



She Was Terrified of Being Evicted Your Gifts Help This Family Survive

Paula first found Oasis two years ago when she sought domestic violence counseling. With Oasis' help, she took her children and fled from her abusive partner.

She worked in a store in a local mall and made just enough to cover the basics—food, gas, rent. It was tight "She couldn't even buy herself a coffee at Dunkin Donuts. But she never missed a rent payment. Her kids were safe," says Oasis Social Worker Jennie.

When the pandemic hit, the mall shut down and **she lost her job**. [1] She was out of work until just three weeks ago, when she finally found a new position.

Far behind on her rent [2] **and utilities** [3] and terrified she and the kids would be evicted, Paula took her troubles to Jennie.

She's now worked out payment plans with her landlord and utility companies. She's got referrals to state agencies that can help her special needs son. When the budget can't be stretched, she receives an **emergency food bag or hot meals** [4] at Oasis.

Paula's no longer worried about eviction or having the lights shut off. She's relieved to know **her son will get help**. [5] She knows her kids won't go hungry, and despite the financial strain, she can live free of her abuser.

Paula is facing a long road to recovery from the **economic fallout** [6] of this pandemic. Her financial conditions were precarious before the pandemic.

But with your support, she and her kids are now safe, stable, and regaining ground. They are on the way to financial recovery.

Thank you for being there for Paula, her kids, and so many families like hers.



Your generosity supports counseling that helps women like Paula recover from the pandemic's economic fallout.

For Paula's family and so many others, hardship persists. Among low-income households:

- 1 47% say they or someone in their household experienced job loss.
- 2 26% are behind on their housing payments .
- 3 28% of Black and Latinx renters report problems paying their utility bills.
- 4 25% struggle to put food on the table.
- 5 30% struggle with 3 major stressors —job loss, hunger, illness, and more.
- 6 37% have gone into debt by using credit cards and loans for routine expenses.

From the Director

Dear Friend,

Looking back over this school year, I'm amazed at what your support has accomplished!



Even though we were forced to cancel the Annual Gala of Hope (our biggest fundraiser) for the second year, your continued commitment to serving women and children in need has kept the doors of Oasis open throughout this school year.

Impoverished immigrant women have learned to speak English, women seeking a better future have passed exams and earned their high school diplomas. Children who have tragically been left to struggle to learn at home all year have been given academic and—just as importantly—emotional support at Oasis.

I hope you share the joy I feel when seeing some of the children in the "Class of 2021" and learning about teens like Guadelupe, a deserving young woman whose future is bright because of you. With your gifts, women like Marta can endure and even triumph, providing a future for their children.

I'm looking forward to September, when we can all meet again, in person, in an expanded Oasis!

Thank you for what you do. Nothing is possible without your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Brady".

Jennifer Brady
Executive Director



Julie Shotmeyer, one of 10 local business owners who delivered funds and food to Oasis.

Female Entrepreneurs: Changing the World

Ten Ho-Ho-Kus women-owned businesses collected cash donations and food at their stores in honor of International Woman's Day.

"Our businesses were hit hard by the pandemic," says store manager Kathleen Feudi. "But this collaborative effort really filled us with hope. We saw that together we could make a difference for women and children who were really struggling."

And these women did make a difference: Their passion spurred an anonymous major donor to match their collective donation. The funds will change the life of each woman and child who comes through the doors of Oasis seeking help.

Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has. ~ M. Mead

The commitment and creativity of Oasis donors is always amazing. Thank you all for what you do every day to serve women and children in need.

Robert L. Pash Memorial Golf Classic

Thanks to our golfers and supporters, this year's golf outing raised the most ever for the women and children of Oasis. We are so grateful!



Announcing the Class of 2021

Professional teachers and tutors worked with Paterson Public School children every afternoon at Oasis to keep them on track academically and emotionally while the district schools remained closed. Your gifts help stem the learning loss that threatens these low-income kids whose education has been entirely online this year.

Here are just some of the Michael Wagner After-School Academy 2021 students:



Grismely Pena

An energetic first-grade Spanish speaker who can now read in English.



Justyn Ticona

A kindergartner who began the year unable to count and who can now count past 100.



Karly Alegria

A hard-working fourth-grade student; she wrote her first five-paragraph persuasive essay.



Susana Ahmed

An outgoing second grader always eager to help others; she learned to tie her own shoes.



Nadeen Sadeh

An adorable kindergartner who loves math; her sister is her best friend.



Christian Sanchez

A studious fifth grader whose favorite subject is history; he made the honor roll in the third marking period.



Kerly Valdez

A smart fifth grader who earned all A's and B's; she loves math, especially decimals and fractions.



Ricardo Valiente

A third-grade whiz who greatly improved his spelling this year, achieving grade-level standards.



Justin Duran

A serious third grader who began to read chapter books.



Anyella Ramos

A studious and responsible sixth grader who cares deeply about her family.



Joel Galvez

A sixth grader with real leadership qualities who learned to love reading this year.



Giovanni Canizal

A determined fifth grader who loves math and mastered his multiplication tables.

Guadalupe Dreams Big You Help Make Her Dreams Come True

Guadalupe, an Oasis Teen Program participant and a tutor in the Oasis After-School Academy, is a powerful young woman whose life you've helped shape.

Guadalupe is like a mother to her 6 younger siblings. When her little brother was failing at online learning, it was Guadalupe who met with the teacher. "My parents don't speak English well. I have to help him."

As a high school freshman, she was harassed and then threatened by a group of boys at school. The police got involved. Terrified, she enrolled at Mary Help of Christians (a private high school) with some scholarship support, seeking safety. But reality soon set in.

"I was preparing to return to JFK High School (the public school). I was scared, but I knew my parents couldn't make the payments [at Mary Help]. Then a donor helped my father with the tuition. I am so grateful to Oasis."

"Oasis is home to me. I have a bond with the people here that nothing can break."

You've given Guadalupe a community that supports her.

"My parents have work permits—my dad is a mechanic and they're trying to get citizenship. The week they went to court, I was so filled with anxiety I couldn't think. But people here helped me. Megan (After-School Coordinator) told me, 'I really care about you. If you're struggling, you have to tell me.' All this helped so much."

Now a high school graduate, Guadalupe will start at Rutgers in September as a pre-med student. "I know my education is the only way to help my parents. And what I'm doing will help my siblings. I want them to see me become a doctor so they will follow me and get educated too."

Thank you for giving Guadalupe a clear path forward, so she can move ahead to a better future, with her 6 little brothers and sisters following along.



Thanks to you, Guadalupe is on her way to college with a pre-med major.



OASIS
A HAVEN FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

59 Mill Street
Paterson NJ 07501
(973) 881-8307
oasisnj.org

The mission of Oasis is to change the lives of women and children by breaking the cycle of poverty through compassionate programs designed to feed, clothe, educate, and empower women and children in need.

Your Gifts Make All These Good Things Happen

Please give to feed a family, educate a child, help a woman get a job. **The need is urgent.** Send your gift to Oasis — A Haven for Women and Children at 59 Mill Street, Paterson, NJ 07501 or donate online at oasisnj.org/donate.