

More Ways to Help



To transition guests from the current women and children's shelter to the new property by the end of the summer, many changes to the house must happen quickly. Every second counts!

In addition to the budget for renovating the shelter, Open Door is currently in need of funding for the following items:

- Induction Oven - \$11,000
- Lawn Mowers - \$5,000
- Shed - \$2,000
- Large Gas Grill - \$1,000
- Bike Rack - \$600
- Bunn Coffee Maker- \$500



Volunteers are also still needed for largescale tasks like painting and landscaping. From youth group outings to corporate volunteer days, there's a place for you to serve your neighbors with the Open Door this summer.

If you or your team is interested in volunteering or raising funds for the shelter expansion project, please call the office at 989.835.2291, or scan the QR code to learn more.



Learn More

Save the Date!

It's official: mark your calendars today and make plans to join us on Tuesday, November 14, for Dine on the Door 2023.

Each November, we gather as a community to celebrate the lives changed through the ministry of the Open Door. Join us in celebrating with this year's honorary chairs, the team behind Grove Tea Lounge: Patrick and Shannon McElgunn, and Joe and Erin Rivard.

For more information, call the office at 989.835.2291 or visit the Open Door website at <https://www.midlandopendoor.org/-fundraiser>.

DINE ON THE DOOR

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www.midlandopendoor.org



Find Us Online



Amazon Wishlist

1. Mail enclosed envelope to:
PO Box 1614
Midland, MI 48641
2. Visit: [midlandopendoor.org/donate](https://www.midlandopendoor.org/donate)
3. Call: 989.835.2291

How to Give

In 2022 Open Door only met
60%
of the shelter needs for homeless
women and children in Midland
County due to space constraints.

Know the Need

Bulletin Board



Midland's Open Door

Summer 2023

Making Room

In many ways, Lyric is your typical six-year-old.

You'll see her zigzagging across the sidewalk on her bike, sitting atop the playscape "mining" rocks she just collected from the driveway or sitting at the table with a pile of colored pencils and a stack of paper as she practices drawing sheep.

However, in other ways, Lyric isn't your typical six-year-old: she's spent the past four months, along with her mom and two older siblings, living at the women and children's shelter at the Open Door.

But Lyric doesn't think that should make you sad. In her time at the shelter, she's made new friends and she's learned about Jesus. She's watched her mom face challenges that have led to greater endurance and deeper character, and she's seen God's faithfulness in answering prayers in desperate situations.

**"Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."
- Romans 5:5**

Lyric understands there's a hope that does not disappoint. And, on difficult days, she becomes a testimony to that hope for the other women and children around her.

Just a few weeks ago, Lyric's mom found a house for her family after months of searching. Though Lyric misses her friends and the community at the Open Door, she's excited about her new home and the unicorn poster hanging on her bedroom wall.

Because of friends like you, Lyric and her family received more than beds to sleep in or meals to eat; they found hope for the future. That hope is needed now more than ever: this year, Open Door purchased a property on Carpenter Street to serve as the new women and children's center.

The expanded shelter will double the amount of bed space for homeless women and children in Midland County, but time is running out to make the house move-in ready before school starts. You can be part of the solution for women and children just like Lyric by partnering with the Open Door. You can give a hope that does not disappoint.



Making a Difference



Because of neighbors like you, Open Door can work around the clock to meet the needs of the homeless, hungry and hurting in our community.

Over the past nine years, Open Door has pursued creative outreach solutions to remedy these issues. For example, launching the Family Support Program in 2017 with the help of area churches has successfully transitioned 8 local families, including 15 children, into long-term stability and interdependent community.

But despite improved outcomes and the addition of the Family Support Program, the Open Door continued to only meet 60% of the needs for homeless women and children in Midland County due to space constraints.

As this community continues to face a compounded loss of affordable housing following the 2020 flood, the need for shelter in our area is only expected to grow in the coming months.

Will you consider how you can partner with us to make more room for the vulnerable in our community?

Current Shelter

18 beds, emergency capacity for 22



Limited public transportation



Family capacity for mom and four children



New Location

32 beds, emergency capacity for 36



Safer transportation via Dial-A-Ride, bicycles, and on foot



Family capacity for mom and six children



Fundraising Goal

\$240,000 Still Needed

60%
Funded

From the Executive Director



It was September when Kelli first called us. Four children and pregnant with another, she was being evicted from her apartment and had nowhere to turn. Our shelter was full and so was every other shelter in Mid-Michigan. Kelli ended up splitting up her children among a family member and an old friend while she and her younger two bounced from couch to couch.

We checked in with her almost daily, and then in early November a spot opened in the shelter, allowing Kelli and her children to be reunited under one roof.

At the same time that Kelli and her children were adjusting to being back together again, we were approached by Reece Endeavor about purchasing the Carpenter Street property. I immediately thought of Kelli and her kids and their two-month wait for shelter.

We've shared this burden with you over the years, asking you to join us in prayer as we've struggled to meet the needs of our guests due to limited space. Today, I'm excited to share with you that God has answered your prayers, blessing us with this new home just a few blocks from Open Door's main campus on Buttles Street.

Please join us in thanking God for His blessing and please continue to pray with us as we make the necessary renovations needed to move the women and children to this new property by the end of the summer.

There are many ways you can partner with us to prepare this new home for our neighbors in need. Will you make a one-time gift toward the shelter expansion project, above and beyond your regular giving?

Peace,



The Road to Carpenter Street

Open Door transitions the women and children's shelter from 409 Indian St to a new, expanded location in Homer Township with a capacity of 12 beds.

2004

Open Door begins tracking shelter calls to determine local need. The first floor living room is renovated into a second family bedroom and spaces are reconfigured to accommodate additional beds, increasing shelter capacity from 12 beds to 18.

2015

Open Door launches the Family Support Program, partnering single-parent families with a team of volunteers from local churches to move families out of shelter and into independent housing, making room for more families.

2017

In order to continue working toward homelessness prevention, Open Door hires its first outreach case manager, leading to the formation of a formal Outreach team.

2019

Open Door works to keep up with two major economic downturns: the global pandemic and the disastrous local flooding. A statewide eviction moratorium keeps individuals at risk of homelessness in a holding pattern.

2020

State funding for eviction prevention expires as Open Door's shelter demand increases, surpassing pre-pandemic levels.

2022