

# MALTA HOUSE

## *Hope for Life*

5 Prowitt Street  
Norwalk, Connecticut  
[www.maltahouse.org](http://www.maltahouse.org)  
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*"I came in with nothing....now I have hope."*

The cool days of autumn are here. Thanksgiving is just around the corner. It's the season to remember our blessings. For many, family, friends, a warm home, and good food top the list. For others, life is a struggle, and the things most of us take for granted don't exist.

When Josephine dropped out of high school, she saw it as her opportunity to move away from an alcoholic mother. Moved from place to place as a child, sometimes twice in one year, Josie struggled as the new kid in school time after time. Coupled with a home life that was inconsistent, Josie floundered. "I thought moving out on my own would free me, but I never understood how it would affect my life," she says.

Life seemed better for several years as she worked as a cashier and lived with friends. Then, in the late winter of 2006, Josie learned she was pregnant. Shortly thereafter, Josephine lost her job. With no money, she begged her mother to return home. They lived together for a time until her mother was evicted. Josie found herself homeless.

"People have ideas of what people like me are like," she says. "They don't understand where we come from. Everyone has been through different things and it affects you." Josephine applied for public aid and was told of Malta House. She called and was accepted as a resident.

"I came with nothing," she says. "Now I have hope." Josephine is expecting a son on Thanksgiving Day. She is studying to obtain her GED and is excited to begin classes to become a certified nurse's aid. She would love to continue her education to eventually become a pediatric nurse.

Josephine's story is not unusual. Many of the women who live at Malta House have come from difficult childhoods. Not given good guidance or educational opportunities, a safe home or unconditional love, Malta House women often come having repeated the mistakes of their parents.

"I had no idea that the future could be good for me until I came to Malta House," said Josephine. "They have opened my eyes to what I can become."

This Thanksgiving, as you spend time with your family, please remember the women of Malta House. Thanks to the donations of people like you, Malta House women are able to have a new beginning, to learn new skills, to get an education, and to dream for the future. A financial gift can open up the world to other women like Josephine.

This Thanksgiving, please know that your gift of \$25, \$50, \$100 or more will help Malta House feed, clothe, and house its residents and their children. Malta House is a non-profit organization that relies entirely on the generosity of people like you to remain open. May we count on you to help?



Josephine is expecting her baby boy on Thanksgiving Day.

*continued on back*

Josephine says, "I want to give my son so much more than I had. I want to be the kind of mother he needs, the kind of mother he deserves. I want to expose him to more things, to teach him. I want to be there for him. I'm so thankful for Malta House. I would never have had the opportunity to learn and to better my future without them."

Together, we can offer that same hope to other women. A gift from you, a family member, or a friend will change lives forever. This Thanksgiving, may you be blessed as you remember the women and children of Malta House.

Sincerely,

*Chiquita Stephenson*

Chiquita Stephenson

Executive Director

*Melanie Barnard*

Melanie Barnard

President and Chairman of the Board

**P.S. A gift of \$25, \$50, \$100 or more will help us house and care for homeless women and their children. As the holidays approach, expenses increase. Can we count on you to help?**

**MALTA HOUSE**  
*Hope for Life*

5 Prowitt Street  
Norwalk, CT 06855



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- Josephine, Malta House woman expecting her baby on Thanksgiving Day

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