



For information about Housing for New Hope's programs and housing, visit [www.housingfornewhope.org](http://www.housingfornewhope.org) or call (919) 489-6282.

## Homeless Prevention and Presbyterian Urban Ministry

*Central to ending homelessness is preventing individuals and families from becoming homeless. For twenty years, Presbyterian Urban Ministry (PUM) has provided emotional and financial support to countless families with children, disabled adults, and seniors who, due to unforeseen circumstances and economic challenges, have been on the brink of losing their homes. In 2001, PUM became a part of Housing for New Hope. Over the past twelve months alone, 631 households were aided with emergency assistance totaling \$113,904 to help pay for rent, utilities, and prescription medicine.*

*Preventing homelessness is a community-wide effort. Housing for New Hope is joined in its work by many public and private agencies, congregations, and individuals to try to ensure that those in crisis receive the support and resources they need to maintain their homes. We asked a school counselor and a social worker to share their experiences with PUM.*

## Please Join Us for Breakfast

Now in its fifth year, Housing for New Hope's inspirational breakfast is an opportunity to acknowledge achievement, recognize the work that lies ahead, introduce the organization to new audiences, and raise money for a very important cause.

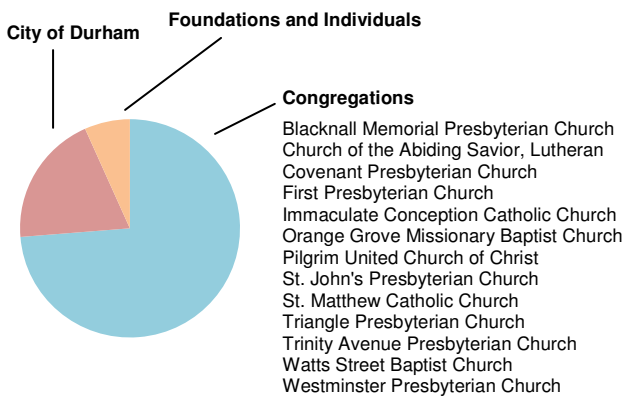
Last year's breakfast was attended by 330 individuals, who donated and pledged more than \$100,000 to help prevent and end homelessness in our community.

**The one-hour breakfast is free of charge and will take place Friday, July 18, at 7:45 a.m. at the Washington Duke Inn & Golf Club in Durham.**

For more information and to reserve a seat, please contact Eric Breit at (919) 724-0578 or [eric@housingfornewhope.org](mailto:eric@housingfornewhope.org).

## PUM Supporters

The work of Housing for New Hope's Presbyterian Urban Ministry program would not be possible without the many designated gifts from its supporters.



## A Daughter's Gratitude

 by Anonymous

As a professional who has helped people in the Durham community for ten years, I have never collaborated with an agency that consistently shows compassion, sincerity, and warmth like the employees of Presbyterian Urban Ministry. They have not only gone over and beyond for my clients in my professional life, but they have also reached out and helped in my personal life.

My mother was financially strapped and in the process of losing her home, which caused her physical health to decline in front of my eyes. I reached out to Ms. Cynthia and Ms. Dot, as I like to call them, and without hesitation they provided financial assistance to make sure my mother kept her home.

Words cannot express how the employees of PUM have touched my heart. They have and will continue to be my anchor and lifesaver in my professional and personal life. PUM is an extraordinary program that has touch thousands of lives in the Durham community.

*Anonymous is a social worker in Durham.*

## A Counselor's Appreciation

 by Janet Zarea

Southern High School has the great fortune to have two families be the recipients of financial goodwill through Presbyterian Urban Ministry. On both occasions, all resources in the community were exhausted. When all else fails, where else is there to turn?

One family needed money to prevent them from becoming homeless. Both parents were looking for work. They had a troubled teen in my school and a young boy in elementary school. PUM was able to get them financially on their feet. Soon after this, the family found employment, they began renting a house in a better neighborhood, the teen is obtaining his GED, and the mom is working. I don't think I

have seen anyone more appreciative than that family.

In another case, a well-educated mother with two emotionally disturbed teenagers lacked the funds to pay her utilities. While the mother was looking for work, PUM was able to help "shake the trees and clean out the couch cushions" to find enough to help this person pay her bills. This began a chain of good luck events—employment, school attendance, positive family attitude—all because two wonderful people at PUM took the time to open the door and listen.

*Janet Zarea is a social worker and member of the Child Family Support Team at Southern High School in Durham.*