

Opening Doors
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For Immediate Release

New Manager for “Doorways to Hope” Program

DUBUQUE (October 12, 2016) – Opening Doors is pleased to announce the addition of Kathy Flynn in the position of “Doorways to Hope” Manager. Kathy previously worked as an overnight advocate at Sojourner Truth House/Sojourner Family Peace Center, a domestic violence shelter for women and children in Milwaukee.

Partially funded by a City of Dubuque Purchase of Service, the United Way of Dubuque Area Tri-States and a Wahlert Foundation grant, “Doorways to Hope” is a new Opening Doors social enterprise and job training program that Kathy will oversee. This multi-faceted program will provide both an education component and hands-on work experience to help our residents gain the self-confidence and skills necessary for employment and self-sufficiency. The curriculum offered will target both the soft and hard skills necessary to employment, including resume writing and interviewing. The program participants will also produce cookies and cocoas in jars that will be sold to the community as a revenue source to fund programs for Opening Doors. We plan to expand the product line over the next two years.

Opening Doors is the nonprofit organization that operates Maria House and Teresa Shelter. Homeless women, alone or with children, come to us to help rebuild their lives. We provide goal setting and life skills training that will enable them to take care of themselves and achieve their full potential. Women are dependent when they come in...independent when they leave. Since 2000, Maria House has provided transitional housing, where residents can stay for as long as two years. In 2006, we opened Teresa Shelter. It offers the same transitional housing, as well as short-term emergency shelter services.

For more information, please contact Michelle Brown at 563-582-7480.

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