



Life Saver Ministries  
83 Middlesex Street  
N. Chelmsford, MA 01863  
(978) 251-8191

June/July 2017

Dear Life Savers,

I've waited years for this, and finally it has come to pass. I'm one of those people who doesn't like to throw things away. I'm not talking about trash. I'm talking about things I may need "someday." If I have an odd screw or bolt, it goes into the screw and bolt jar. Leftover pieces of wood from a renovation project go onto the lumber pile. You never know when I might need a pulley or a piece of angle iron, so those kind of things find a place in my somewhat cramped basement – OK, very cramped basement.

I wouldn't say I'm a hoarder, although Cathie might, I just don't like to throw out things I might find a use for down the road.

Anyway, here's what I have been waiting for. I'll keep it short, because I have a story from one of our graduates to share with you, and it's more interesting than my story.

A number of years ago, I had an above ground swimming pool in my back yard. I built a deck around part of it. The deck had a gate, so kids couldn't get on the deck and jump or fall into the pool. It was a very nice gate. It had self-closing hinges and a self-locking clasp. It served its purpose very well.

One night, the pool was struck by lightning and burst. I know, I'd never heard of such a thing, either. The pool was a total loss, and, since my kids were older and hardly used the pool anymore, I decided not to replace it.

The deck was unharmed by the lightning, so I squared off the section that surrounded part of the pool and, with the help of a bunch of friends, family members, and neighbors, picked the deck up and moved it against the house.

We didn't really need the gate, anymore, and it was kind of a pain to open it every time we got on or off the deck, so I took it off and put it under the deck. Cathie wanted me to throw the gate away. Her reasoning was that kids couldn't jump or fall off the deck anymore, because it was against the house. I wanted to save it, because, as I mentioned, it was a very nice gate, and you never know when you might need a gate. After a period of time, Cathie won out, and I reluctantly brought the gate to the dump.

Fast forward to present day. We now have grandchildren. Ashley, age 1½, likes to play on the deck. The deck has stairs that she could fall down and get hurt. The deck has no gate. Here's the part I've been waiting years for. Cathie said, "Gee, it's too bad we don't still have the gate for the deck."

Yesterday, I built a new gate, smiling the entire time.

Here's Jackie's story.

*My name is Jackie. I was 19 when I gave birth to my son Cameron. When Cam was 2 months old, I was a single parent and had been thrown out of my house. I had absolutely no idea how to be a parent, or even if that was a role I could really handle.*

*I began looking into adoption. Deep down, that wasn't the road I wanted to take, but I felt like the walls were closing in. It was through the adoption agency that I heard about My Father's House.*

*I was told it was a home where young women and their children could go, when they had nowhere else. I looked into it and decided I would give it a try, seeing as I would do anything to be the parent my son needed. It was the best decision I ever made.*

*Thanks to My Father's House, my son spent the first few years of his life growing up in a stable environment, with a compassionate and loving staff that we both learned to consider family. I also grew so much, not only learning how to be a mom, but how to be a responsible adult and role model for my child, as well.*

*Now at age 24, and Cameron 4, we successfully live on our own, and have for 2 years. He is in preschool, and I work full time. I also just completed my second year of nursing school,*

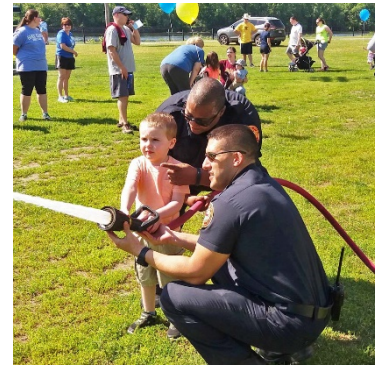
and have been accepted into the final stage of the nursing program for January. So, a little over a year from January, I'll have my RN.

We have come such a long way in becoming a stable, successful, and happy family. All of this was possible thanks to the help, love, and unconditional support from the people at My Father's House. Cameron and I will be forever grateful.

Your support of My Father's House is what makes stories like Jackie and Cam's possible (that's Cam spraying the fire hose in the picture, below, by the way), stories of young lives being changed and of young women preparing to tackle the challenges of raising children on their own. Because of your generosity, so many other young mothers can say, "I also grew so much, not only learning how to be a mom, but how to be a responsible adult and role model for my child, as well." Thank you.



Pies in the Face and Fire Hoses  
A Good Time was Had by All at  
**Walk the Walk for Homeless Children**  
Thank You to the Lowell Fire Department,  
Everyone who Came, Everyone who Helped,  
and Everyone who Sponsored a Walker.



### Painters Needed

No, not this kind of painters. We need a few detail oriented people to paint the porch railings and some exterior trim at My Father's House.

If you can help, please email me at  
kcoffey@mfhouse.net.



YAY!! We are honored and thrilled to have been chosen from a field of 549 non-profit organizations to receive a \$100,000 grant from the Cummings Foundation's "\$100K for 100" program. We just received our first check of \$33,333 and will receive 2 more over the next 2 years.

THANK YOU, CUMMINGS FOUNDATION

The grant from the Cummings Foundation is a wonderful blessing. As I said, we are honored and thrilled to receive it. It is a big help for this year and will be for the next 2 years, but it doesn't mean we don't still need *your* help.

It costs about \$31,000 per month to provide "a stable environment, with a compassionate and loving staff" so that young families like Jackie and Cam can "come such a long way in becoming a stable, successful, and happy family." We have had deficits of around \$10,000 for the last 2 years. Right now, we are behind for this year by \$2,500, even *with* the Cummings Foundation grant.

I'm not trying to be pessimistic. I'm just trying to put things in perspective. Through generous people like you, and churches and foundations, God has provided for this ministry for 30 years. I have faith he will continue to do so.

Thank you for doing your part.

In His service,

*Kevin*

Kevin Coffey