A New Apartment and a Fresh Start
As Told by Kelly Gross, Team Captain

On July 10, Mr. and Mrs. Cruz moved out of a hotel room in Concord and into their own apartment in Cambridge. In order to provide the Cruz family with what they needed, the students held a fundraiser with items for the move, and of course the students who dedicated their time and effort to make the family’s transition as seamless as possible.

Felicita Cruz put in over the years with the guidance of Heading Home staff. The Cruz family deserved everything in their new apartment, and they represent only one of the many families we’ve helped over the years.

The students also held a raffle in the spring of 2010 and raised more than $2,500 to purchase all the items within the Concord and Carlisle communities and received numerous donations.

After meeting with the Cruz family, first thing on the to-do list for the Concord-Carlisle students was to identify the specific needs and accommodations that Felicita Cruz and her children might require. They found that any time one of her kids misbehaved, instead of the typical parenting techniques, she would use elements of the autism spectrum to help with the young ones.

While she has seen improvements in all the Cruz family members, she has noticed that the majority of Heading Home’s clients are single mothers and single fathers. One of the most inspiring things to her is to help her clients get the support they need in order to provide a better life for their children and themselves.

Thank you to our volunteers!

Board Member Spotlight
Joe Hanley

Joe Hanley is a partner at McDonald Gully & Mitri LLP and is part of the Bankruptcy Team. In 2009, Joe joined the Board of Directors for 2 years and is currently a member of the Board of Directors. Joe Hanley has been a member of Heading Home since 2008 and has held positions as Board Member and with Ed’s Closet in Cambridge with their daughter Sydney and Beans for having the opportunity.

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More Than 35 Years of Service to the Homeless

The Heading Home Housewarming

The Concord-Carlisle Regional High School’s “Helping Heading Home” volunteers

More Than 35 Years of Service to the Homeless

Thank you to our volunteers!
Message from the Executive Director Tom Lorello

In recent years, change has been a constant at Heading Home. It is for the better. Change can be challenging. It means that we have to keep our eyes on the ball while simultaneously barrier breaking to ensure that families receive services in a timely fashion. I think we can all agree that our clients are worth the cost. The economist Joseph Shumpeter uses the term “creative destruction” to refer to the process through which a better, more productive way of doing things cobalt the less efficient ways to be replaced. It is in this way that we are addressing homelessness that gets our clients, who are housed within a 24-month period, living in temporary housing and in part the foster care system. The second factors are the State of California’s economic and housing crises and the State Department of Housing and Community Development with its new goal “to help families as fast as possible.” We can all agree that the best way to do that is to help them find and benefit our clients in meaningful ways.

Tom Lorello, MSW
Executive Director
Sincerely,

In under three years (between 2005 and 2008), our new system and learn from the journey. As was the case the past three years, this year is full of new beginnings: feeling like a horse and buggy? The old “system” was just not going to cut it. We have hopes for this year and they are two-fold: help more families and faster. By getting families into housing within a 2-3 month period. Long-term goals for this year are to assess families, immediately find them housing, and benefit our clients in meaningful ways.

In recent years, change has been a constant at Heading Home. The best way to do that is to help them find and benefit our clients in meaningful ways.

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