

Malvern Foundation Newsletter

April 2022

April 12, 2022

Dear Friend of The Malvern Foundation,

Since its inception in 2008, the **Malvern Federal Charitable Foundation** (MFCF) has awarded grants totaling \$879,000 to nonprofit organizations in our market areas in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. Included in this number are our September 2021 grants to 14 organizations. Our special focuses for these grants are essential needs including food, shelter, medical assistance, and counseling that collectively serve to lead to independence and self-sufficiency.

One of our 2021 grant recipients was **Friends Association for Care & Protection of Children in West Chester, Pa.** This highly respected organization is celebrating its 200th anniversary later this year. Friends Association addresses the needs of a wide range of families throughout Chester County, from those that are experiencing homelessness to those that are currently housed but in jeopardy of losing their housing, through four pillars of service: preventing homelessness, providing emergency housing, partnering with families to support their stability, and promoting systemic change.

Friends Chief Advancement Officer Emily McClure shared with us how the organization used its grant to help a young family that was experiencing homelessness.

Emily writes, “Malvern Bank’s support has allowed us to fulfill our mission and help families like Kera and Ryan’s become stable, housed, and hopeful for a brighter future.”



Friends' Family Center gave Kera, Ryan, and their newborn daughter the gentle support they needed and a place to share together as a family as they worked through their housing crisis. Kera comments, "like most people will tell you, Friends' shelter isn't what you imagine. I expected cots, no privacy, or comfort. I planned to hold my baby close. But then we pulled up to this big house with the red door. It wasn't what I pictured at all. It was a home."



Kera and Ryan's love for their family inspired them to focus all of their energy on healing and beginning the journey of rebuilding their lives together. Ryan recognized that Kera was impacted by post-partum depression and approached Friends' staff for help. She had never experienced being unhoused and felt hopeless. Kera coped in ways that helped her survive in the past, but Ryan would not give up. He eventually convinced her to meet with a Friends' social worker

who began working one on one with Kera. Kera began to trust, began to heal, and began to have hope.



Meanwhile, Ryan was hard at work. His dream of working as a mechanic was sidelined because he needed his own tools. As soon as Friends' counselors learned of this, they rallied and got him all the tools he needed. He secured a job as a mechanic, work he loves, and he has since been promoted. No longer in survival mode and in a safe place, the family had the energy to fully focus on their goals. They eventually moved into their own apartment and began working with Friends' Housing Stability Program. As they encounter challenges, they know they have the support from Friends and their own hard-earned resilience to face anything.

Both Kera and Ryan have dreams of furthering their education. They are ready and excited for what is to come for their family. Friends gave them the safety and support they needed to start the next chapter of their story.

This is just one story of how the Malvern Federal Charitable Foundation is helping families in need. Our team is committed to making life better for the most vulnerable members of our local communities. You can join us in helping these families by attending our 2nd Annual Charity Polo event on September 25th at the Brandywine Polo Club in Toughkenamon, Pa. Enjoy a fabulous gourmet lunch, an exciting polo match and be the first to meet our 2022 grantees. These organizations will be determined in late July. For more information about sponsorships and tickets for the event, please contact Bronwyn Pait at BPait@MyMalvernBank.com.

Very truly yours,
Tony

Anthony C. Weagley
President, Malvern Federal Charitable Foundation