



SEEDS OF HOPE

2015 Annual Campaign

"The Ripple Effect"



Dear Friends,

Each year in April, we kick off our Annual Campaign to ask for your financial support to help cover the operating expenses of Seeds of Hope. For 2015, the monthly cost to operate our program is \$21,500 (or \$1,416 per resident per month). Each resident is required to pay monthly program fees of \$420 (once she gets a full-time job, which is a requirement of the program).

We have to raise the other \$996 per woman per month.

As a Board, we have given great thought and prayer to this year's Annual Campaign. We realize that everyone is experiencing hard times with jobs, the economy, and much more. You have all been so incredible to this organization, and we cannot express our gratitude enough...it is beyond measure. That's how we came up with "The Ripple Effect" as the theme of this year's campaign.

Our "Ripple Effect" theme is two-fold. On the one hand, it reflects what your support means for our ladies. Their "second chances" at life also mean second chances for their children, families, and even society. For instance, read the profile of Kevin, a grateful husband on the backside of this letter. More than 10 years ago, before seeking help from Seeds of Hope, his family had been ripped apart by addiction. He was sure he was facing divorce, and was heart-broken that his children would never really know the true heart of their mother, even if she survived. Then came Seeds of Hope – and the ripple effect continues to this day.

The second-fold purpose of this theme is to reinforce that every little bit helps. Even small donations, volunteer efforts, donations to the thrift store, and prayers have a huge effect on Seeds of Hope – and create a ripple effect in allowing our organization to continue to help women (especially indigent women) who come to our home.

"No act of kindness is too small. The gift of kindness may start as a small ripple that, over time, can turn into a tidal wave – affecting the lives of many." (Author Unknown)

Even small amounts can add up and make such live-changing (and even life-saving) differences for our ladies. For example, **\$33 would cover the cost of a resident for a day.** That means three hot and nutritious meals, a bus pass to look for a job or go to work, personal supplies, program supplies, a ride to an AA meeting, a warm and safe place to sleep, and staff and other residents who offer support. **\$249 could cover a resident for a whole week!**

When it comes to showing you what a difference your support makes, the real-life stories say it best. So as you consider making a (tax-deductible) contribution, we hope that Kevin's story (over) will help you see what a ripple effect your investment can have! And PLEASE accept our most sincere gratitude for all you have done for Seeds of Hope – and the 515 women whom you have helped! Thanks for your continued support of Seeds of Hope...where a life of addiction ends and a life of hope begins.

Marveta Grimes-Cooperwood
Executive Director

Fr. Glenn O'Connor
Board President

Seeds of Hope, Inc. is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization.

1425 S. Mickley Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46241

(317) 244-0203

www.seedsofhopeindy.org

PROFILE:

Kevin, a grateful husband

My family and I will be forever grateful to the people at Seeds of Hope. For years, my wife Bev had struggled with addiction. Our lives, as well as the lives of our two children, had been reduced (by drugs) to moving from crisis to crisis, with Bev moving from job to job (she's a cancer nurse) and more than one brush with the law. Cars were crashed, legal and medical costs mounted, and relationships were severely frayed. We all rode a roller coaster of emotions as Bev endured the highs and lows of constantly seeking and using drugs.

Finally, after an especially brazen (some would call it insane) attempt to re-supply herself with pills – during which she was caught and arrested – she agreed to check into a rehab program in Cleveland, OH. She spent seven weeks in the hospital, making great strides. Her doctor, however, felt that she needed to spend another six months in a halfway house to allow her to concentrate on healing herself, rather than going home and worrying about trying to run a household. It also would allow us, her family, to have a prolonged period of adjustment to her being gone, and to get used to the idea that she may not be able to come back home to us.

During Bev's stay at Seeds of Hope, we could see the effects of their structure and discipline. Bev had always acted as though she could handle her drug problem her way, on her time. The program at Seeds of Hope took that option away and showed us that the only way she was going to complete it was to surrender to it. We learned that if she did what she was told to do, she could stay clean. Constant supervision and reinforcement from the staff at Seeds of Hope helped keep Bev working hard at her recovery, and reinforced a determined attitude that has kept her clean for more than ten years.

We are now a happy family, living one day at a time, and Seeds of Hope played a big part in helping us get there. As a result, we recently celebrated our 25-year wedding anniversary. Our 24 year-old daughter graduated from college a few years ago, and is a well-grounded, kind, and confident woman. Our 22 year-old son graduated college last May and has a good job. He continues to help out at Seeds of Hope fundraising events, as well as other service activities. Both our kids are especially close to their mother – and extremely grateful that they did not lose her – or their family – so many years ago.

And my wife? Bev has been a staff member at Seeds of Hope for 10 years. When she tells the residents that she understands and has “been there”...she really has been there, literally. She serves as a real-life example that the program can work and can open doors for second chances. And it can have a ripple effect: their recovery can not only save their lives, but also those of their husbands, children, family.

Kevin
A Grateful Husband