjoy a festive atmosphere with music, friends, family, and snacks before and after the race at the start/finish line and during your time on the course. Race time is limited to 1 1/2 hours. This is a chance to test your fitness, enjoy a race experience, and help to support Becky's Place.

More information about race registration will be available in the coming months..



**Thanksgiving Day  
Thursday, November 27, 2025  
Downtown Bedford - The Depot  
Starting at 9:00am**



**Facebook: Becky's Place Bedford**  
**[www.BeckysPlaceBedford.org](http://www.BeckysPlaceBedford.org)**



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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 86  
Terre Haute, IN



Community Partner



*Working to Reduce Poverty in America*



ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS

## 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 us 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](mailto:jmaslar@archindy.org).

### **Donate Online**

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