



# SARANAM

Central's Family Transitions Assistance  
Transforming the lives of Homeless Families

1000 Eubank NE, Suite C, Albuquerque, NM 87112  
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505-299-6154  
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"Saranam"  
Means  
Refuge

## Core Values

Respect  
Transformation  
Empowerment  
Integrity  
Faithfulness  
Compassion

## 6 Steps to Self Sufficiency

- Step 1: Intake/Orientation
- Step 2: Educational/Personal Development
- Step 3: Vocational Development
- Step 4: Job Placement/Employee Support
- Step 5: Independent Living
- Step 6: Independence

## Saranam Staff

Kelly Brooks  
Nancy Grizzle  
Tracy Sharp  
Saranam Case Manager  
Office/Volunteer Coordinator  
Director Homeless Ministries

## Ministry in Hard Places: Tracy Sharp Presents at Bishops Conference

What is it like to do homeless ministry in the Church? What is homelessness all about anyway? Many churches ask this question as they are seeing the need to do something rise as folks walk in their doorways each day. Poverty and homelessness go hand in hand, though neither seem to be understood by people in congregations who want to provide assistance to those in need. Will a sack lunch be enough? Does a kind word make a difference? Do we need police to keep "those people" away from our programs? These are all questions churches across the country have to ask when they begin to do homeless ministry.

Twelve years ago, I started on my way to Ft. Lauderdale as a US-2 Missionary to work with The Shepherd's Way, a new homeless ministry to families through Christ UMC. On my way there, I attended a church in a large city who had police guarding their Sunday morning snacks. I wondered at the time what was going on, but as I peered across the street I saw a bag lady and other people I knew were not welcomed at this church. I knew the issue of homeless ministry was going to be challenging. Since that drive, I have spent years working with three different organizations who are trying to provide opportunities to people who have nowhere else to turn. It is not an easy task, and there are many methods of doing homeless ministry. All is very challenging and very rewarding.

## Saranam Receives Grant from Daniels Fund

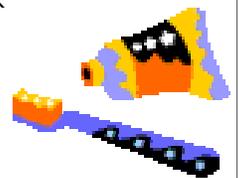
Saranam has received, for the second year in a row, \$20,000 from the Daniels Fund to help fund our education services, specifically a significant portion of the contract for on-site classes with CNM Workforce Training Center. These funds will help provide academic and life skills education for our newly accepted families in the fall 2008, spring and summer 2009 semesters.

The Daniels Fund operated the Daniels Fund Scholarship Program and the Daniels Funds Grants Program in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. The Fund was established in 1997 by Bill Daniels, a pioneer in cable television known for his kindness and generosity to those in need. Visit [www.danielsfund.org](http://www.danielsfund.org) for more information.

Thank you Daniels Fund for supporting Saranam!

## Family Needs

With new families coming into Saranam we are needing first aide kits and Toiletry kits. You can find the list on our website [www.saranamabq.org](http://www.saranamabq.org). They can be delivered at the Eubank office.



## Volunteer Corner

In the next few months Saranam will be welcoming six new families into our program. We are looking for groups of four or more to help set up an apartment for a new family. If you are interested please call Nancy.

## New Mexico's Annual Conference



The New Mexico United Methodist Church Annual Conference meet June 3-6<sup>th</sup> 2008 in Glorieta, NM. In the midst of the hustle and bustle of conference presentations, legislation and reports, there existed the presence of the Saranam Program. We participated by having our display board and information set-out for conference participants. We included general information regarding the program, as well as our most recent annual report, latest edition of Focus and Saranam family pictures. I had the privilege of attending the conference in its entirety and on Thursday, Tracy Sharp and Nancy Grizzle joined in the activities of the day. All three of us wore our Saranam shirts which were spotted and asked about from many conference attendees. This was an excellent outreach opportunity and chance to talk one-on-one with members of the NM Annual Conference, and I look forward to additional opportunities to discuss the many successes of the Saranam Program.

Many Blessings,  
Kelly Brooks

### Saranam Applications

Our applications are on line now!

- July 30<sup>th</sup> : Applications due
- July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 15<sup>th</sup> : Processing applications
- August 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>: Family interviews

Other important dates this summer:

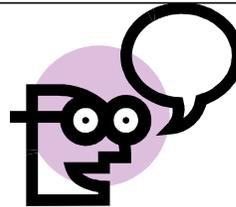
- July- August 22<sup>nd</sup>: Decorating apartments
- August 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>: Apartment Furniture move in
- August 25<sup>th</sup>: Grocery shopping for new families
- August 26<sup>th</sup>: Family pickup
- September 2<sup>nd</sup>: Classes starts

This is a very busy time for Saranam. We could use all the help we can get. If you are interested in helping please contact Nancy. Thank you for your support and prayers.

## Bishop's Conference **con't**

Bishop Charles Crutchfield, former Senior Pastor at Central UMC, asked me to be a presenter during this year's Bishops Conference at Mt. Sequoya in his state of Arkansas. He asked me to speak about homelessness and poverty, challenges the church faces in addressing these issues in their ministries and lessons learned in homeless ministry. The conference's theme of "Ministry in Hard Places" includes other ministries such as ministry in prison, rural areas, immigration, rehabilitation and development. It has been an honor to be a part of a great conference!

Tracy Sharp



### Voices

What is one talent you wish you had, and how would you use it?

*The one talent I wish I had is the artistic talent. I would use it to help express myself in ways that I cannot verbally. Also so I could sell my artwork and make lots of money.*

*A voice to sing. I would like to share with others and sing in public areas.*

*I wish I could sing. Then I could sing to my son without him running away or laughing at me.*

## Saranam is Invited to be a part of Albuquerque Academy's Community Builder's Program

For the second year, Saranam has been invited to participate in a unique program.

*Community Builders* is an innovative, tuition-free program launched by Albuquerque Academy in 2003 to teach high-school students about the building blocks of community. Designed to provide an inside look at how the many non-profit organizations in our community function, *Community Builders* gives students the chance to meet and learn from community leaders committed to making a difference in the lives of others. Saranam introduced the issues of homelessness and poverty and our unique ways of addressing these issues with families to the students in the program. One of Saranam's current families came to share her own stories and experiences. The students asked great questions and hopefully learned something about homelessness, poverty and what Saranam is doing to end them in families.