



The Heaven House Project

There is a group of people that have come together to help the O'Brien family. We have named the effort Heaven House, a Hometown Heroes project. After much discussion, we have decided to build the family a new home. The house they now live in needs extensive renovation and is just way too small for their needs.

How can I Help?

You are being asked to consider joining us in this project. Our plan is that through donations of money and materials, volunteers will build the home. There are many ways you can help with this project. We will obviously need volunteers to work on the site. We also will need materials or the money to purchase the materials. We also want to have food there to feed the workers on site. For a more complete picture of the project go to www.heavenhouse.org. You can also follow Heaven House on Twitter at twitter.com/heavenhouse. Are you ready to join the Heaven House Team?

To Volunteer

Email us at heavenhouse1@gmail.com or call Trudy at 262-783-2900.

To Donate Materials

Email us at heavenhouse1@gmail.com or call Dan at 414-339-2359.

To Make a Financial Donation

Heaven House is a Hometown Heroes project. This is a nonprofit organization and any monetary gifts will be allowable as a charitable deduction. You can link to the Hometown Heroes website from www.heavenhouse.org or their site at www.hhfe.org/donate.html. You can donate online or you can send checks to: Hometown Heroes, Heaven House Project, 3285 N. Calhoun Rd, Brookfield, 53005.

Fund Raisers

What can you do to raise funds? Organize a car wash, bake sale, rummage? Contact Chris Steiner at 414-443-1933 or chrissteiner323@aol.com, if you would like to help.



Caution: This packet contains information that could unite and transform a community.

You are being asked to consider joining us in the Heaven House project, an opportunity to impact the lives of the next generation and an entire community. Our plan is that through donations of money and materials, volunteers will work together to do the work of building a home for a deserving family. This packet will introduce you to the family, provide you with an idea of the scope of the project, and give you ideas of how your organization can become part of the Heaven House team.

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www.heavenhouse.org

Family Story

The O'Brien family is a bright spot in the lives of children in the State of Wisconsin. Their mission is to provide a forever family for as many children as possible.

When Dan and Lori O'Brien decided to become part of the Wisconsin Foster Care Program they saw a big need in the hearts of area kids whose lives were being destroyed by addictions, abuse, and divorce. This couple could not bear to watch as little brothers and sisters were being torn apart by the "system." They began the process of adopting precious sibling groups; first one, then the next, until they added 11 children to their family of five.

In November the O'Brien's garage burned down. The garage not only provided storage space for the family but it also gave Dan, a mechanic, the ability to work on his vehicles and on vehicles of those in need. Because of this need, several individuals began to explore exactly what could be done to help this family who had already committed to help so many others. At about the same time, Dan and Lori were approached by the state about adopting two more sibling groups. They are currently unable to do so because of lack of space in their home.

Stephanie (Now married, mother of one)

Dear Friend,
My name is Stephanie Perez and I was adopted by Lori and Dan O'Brien when I was 14. They were the first people to ever give me a family. Although, the years were tough, being a part of their family has made me who I am today: a happy and strong mother and wife.

I spent the first 11 years of my life with my biological mother. At the age of 11, I went into foster care. My little brother Joe became a part of the O'Brien family right away. My heart was set on being part of a real family and being with my little brother.

My parents had a lot of rules for me to follow. Although it was hard for me to accept and adjust to, I knew that my parents had rules because they cared. Even though I was a rebellious teen, I look back and know that I have the morals I do because of how my parents raised me.

So, I hope this letter will inspire you to allow my parents' house to be rebuilt. I would hate to see a child be turned away because of the lack of space in my parents' house. All children deserve a chance to be a part of a family.

Thank you,
Stephanie Perez

Naomi

(Oldest O'Brien daughter, now married, mother of two boys)

Dear Friend,

My name is Naomi Lara. I am the oldest of the 14 O'Brien children. As a teacher, I often see the ills of children not having a strong and supportive family environment. My husband, a police officer, sees what this lack of support will often produce if you fast forward 15 years. We both often feel like although we are trying to do our small part to better society, to some extent our reach is limited. It is in those moments I remember where I came from.

I came from a family where I was taught that no child, regardless of how beaten, battered, abused, and neglected they might be, is incapable of achieving greatness; a family that teaches children that the horrible things you have endured at the hands of others in the past does not dictate your future. I have been blessed to see firsthand the transformation of the young lives that come in and out of the O'Brien household.

Unfortunately, there always seems to be something that hinders people with such big and loving hearts. For my parents that hindrance is their home. Although the home, if judged by the currency of love and security, would be a multi-million dollar mansion, it is not nearly big enough to accommodate our ever growing family. My younger siblings have worried and prayed for years that the size and condition of their home would improve, so that they could help restore the lives of even more broken children. That prayer has almost been answered and I would ask for your prayerful consideration in helping this dream become a reality, and thus help the lives of many more children who will walk through the doors of this home. It is here where these children will learn to love and live and become assets to society, leaving their mark on the world.

Sincerely,
Naomi Lara

