



# SARANAM

Central's Family Transitions Assistance  
ANNUAL REPORT ~ 2007

## CORE VALUES

As a family of faith working to end homelessness in families, we demonstrate these core values in our words and in our deeds.

### RESPECT

We are inspired with a sense of grace, love and compassion, thus we honor each other as diverse, unique, and worthy individuals.

### TRANSFORMATION

We seek to provide opportunities for comprehensive change both in outer and basic needs fulfillment as well as inner change in character and spirit. We, the church will be touched with the grace of transformation through service opportunities.

### EMPOWERMENT

We provide avenues by which families develop their skills to become independent through education and training, sharing and mentoring.

### INTEGRITY

We adhere to principles of character, responsibility, truthfulness and clear communication.

### FAITHFULNESS

We understand that living a Christian faith involves taking risks and we are willing to learn the lessons that risk teaches. We invite others to be a part of our family of faith.

### COMPASSION

We demonstrate social concern by a conscious involvement with needy families, expressing grace as a part of our community.

## Letter from the Board Chair



I am very honored to be writing this letter as the Chairman of the Council on Homeless Ministries, the board for Saranam. The shoes that I'm filling, those of Barbara Allender and Nancy Jackson-Miller, are intimidating to observe, much less wear—the program was dreamed of, established, and grown under their leadership—and I am the first chair not from the original committee. However, I luckily have been on the board with them and am excited and energized to help carry their dreams and ambitions forward.

The Council made a big leap forward this past year in growing itself. We expanded the board from 10 to 15 members and opened the new five spots to people outside the membership of Central United Methodist Church. Through the five years of the beginning and growth of Saranam, the board had realized that certain skills and experiences would be beneficial to have as we deal with expanded financial management requirements, and developing fundraising opportunities. Beginning now in 2008, we have filled all the 15 board positions and we are putting in place full committees to deal with the more specialized board functions.

But most importantly, the board is but a small part of the success of the programs of Saranam. Tracy and the staff do outstanding work with their hearts and minds fully open to the challenges and hopes of this mission.

*Claudia C. Ryan*  
Board Chair

## Letter from the Executive Director



2007 was a year of many accomplishments, new challenges and change. Saranam continues to be connected to Central UMC and is expanding our collaborative relationships to others in the community. Volunteers this year came from four different churches, several girl scout troops, schools, and many individuals. We continue to work with Central New Mexico Community College Workforce Training Center to provide much of our on-site education program. This year, too, St. Martins Hospitality Center and SAFE House have led on-going classes for our residents in financial literacy and domestic violence education.

In this year's board of directors strategic planning retreat, goals were set and have been met or are ongoing for spreading the word in the community/marketing, beginning to assess measures of success, completing a planned giving program, recruiting new board members to reach full capacity, and increasing awareness of Saranam for referring agencies.

Most importantly, this year has been about journeying with our families. We have walked them through their families' celebrations, their difficult times, enrollment in school, two births, and all of the little success along the way.

I look forward to the coming year of continued work with our families, engaging the larger community and continuing to work on building stronger relationships with our families as well as other organizations, agencies, funders and individuals.

*Tracy Sharp*  
Executive Director



## MISSION STATEMENT

To transform the lives of homeless persons — physically, emotionally, educationally and spiritually, through the faithful stewardship of the Frances Thaxton Ash Endowment, the active personal engagement of the congregation of Central United Methodist Church and the surrounding Albuquerque community.

## VISION

Saranam is a 2-year residential program made possible by the generous gift of the Frances Thaxton Ash Endowment, offering a range of services to assist families in transitioning beyond homelessness.

### Families and Programs

- Graduated our third family in the fall!
- Heard back from both 2006 graduates, Both are doing very well—still housed and employed. They continue to support their families and are still very grateful to Saranam.
- We have housed and worked with twelve families this year. ( 14 adults, 28 children).
- Were able to bring in seven new families in the fall.
- We had more applications than ever before (27) from seventeen different referral sources.
- New families have tremendous potential—mostly having their GEDs and even some college experience to begin with.
- Said thank you and good-bye to Laura as she ended her US-2 term with us, while welcoming Nancy who is doing a great job as Office and Volunteer coordinator.
- Continue to define and refine our contract with CNM to provide our education component.
- St. Martin’s Hospitality Center provided financial management classes to our families on site. St. Martins also helped our families with clothing and other Christmas gifts.
- SAFE House helped facilitate domestic violence educational support groups on site with our families.
- Barrett House assisted our families with clothes and other Christmas gifts.
- Set up a website for wider recognition in the community.

### Volunteers and Donations

- Each family in Saranam received a Thanksgiving Basket and around \$300 in gift cards at Christmas given through Central UMC.
- Each person in Saranam received Easter baskets and Christmas stockings given by Covenant UMC.
- Four churches and numerous other groups and individuals helped set up apartments this year! (Central UMC, Covenant UMC, Trinity UMC, Counterculture Church, Albuquerque Academy, Girl Scout Troop #1544 and many individuals).
- Girl Scouts gave 10 birthday boxes full of items needed to throw a child’s birthday party and 10 baby and 4 large homemade blankets to Saranam families.
- Increased our individual contributions from \$2,300 in 2006 to \$16,877 in 2007.
- Had one person actually pledge monthly to Saranam.
- Donations furnished seven new apartments.

*Thank you all very much for all of the time and effort that was taken in making the apartments look so beautiful and making them feel like home. You can't imagine how good it feels to walk into a new home and see so much more than you could expect. I will never forget everything ya'll have done.*  
-a new resident



## SARANAM, LLC ~ 2007 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

### Saranam Income Details

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Endowment:</b>              | <b>\$235,702.95</b> |
| <b>Contributions:</b>          | <b>\$ 20,377.87</b> |
| <b>Grants &amp; Contracts:</b> | <b>\$ 48,756.48</b> |
| <b>Other:</b>                  | <b>\$ 1,443.74</b>  |
| <b>Total:</b>                  | <b>\$306,281.04</b> |

#### **Endowment**

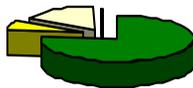
|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Ash Foundation Distribution | \$198,893.80 |
| FTAH Distribution           | \$ 36,809.15 |

#### **Corporate Contributions**

|                             |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Land America Title          | \$2500 |
| Myers, Oliver & Price, P.C. | \$1000 |

#### **Grants and Contracts awarded in 2007**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| United Way of Central New Mexico          | \$30,000 |
| MFA Essential Services Only               | \$16,513 |
| William & Florence Thaxton Endowment Fund | \$10,000 |
| 1st Community Bank                        | \$ 500   |
| UMC Albuquerque District                  | \$ 800   |



■ Endowment ■ Contributions ■ Grants & Contracts ■ Other

### Saranam Expense Detail

|                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Administration:</b>           | <b>\$ 25,760.70 = 8.3%</b>  |
| <b>Development:</b>              | <b>\$ 14,165.06 = 4.6%</b>  |
| <b>Program expense:</b>          | <b>\$270,545.37 = 87.1%</b> |
| (Includes Housing and Education) |                             |
| <b>Total:</b>                    | <b>\$310,471.13</b>         |

#### **Housing:** \$152,768.13 = 56.5%

*Covers all physical provisions including :*

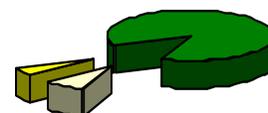
|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Apartment supplies     | Toiletries        |
| Stocked kitchen/pantry | Background checks |
| Counseling             | Drug tests        |
| Rent                   | Rental insurance  |
| Stipend                | Telephones        |
| Transportation         | Utilities         |

#### **Education:** \$107,961.49 = 39.9%

*Covers costs of being in school including:*

|                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Child care                 | Contract with CNM |
| Computers                  | Scholarships      |
| Training fees and supplies |                   |

\*Salaries, classroom, office and operating expenses not listed are allocated into all categories of expense



■ Administration ■ Development ■ Program

# During 2007 – Saranam Housed 12 Families

1 Accepted in 2005 – 4 Accepted in 2006 – 7 Accepted in 2007

## Household Makeup

1 is 2-parent household  
11 are 1-parent households

**Number of Adults: 14**

Age range: 18-25: 7  
26- 35: 5  
36+: 2

Gender Female: 12  
Male: 2

**Number of Children: 28**

Infant to age 5: 15  
Ages 6-10: 10  
Ages 11+: 3

## Ethnicities

African American: 0  
Caucasian: 11  
Hispanic: 27  
Native American: 4

## Education Level Completed

Completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 0  
Completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade: 3  
Completed 9<sup>th</sup> grade: 0  
Completed 11<sup>th</sup> grade: 4  
High School Diploma: 3  
GED: 4



## Life Skills and Basic Education

Received Training In-House  
12 families – 13 adults

Life skills consists primarily of parenting, nutrition, financial training, domestic violence awareness, safety, sex education, drug and alcohol prevention, home maintenance.

In 2007 4 of 7 accepted have a high school diploma or GED.

Received Vocational Training : 4 adults  
Type of Training  
Social Work : 1  
Welding : 1  
Electrical Trades: 2

Contributing factors of homelessness in Saranam Families are:

Substance Abuse: 38%  
Domestic Violence: 69%  
Mental Health: 46%  
Relationship/Family Problems: 30%  
Poor Economy: 0%

*My life has changed in many ways. I have become independent, myself-esteem has improved, and I have more stability which gives me time to spend with my son .*

*-a resident*

**Average age of adults housed: 27.5**

**Average age of children housed: 5.1**

## 27 Families Applied for the Saranam

Number of Referring Agencies: 17

Number of Adults: 33  
Average Age of Adults: 28.5  
Number of Children: 62  
Average age of Children: 5.7

***Saranam thanks our 2007 donors and volunteers! We truly could not do all that we do without the time, energy, talent and support of these generous individuals and groups.***

## Saranam Volunteers

**Number of volunteer hours: 2476.5**  
(87 more than 2006)

### Who are our volunteers?

- At least 74 individuals
- Volunteers from Central UMC
- Volunteers from Covenant UMC
- Volunteers from Trinity UMC
- Volunteers from Counterculture Church
- Keep Albuquerque Warm
- Girl Scout Troop 1544
- Albuquerque Academy





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**STAFF**

Executive Director.....Tracy Sharp  
 Case Manager.....Kelly Brooks  
 Office & Volunteer  
 Coordinator.....Nancy Grizzle  
 Bookkeeper.....Julie Green



**Board of Directors**

**Council on Homeless Ministries**

Donna Berry (2008)  
 Corbin Hildebrandt (2008)  
 Dick Reinhart (2008)  
 Claudia Ryan (2008)  
 Susan Armstrong (2009)  
 Cindy Arndell (2009)  
 Rudy Arnold (2009)  
 Mary Ellen Coon (2009)  
 Nicole Gates (2009)  
 Alan Clawson (2010)  
 Tom Hoover (2010)  
 Sue Rzendzian (2010)  
 Chip Smith (2010)  
 Phil Stanton (2010)

Stephen McElroy  
 Senior Pastor, Central UMC

**2007 Retiring Directors**

Barbara Allender  
 Nancy Jackson

Thank you for your dedicated support and participation in the ministry of Saranam to our retiring Board members, Barbara Allender and Nancy Jackson, who both served diligently since the inception of Saranam. Welcome to all of our new directors: Rudy Arnold, Sue Rzendzian, Chip Smith, and Phil Stanton .

**SARANAM SERVICES**

**Housing**

Each family is provided a furnished apartment, a home providing stability. All families are located in the same apartment complex encouraging the formation of community.

**Case management:**

**General:** Families are provided with daily support and advocacy from the case manager. Accountability is an important piece of the transition out of homelessness.

**Transportation:** Monthly bus passes or gas stipends.

**Counseling:** Assistance in obtaining counseling services if needed, including individual, family, and/or group counseling as well as counseling for drug and alcohol abuse or domestic violence.

**Education**

**Life Skills and Basic Education:** The first phase of the program, adults participate in life skills and basic education courses provided in-house by CNM. Some of the topics covered are GED, literacy, computer skills, parenting, financial management, nutrition, health and hygiene, communication and domestic violence, drug & alcohol education.

**Vocational Education:** Following basic education, adults pursue certificates from a trade school or community college. Obtaining a certificate in a trade allows for more job opportunities and increases earning potential. Saranam provides some scholarship money as well as assistance in attaining other monies for vocational training.

**Childcare:** Saranam covers any childcare and before/after school care not otherwise provided for up to full time for all children. Childcare plays an important role in the success of the adults who are in school and in the workforce.

Saranam, LLC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization owned and operated by:  
 Central United Methodist Church  
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 505.243.7834 www.centraltolife.org

