

# Community

# UPDATE

Fall 2011

## Our Mission *Building Foundations for Change*

The mission of the Elizabeth Stone House is to serve homeless families and individuals in a goal-oriented, outcome-driven service environment by resolving the issues that made them homeless – domestic violence, substance abuse, and mental illness – so that they can attain and maintain permanent housing, personal safety, and economic stability.

## What's Inside

16th Annual Wilderness Heals.....	1
Network of GentleMen BBQ.....	2
Patriots Game .....	2
Mintz Levin Auction .....	2
You Matter! .....	2
Stone House Holidays.....	3
Stone House and the Community .....	4
Wilderness Heals Thank You.....	5
Foundations/Corporations Thank You.....	6

### Editor

Jillian Murphy

### Contributors

Rebecca Allen  
Maryann Chaisson  
Nancy Owens Hess  
Jim May  
Jillian Murphy  
Samantha Robin  
Todd Swisher

### Designer

Laurinda O'Connor

## The 16th Annual Wilderness Heals Pledge Hike Sets Fundraising Records

The gorgeous New England weather could not have set a better stage for the 16th annual Wilderness Heals pledge hike this past July. Nearly 50 dedicated hikers, including former Elizabeth Stone House residents, began the three-day journey through New Hampshire's White Mountains early on July 15, 2011 - the 37th anniversary of the founding of the Elizabeth Stone House! While hiking many scenic mountain miles, they conquered fears, tackled challenges, and bonded with friends new and old.

This year, Wilderness Heals achieved unique and exciting accomplishments. The hike raised more money than ever – over \$140,000 - and at record pace! For the first time, Wilderness Heals raised over \$100,000 before hikers even hit the mountains. Also, this year's group of hikers included the first 15-year hiker - a true testament to the dedication and passion of so many of the Wilderness Heals women.

While this year's hike marked new milestones in its history, Wilderness Heals also continued its tradition as a healing and empowering journey; a journey often reflecting that of the individuals and families served by the Stone House. Once again, the hike proved symbolic of a core Stone House belief – with determination, strength and the support of others, one can overcome obstacles and mountains that may seem otherwise impossible.



*"I found the hike to be equal parts fun, exciting, inspiring, challenging, eye-opening, entertaining, beautiful, and powerful. I am so proud to be a part of this..."* –Liz Fisher, Wilderness Heals Hiker

The Stone House applauds the amazing fundraising work and commitment of all the hikers that helped the Stone House achieve remarkable feats and continue great traditions. The Stone House would also like to thank each and every donor who helped us significantly exceed our \$130,000 fundraising goal. Funds raised enable the Stone House to continue helping individuals and families rebuild their lives from the devastating effects of domestic violence, homelessness, substance abuse and mental health struggles.

**Save the date for next year's Wilderness Heals hike: July 20-22, 2012.** Meet us on the mountain!

## Network of GentleMen Gives Stone House Parents a Night Off



On Monday, August 8, male supporters of the Elizabeth Stone House, collectively known as the “Network of GentleMen,” hosted their fourth-annual BBQ for our families. In spite of intermittent rain, the two-dozen strong GentleMen provided mouth-watering fare, as well as high spirits.

The Network of GentleMen handled every aspect of the evening from setup to cleanup. Smiles spread as the men spoke with Stone House residents and engaged their children in play. Towards the end of the evening the men who were first-time

visitors toured the facilities for a first-hand look inside the Stone House.

Thanks to all the GentleMen - the new and the veterans - who were on hand to contribute to an emerging tradition. The GentleMen are a relatively unique and very much prized asset within our community. We welcome their collaboration and they always welcome new members! For more information or to join the Network of GentleMen, please contact Todd Swisher at 617-409-5405 or at [tswisher@elizabethstone.org](mailto:tswisher@elizabethstone.org).

## The Stone House Community says You Matter! in 2011

On Thursday, June 16, 2011, various Elizabeth Stone House donors and supporters gathered for the fourth annual You Matter! event at Petit Robert Central in downtown Boston. You Matter! gives the Stone House an opportunity to formally thank individuals, corporations, and foundations for their meaningful contributions over the past year. This year’s event was emceed by Thomson Communication’s Sue Tabb, best known for her years on air with Kiss 108’s *Matty in the Morning Show*.

Rich Pilitch accepted the first award, the *2011 Promise Award*, on behalf of ARS

Restoration Services. The Stone House thanked ARS for their astounding generosity in organizing outings for residents, their contributions in making holidays brighter, and for their all-around kindness and support.

The 2011 *You Matter! Award* honored the New England Affordable Housing Management Association (NEAHMA), for their dedication to the Stone House over the last decade. Julie Kelliher, NEAHMA’s Executive Director, accepted the award for the organization that has promoted the Stone House and encourages its

own supporters to become more philanthropic through the NEAHMA team.

Lastly, the Stone House proudly presented the second annual *Marcia Gordon You Did It! Award* to former Stone House resident Tanya Lewis. This award commends a person like its namesake – one who has overcome challenging obstacles and who actively gives back to the community that helped her find a fresh start. With perseverance and hard work Tanya has done just that, and the Stone House commends her.



You Matter! and the Stone House highlighted individuals and organizations through award, but also expressed gratitude to all Stone House supporters. They say it takes a village to raise a child and the Elizabeth Stone House is no exception.

## Mintz Levin Auction Held in Memory of a True Friend

This year, Mintz Levin held its 16th annual auction in June, honoring the memory of Richard Mintz and his commitment to the Elizabeth Stone House. Richard Mintz was a valued member of Mintz Levin and son of one of the founding partners of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C. As a regular attendee of Mintz Levin’s annual auction and holiday parties, Mr. Mintz could always be found chatting with moms and their children or having his photo taken with Santa. He donated several auction items each year from his travels around the world, and

we always looked forward to his famous maple syrup.

This year’s event consisted of a silent auction, home baked treats and a raffle for the coveted iPad 2. Generous Mintz Levin employees from offices nationwide raised over \$22,000 to benefit programs at the Stone House.

For many at Mintz Levin, Richard Mintz will long be remembered as the “soul” of Mintz Levin, a man with a passion for people and life. For us at the Stone House, Mr. Mintz will always hold a special place in our hearts.



## ARS Scores a Touchdown with the Stone House

On Thursday, August 11, courtesy of ARS Restoration Services, over a dozen Elizabeth Stone House children, adults and staff set out for Gillette Stadium for the Patriots’ pre-season opener against the Jacksonville Jaguars. Upon arriving, ARS treated the Stone House bunch to a “tailgate”

party featuring hot dogs and hamburgers hot off the grill. A few games of parking lot football later, the group made their way to the stadium. After exploring the stadium, everyone found their seats and enjoyed the spectacle of a jet fly-over followed by a rousing win for the home team with a final score of 47-12!

Everyone was still a-buzz by the time they returned to Roxbury late that night. The Stone House thanks our generous hosts, ARS Restoration Services, for the VIP treatment. This is not the first time ARS has hosted special outings for our youth and we hope it won’t be the last!

## Stone House Holidays

### Help Create a Thanksgiving Memory for a Stone House Family

Thanksgiving is a special time to reflect on what we're grateful for and most often, an occasion to share with family and friends over a delicious meal. If you would like to create a memorable holiday for an Elizabeth Stone House family by donating a basket of non-perishable items or a grocery store gift card, please contact Jillian Murphy at [jmurphy@elizabethstone.org](mailto:jmurphy@elizabethstone.org). From our house to yours, Happy Thanksgiving!



### It's That Time of Year Again!

The Elizabeth Stone House Elf Committee is already at work preparing for this year's holiday season. Last year, the Stone House, along with our generous supporters and community members, provided gifts for over 500 children and adults! We look forward to taking requests from community members to be included on the Stone House holiday gift list. We anticipate the need to be as high - or higher - this year. Every Stone House elf will work hard to give those children and adults a wonderful holiday season. If you, your family or your workplace would like to join the Elf Committee by adopting a family for the holidays, please contact Jillian Murphy at 617-409-5415 or at [jmurphy@elizabethstone.org](mailto:jmurphy@elizabethstone.org). Please join us in spreading holiday cheer!



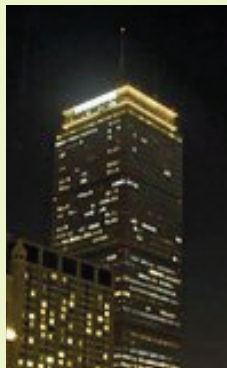
### The Stone House Lights the Night this December

The Elizabeth Stone House is excited to announce our acceptance as a holiday lighting partner in The Shops at Prudential Center's 31 Nights of Light!

The Shops at Prudential Center launched 31 Nights of Light as a new Boston holiday tradition in 2009, collaborating with select Boston area organizations to light the top of the Prudential Tower a different color every night of December. This year, on Thursday, December 15, the Stone House will light the top of the Prudential Tower in our signature blue.

The Boston landmark's light for the Stone House, and for each organization involved, will not only give the organization visibility, but will also remind the community of what the holiday season is all about – according to The Shops, “a time for caring, sharing, family and friends, a time to look outward and remember those in need or less fortunate than ourselves.”

We hope you will look to the Boston skyline on December 15, taking a moment to reflect on the individuals and families of the Stone House, and those of the entire community who may need a little extra care and support this holiday season.



For updates on our lighting, please follow our website [www.elizabethstonehouse.org](http://www.elizabethstonehouse.org). For full details on the holiday events at The Shops at Prudential Center, visit [www.prudentialcenter.com](http://www.prudentialcenter.com).

### Stay Connected to the Stone House

#### Follow the Elizabeth Stone House on Facebook...

[www.facebook.com/TheElizabethStoneHouse](http://www.facebook.com/TheElizabethStoneHouse)

#### Tweet with us on Twitter...

[www.twitter.com/ESToneHouse](http://www.twitter.com/ESToneHouse)

#### Visit us online...

[www.elizabethstonehouse.org](http://www.elizabethstonehouse.org)

**To support the work of the Elizabeth Stone House, visit the *Please Give* section of our website.**

To receive Stone House updates by email and/or to receive our newsletter electronically, email Jillian Murphy at [jmurphy@elizabethstone.org](mailto:jmurphy@elizabethstone.org).

## Stone House and the Community

### What About the Kids?

Many of you know that the Elizabeth Stone House emergency shelter was among the first in the nation to welcome children into residency with their mothers back in the 1970s. You may not know, however, that in most years, the children who live with us outnumber the adults and that dozens of other children pass through our doors when their parents attend support groups and classes at the Stone House.

Providing support for these children is an important element in the Stone House mix of services. Our Parent-Child Center (PCC) provides a safe, child-centered space for children to gather and play. The PCC offers free childcare to both resident and community families that attend educational and support groups offered at the Stone House. In addition, the PCC provides respite care and drop-in services to allow parents to attend appointments, meetings, and school. On weekday afternoons, the PCC also offers drop-in homework help.

Our director of children's programming, Tanya McLean, supported by a generous grant from the Mabel Louise Riley

Foundation, works to ensure that the PCC provides supportive childcare that understands the impact trauma may have upon children. Our family advocates provide support to help address parenting challenges faced by our parents. Our support group coordinator, Ruth Rollins, facilitates a nurturing program that emphasizes relationship, connection, and self-care as important components of successful parenting.

In partnership with Whittier Street Community Health Center and with the financial support of the Marigold Charitable Trust, the Stone House offers therapeutic expressive arts to resident children.

Throughout the year, the Stone House also arranges for our parents and their children to engage in family-centered activities such as holiday gatherings, field trips, and cook-outs that promote parent-child attachment.

The Stone House remains committed to addressing the trauma that these children have experienced, just as we are committed to helping our adult clients face their challenges.



### Meet the Stone House's New Team Members

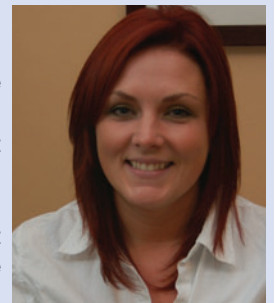
#### **Tara Dendy**, *Director of Adult Programming*

As the new director of adult programming, Tara Dendy is the latest addition to the Elizabeth Stone House team. Managing all adult residential and community programming, Tara ensures quality in every facet of the Stone House's direct care services. Tara has over a decade of leadership experience in various residential and community programs. Most recently, Tara served as director of the McGrath House, a residential program for female offenders operated by Community Resources for Justice.



#### **Jillian Murphy**, *Development Coordinator*

The Elizabeth Stone House welcomed Jillian Murphy as development coordinator this past July. Working with the assistant director of development, Jillian focuses on database management, event planning, marketing and online communications. Prior to the Stone House, Jillian held multiple roles at the non-profit organization COMPASS for kids, where she began to concentrate on development.



#### **Samantha Robin**, *Assistant Director of Development*

Samantha Robin joined the Elizabeth Stone House in September of this year as the assistant director of development where she oversees all aspects of fundraising and development. Samantha came to the Stone House from Boston University, where she gained several years of experience in grant and development administration. At Boston University, Samantha also earned a Master's of Science in Arts Administration along with a Certificate in Fundraising Management.



### Donors Delivered in the Peterson Challenge!

The Petersons challenged. You responded.

As you know, the Elizabeth Stone House recently faced a \$35,000 cut to our 2011 government funding. To compensate for such a substantial loss, we presented you with a challenge – The Peterson Challenge. With your remarkable help, we met this challenge and restored all of the funding lost by the cuts!

Your support, along with the \$10,000 challenge gift from long-time supporters Laura and Eric Peterson, raised over \$41,800 for the Stone House!

On behalf of the residents, staff and board of the Stone House, we extend a special thank you to the Petersons, and to all the generous community members who reached out in a time of need. The power and strength of the Stone House community continues to inspire us all.



wilderness heals  
a pledge hike to benefit  
the Elizabeth Stone House



## Congratulations and thank you to the Wilderness Heals 2011 hikers!

Sarah Bansen  
Beth Barnes  
Wendy Baxter  
Marilyn Castriotta\*  
Janna Comeau  
Jamie Cook  
Jessica Cook\*  
Karin Downs  
Laura Downs  
Clare Esparolini  
Liz Etheridge  
Emily Feinberg  
Ashley Fetterman  
Ann Fisher  
Liz Fisher  
Susan Genatossio\*

Kate Goodale  
Sandy Goodman  
Ke'ara Gray  
Michele Grzenda  
Jenn Guiry\*  
Angela Herring\*  
Helen Johnson  
Vanessa Johnson  
Kennekca Kindell  
Katie Kozin\*  
Amy Kraus  
Heather Kryskow  
Mary Lincoln  
Ashley Mattison\*  
Nora O'Farrell\*  
Linda Rosen

Victoria Sandbrook  
Sherri Schwaninger  
Kyla Spence  
Nika Stoop\*  
Amanda Tweed\*  
Kris Vander Plaats  
Mary Walsh  
Victoria Waltz\*  
Susan Weil  
Anna Wells\*  
Courtney Whyte  
Erika Whyte\*  
Tamara Will  
Ashley Zullo

*\*denotes a Wilderness Heals Team Leader*

## The Elizabeth Stone House would also like to thank the Wilderness Heals 2011 Corporate Sponsors





The Elizabeth Stone House

P. O. Box 300039  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Office Phone: 617-427-9801  
www.elizabethstonehouse.org

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
BOSTON, MA  
PERMIT NO. 56566

Return Service Requested

## Valuable Grants from Foundations and Corporations Make for Priceless Work



The Elizabeth Stone House would like to thank the following private foundations, corporations and other organizations that responded so generously to our requests for funding since the fall issue of Community Update last year. These supporters contributed \$322,000 in grants to our work - and this total does not include substantial additional matching gifts that came from corporations to promote charitable giving by their employees or the corporate sponsorships for our Wilderness Heals pledge hike.

Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston	\$40,000
BNY Mellon Charitable Giving Program through the generosity of the Pamela E. Sayward Trust	\$30,000
Bushrod H. Campbell & Adah F. Hall Charity Fund	\$ 8,000
Citizens Energy Corporation	\$ 2,500
Clipper Ship Foundation	\$10,000
Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation	\$10,000
Friends for Children	\$ 2,500
Hermann Foundation	\$50,000
The Janey Fund	\$10,000
Liberty Mutual Foundation, Inc.	\$10,000
Marigold Charitable Trust	\$ 1,900
Natixis Global Associates	\$17,000
Old South Church in Boston	\$ 2,600
Thomas Anthony Pappas Charitable Foundation	\$10,000
Proctor and Gamble	\$ 5,000
Reebok Foundation	\$ 5,000
Mabel Louise Riley Foundation	\$50,000
Amelia S. Rockwell & Carlos P. Rockwell Charitable Foundation	\$10,000
John M. Sawyer Memorial Trust	\$10,000
Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family Foundation	\$20,000
Sovereign Bank	\$ 1,500
The TJX Foundation	\$ 5,000
Verizon Foundation	\$10,000
Frederick E. Weber Charities Corporation	\$ 1,000