



A home & program for young women with unplanned pregnancies.

August 2010

"They helped all of us residents develop our character; they didn't just ask us what we were going to do with our lives."

- most recent alumnus speaking of Ruth Harbor

Employers Partner with Ruth Harbor to Serve

Staff members work with each Ruth Harbor resident to develop a Care Plan designed to meet their needs. Specific goals and objectives in the Care Plan relate to decision making, future plans, education, preparation for childbirth, considering parenting and placing for adoption, addressing broken relationships, or maybe life skills.

For many residents, employment becomes an important part of their Care Plan to prepare financially for the birth of their baby.

Ruth Harbor is blessed by several employer partnerships that regularly consider residents for positions. Employers have confidence knowing Ruth Harbor provides its residents with support, encouragement, transportation, and accountability. With partnering employers, residents often find work more quickly, hours that match their needs, and flexibility for unique schedules that include doctors' appointments or counseling sessions.

Meet three "regulars" who are partnering with Ruth Harbor to provide employment options for residents:

The **Children's Garden Day Care** and Ruth Harbor began a relationship nearly seven years ago. During that time, Ruth Harbor residents have helped at the day care center in a

Did You Know?

Next spring, Ruth Harbor will celebrate its 10th anniversary of operation.

Mark Your Calendar

Thursday, Nov. 11
Fall fundraising banquet

Wish List

- (8) NIV Student Bibles for residents
- Reliable 4-door automobile to purchase
- Leaf bags and stickers

[View our full wish list.](#)

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Children's Garden Day Care

variety of ways.
Residents often lend a

helping hand as volunteers, and many have gone on to earn positions as employees. One Ruth Harbor alum worked at the center for four years!

Melanie Rivas, the director of the Children's Garden, said the relationship with Ruth Harbor has been very positive.

"The Ruth Harbor house parents have been great to work with and always very professional," Rivas said. "When we have volunteers or employees come from Ruth Harbor, we know they are always going to be very punctual and dependable. It's great for them because they are getting experience to prepare them for caring for children, and we benefit from the extra help they provide."

Earlier this year, **Scottish Rite Park** became an employment partner with Ruth Harbor. Daniel Boor, president and CEO of the retirement community, has been very happy with the Ruth Harbor resident who serves as an office assistant and also the volunteers who have served in various ways.



Scottish Rite Park

"From learning about Ruth Harbor, we see that we have a wonderful organization right here in our neighborhood, and we see this employment relationship as a great way to support them," Boor said. "Although we are very young in the relationship, the experience has been absolutely wonderful and we look forward to a continued relationship in the future."

So many of our residents have benefited from these employer partnerships," reports Executive Director Mark McDougal. "Tres Todd, owner of **True Value Hardware** at 63rd and Grand in Des Moines has hired two Ruth Harbor residents just this year!"

Do you have a business or employment opportunity you'd like Ruth Harbor residents to consider? [Email](#) us with more information and a point of contact.

To send a note of thanks to any of these employers, email

[Contribute Online](#)



Ruth Harbor Seeks House Parent Assistant

In the July Ruth Harbor eNews we introduced you to our new house parents, Mike and Mary Hain. We are now seeking a house parent assistant to work alongside the Hain Family providing care, support and leadership for young women in need. The house parent assistant is a women who is at least 23 years of age with strong communication skills, Christian values and experience with teens. This individual will serve full-time as a supportive, caring friend to each of the Ruth Harbor residents.

Last year, Ruth Harbor was blessed when Charissa Jeske became Ruth Harbor's first full-time house parent assistant. Now, Charissa is preparing to begin an exciting new chapter of her life that will include getting married and moving away from the Des Moines area. She recently described her experiences...

"My time at Ruth Harbor was a tremendous growing experience for me personally, and also in my capacity and desire for ministry. I was stretched out of my comfort zone in many areas, which was difficult and wonderful all at once. There were a lot of challenging things as well as rewarding things that happened during my time here and seeing God's hand and purpose in it all was what gave me the strength to serve. I developed a genuine love and concern for each resident."



Charissa Jeske



Charissa has set a high standard for the position and will be missed. However, even though living out of the Des Moines area, she has agreed to fill the role of Back up House Parent (occasional duties when full-time house parents are away for vacation or illness).

We are praying that in this transition Charissa will be blessed for her significant contributions at Ruth Harbor and that God will lead another outstanding house parent assistant to serve in her place. If you or anyone that you know is interested in more information about this position, please check out the [full job description](#). **Interested applicants should send a resume to Executive Director [Mark McDougal](#) no later than Monday, Aug. 23 at 12:00 p.m.**

We also encourage you to [send Charissa an email](#) of thanks and/or congratulations!

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