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SHELTERING WINGS LAUNCHES A DAY OF KINDNESS: “PAY IT FORWARD” ON JANUARY 12

Danville, IN, January 6 – Join a celebration of community kindness in the New Year. For nearly fifteen years, we have been changing and saving the lives of women and children at Sheltering Wings, a domestic violence shelter serving Hendricks County and surrounding areas. But we could not have had that impact alone. Sheltering Wings has been carried on the wings of community compassion and giving through the years, often through ‘random acts of kindness.’

We want to celebrate that spirit of giving across Central Indiana on our 15th anniversary. As a way of thanking our community for its support, Sheltering Wings is encouraging people to “Pay it Forward” on January 12, the day we first opened our doors in 2002, by performing random acts of kindness for others. “Even small acts like complimenting a stranger or holding the door open for someone can have a big impact,” explains Executive Director Cassie Martin. “There are so many ways to share our blessings with others.”

So, what happens when communities spread kindness? They help transform lives. Since Sheltering Wings welcomed its first resident on January 12, 2002, the shelter has housed more than 1,600 women and 1,800 children. “Providing safe housing is only one part of our mission,” Martin notes. “In that time, we’ve also handled more than 16,000 crisis calls and educated more than 200,000 people in the community about domestic violence and what they can do to help us protect people.”

Besides providing safe housing for victims of domestic violence, Sheltering Wings helps women prepare to return to safe, abuse-free lives. “We’ve helped women receive high school equivalency diplomas, find jobs, save for a home, work through anger and grief, create a safety plan, learn how to create and maintain a budget, become more effective parents, secure transportation, learn about Christ, and find hope and healing,” says Martin. “We’ve been a

listening ear, a guide in the midst of troubling times, a shoulder to cry on, a safe place to vent, and their biggest cheerleaders.”

Sheltering Wings will be delivering treats to local middle- and high-schools, expressing appreciation for their partnership in their teen dating violence program. The day’s celebrations are sponsored by Hendricks Regional Health.

Martin asks people who perform an act of kindness on January 12 to include a copy of the Pay It Forward flyer that’s available at ShelteringWings.org. It’s a way to commemorate this special day. “We think this is a great way to remind others that our world is full of kindness and generosity,” she says.

Sheltering Wings also has compelling personal stories of the impact of community kindness on the women and children we serve. Contact us if you have interest in interviews. For more information about Sheltering Wings and what it does to serve victims of domestic violence, visit shelteringwings.org.

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Sheltering Wings provides emergency housing for women and children suffering from any form of domestic abuse. We build stable and independent lives through essential programs offered in a supportive and Christ-centered environment. Our four primary programs are: Crisis /Emergency Intervention, Case Management, Children’s Services and Education

For more information visit: www.ShelteringWings.org