

**Presbyterian Women Synod of the Trinity  
2020 Mission Project**

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**THE LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION  
“Transitional Housing Program”**

The mission of The Lighthouse Foundation is encouraging others to find hope in Christ by meeting their immediate needs and empowering them towards self-sufficiency. The Lighthouse Foundation takes a holistic approach to helping people in poverty by identifying and meeting their physical, spiritual, mental, emotional, vocational and financial needs. Since 1985 The Lighthouse Foundation has been committed to serving the needs of individuals and families in Allegheny and Butler counties. It began as an outreach ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown eventually becoming its own 501©(3) non-profit organization.

The Lighthouse Foundation’s Transitional Housing Program was developed and structured to help homeless or near homeless women and children receive safe and reliable housing while they take the necessary steps to stabilize and improve other aspects of their lives. During the course of the program they are helped to set achievable goals and provide the support and resources to help them reach those goals. Included are educational programs such as Faith & Finances, Jobs for Life, and parenting classes, all to help build a strong foundation for self- determination and self-sufficiency with the goal of avoiding further occurrences of homelessness.

Receiving this funding from Presbyterian Women would be used to continue to sponsor a number of women and their children’s stays in transitional housing through the general Transitional Housing budget. It costs \$5,100 to house a family for 18 months of transitional housing. Two of the transitional housing options, Blanchard and Kaufman Drive, focus specifically on young women and families with children by assisting them in setting and accomplishing goals and outfitting them with basic necessities such as linens, housewares, clothing and toiletries. While in the program, residents are required, if possible, to pay a monthly program fee which allows them to get accustomed to paying a bill regularly and on time. When the resident graduates the program they receive half of their total program fees paid back to them to use towards a security deposit for permanent housing. The Transitional Housing program is exploring an added benefit of transitional housing that includes a mental health focus programming. The goal is to provide one on one care to transitional housing residents who combat mental health and/or addiction issues. It’s been long proven that homelessness and mental health go hand in hand.

While The Lighthouse Foundation is a outreach ministry founded on the teachings of Jesus Christ, its services and programs are open to all people regardless of their religious beliefs.

*PW Synod has changed the date to collecting this offering to Dec. 2020.*

*This offering will be donated at the Redstone Fall Gathering on Nov.7, 2020 at the Pleasant View, Smock church. Please make checks payable to Redstone PW. If mailing your check, send it to Sue Blank, 4058 Bushy Run Road, Jeannette, PA 15644.*