



# SARANAM

*Transforming the Lives of Homeless Families*

1000 Eubank NE, Suite C,  
Volume 6, Number 7

Albuquerque, NM 87112  
www.saranamabq.org

505-299-6154  
July 2009

“Saranam”  
Means  
Refuge

### Mission

To empower families to end their homelessness and poverty through housing, education and supportive communities.

### 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  
Michelle Garth-Jones  
Tracy Sharp

Saranam Case Manager  
Community Outreach Coordinator  
Director Homeless Ministries

### Roberta Sanchez Receives Emily Sannebeck Scholarship



Recently, one of our moms was awarded the Asbury United Methodist Church Emily Sannebeck Education Scholarship. This scholarship can be used for tuition, books and other supplies necessary to further educational goals. After an application process, which included a statement of long-term educational goals and why the scholarship committee should pick her, our mom received a letter stating that she was unanimously chosen to receive the scholarship for the 2009/2010 school year. Our mom is currently attending Central New Mexico Community college full-time and plans on utilizing the scholarship money to update her existing computer and purchase books for the fall and spring semesters. Congratulations Roberta!

### Saranam Invited to Participate in Albuquerque Academy's Community Builders Program

For the third year, Saranam was 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. At the end of the program, students have \$10,000 to distribute to grant applicants.

This year 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.

Thank you Community Builders for including the Saranam program in your curriculum this year!

### Upcoming Events

#### Volunteers for Decorating Apartments & Shopping

Decorators will get apartments ready for new families during August.

Shoppers will shop on August 24th for kitchen and cleaning items.

#### Volunteer Appreciation Event

Please Save the Date  
Saturday, September 19, 2009  
10a.m.-noon

## Calling all Volunteers

- Apartment Decorators
- Donation Pickup
- Furniture Movers
- Grocery Shopping
- Greeters
- First Aide /Hygiene Supplies
- Life Skills
- Storage Unit
- Church Transportation
- Monthly Supplies



## Donation Needs

Thank you to all for your generous donations throughout the year.

At this time we are in need of small kitchen tables (no larger than 38 inches round or 48X36 rectangular). Small dressers are also a much needed item.

*We have a busy summer ahead in preparation for six new families in August. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, please contact Michelle at 299-6154 x 100 or [saranam.michelle@gmail.com](mailto:saranam.michelle@gmail.com)*

## Donor Corner

Albuquerque District UMC Missions — \$800 for Stocking Pantries with food and supplies in each new apartment

NM Coalition to End Homelessness — \$1200 for Housing

New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority — \$17,065 for Case Management

Pippen Fund — \$15,000 for General Program

Presbyterian Healthcare Foundation — \$1000 for Case management services

United Way of Central New Mexico — \$74,000 for Housing and Education

Wells Fargo — \$1,000 for Education

We truly appreciate the support of these and other foundations, organizations, churches, businesses and individuals.

## Applications Available

Applications for our new families are now available online at [www.saranamabq.org](http://www.saranamabq.org). Applications are due July 31st.

## Voices of Saranam

*What was the application process like for you last year?*

- The application was great and easy to understand. I kept thinking if God wants it, and I get it, then it's for me. If not, then someone else needs it. I didn't want to give up on school. I guess I do need it. It worked out well.
- I found out about Saranam at the last minute through a counselor at Almas. I filled the application out good the first time and had to wait. I was determined. I called from the speaker phone at Almas with others in the room to find out and we just went crazy to hear I got in! Then we started packing.
- I was just hoping to get in because I wanted a place for my baby and I to live on my own.
- It was exciting, and kind of scary too. When I heard of Saranam I thought, "You've got to be kidding me!" I was staying at Barrett House and also went to St. Martin's and kept hearing about it. I filled out the application—it was like a book! I felt like I was making progress - a step in the right direction.



*If you would like to receive the Saranam Newsletter via e-mail, please send your request to [info@saranamabq.org](mailto:info@saranamabq.org)*