



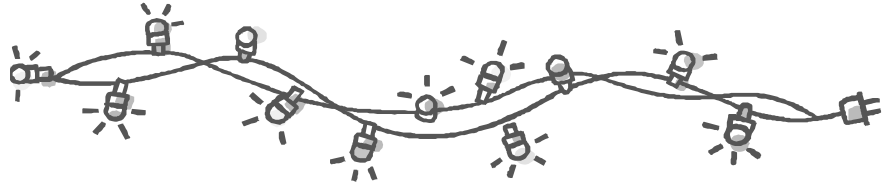
the LIGHT

Hope • Opportunity • Dignity • Safety • Community • Hospitality

Fall 2005

FIRST LIGHT

A Center for Homeless Women and Children



Light the Night with Holiday Lights!

Searching for a unique and meaningful holiday gift?

Give the gift of light to brighten the lives of homeless women and children at First Light! You can give a unique and meaningful gift to your loved ones while brightening the lives of homeless women and children. Lights will shine from the First Light building in honor or remembrance of someone special through your donation to First Light. First Light will mail a holiday card to the recipient of your gift. The lights will shine throughout the holiday season.

- Red Light = \$10
- Green Light = \$20
- Blue Light = \$30
- Gold Light = \$50
- String of Lights = \$100

A Holiday Lights brochure will be arriving in your mailbox in mid-November! You can also order online: www.firstlightshelter.org

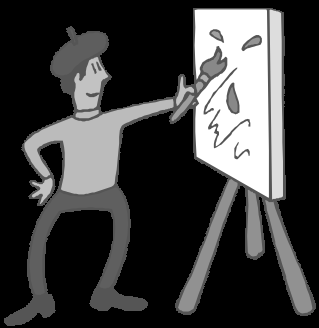
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2006 First Light Gala

in honor of

Mrs. Claire Fairley

Save the Date: Saturday, February 4, 2006 @ the HealthSouth



**Auctioneer:
Ken Jackson**

Platinum Sponsorship: \$3,500
Gold Sponsorship: \$1,500
Individual Tickets: \$100

**Entertainment:
The Chris Yarbrough Jazz Trio**

Fine Art, Fine Wine and Great Getaways!

Special Recognition

The following gifts were made to First Light through our campaign to cure darkness. The only cure for darkness is LIGHT. Thank you for helping to open the door of hope, dignity, safety and hospitality for homeless women and children at First Light.

Hope Key Contributors \$1,000 or more

John and Lisa Burton
Cowin Equipment Company, Inc.
J. Thomas Davidson
Fairfield Highlands Presbyterian Church
Arthur and Roberta Gamble
Tami M. Johnson

Safety Key Contributors \$100-\$499

Michael Angell and Jennifer Harper
Mary Boston
Steve and Lynn Briggs
Charles and Barbara Bugg
Donald Comer
Currie-Jefferson Funeral Home
Susan Davis
Judith Deegan
Newstell Dowdell
Patsy Dreher
James Fairley, Jr.
Bruce and Gladys Glover
Judy Habeeb
Bill Harbert
Harbin Law Firm, LLC
Robert and Nancy Hess
Ann Hillhouse
Margaret Hillhouse
Mary Hopkins
Carden and Susie Johnston
Laura Lokey-Fuppo
Roger and Gayle Lovette
Linda Majors
Mary C. Mayfield
Thomas Messer, Flying "M" Aviation
Michael Murphy
David and Betty Orrell
Jean P. Pierce
Henry E. Simpson
Fern Singer
Muriel Teague
Ann and David Tharpe
Catherine Thomas
Sandra and Douglas Tilt
United States Pipe and Foundry Co., Inc.
Richard and Karla Vevele
Janice Walden
Edwina Wilson

Need a speaker?

If you need a speaker for your civic meeting, church group or organization, please call or e-mail us! Our staff would love to tell about all of the wonderful things going on at First Light. Call 323-4277 or e-mail fishelter@aol.com

Dignity Key Contributors \$500-\$999

Jeff Morrison
John and Jeanne Plaxco
Gordon and Dale Anne Sibley
Mike and Anne Warren

Hospitality Key Contributors \$10-\$99

ASSOCIATED INSURERS, LLC
GENEVIE AYER
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BETSY BRITAIN
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ARLENE GRAY
RICHARD AND CHERYLE HAYES
CHARLES AND ALDA JORDAN
ARLENE KIRBY
DEBORAH LECHNER
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TYLER AND BARBARA POSNER
SALLY AND JAMES REILLY
LOUISE RICE
THOMAS RITCHIE
MARTI SCARBOROUGH
ALICE SCHLEUSNER
LEONETTE W. SLAY
MARION STUBBINS
ROGER THOMAS
DOROTHY THOMPSON
MARILYN WALKER
AMANDA AND ED WILSON
CAROLYN WOMACK

Volunteers of the Month

April
Terri Harris
UAB

May
Sara Coleman
BellSouth

June
Cassie Ratliff
YouthServe

July
Chris Maddox and Leslie Ott

August
Glenda and Nicole Hill
St. Paul's Cathedral

September
Steve Brobst
Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church

Bible Study Volunteers

Rosie Montgomery
The Great Commission

Henrene Brown
Sardis Baptist Church

Linda Williams

Landra Pope

Danny Finley and Jonathon Buchanan
East Birmingham Church of God in Christ

Denise Jefferson
Looking Unto Jesus Ministry

Rheba Lee
North Park Baptist Church

Program Volunteers

Tamela Turner
GED Preparation Class

Ann Denson-Willis,
Hired Hands Mobile Massage
Chair Massage Therapy

Meleia Burse- Health Class once a month

Landra Pope
NA Meeting

If you would like to volunteer, contact Shannon Horsley, Program Manager & Volunteer Coordinator @ flcoordinator@yahoo.com or 323-4277

Shelter Stories

3/26/05

"The women have a great spirit and they are amazingly productive. Many of the women asked for sewing kits, but I had given out the last one earlier in the evening. Yet, that did not stop them. The women gathered in a circle- some sitting, some standing- and shared the sewing kit while doing hair and talking at the same time. It sort of reminded me of Girl Scouts and I thank them for that memory."

Will You Help?

YOU can make a difference in the lives of Birmingham's homeless women and children.

YOU can provide shelter from a life on the streets where there is no place to go when it is raining and cold, except for a business building's overhang, under a bridge, the public library or a cardboard house made from boxes rescued from a dumpster.

YOU can make a sanctuary available to women and children 24 hours a day with social and counseling services. Because First Light exists, no woman or her children has to sleep on the street, in a car or stay in an unhealthy situation.

YOU can help provide specialized programs geared to chronically mentally ill women, those who cannot complete traditional day programs.

No one plans on being homeless, abused, mentally ill or addicted to drugs and/or alcohol.

No one deserves to be homeless.

Will you help provide shelter and essential services to homeless women and children in a place of hope and love with a sense of home and family?

If you don't, who will?

I (we) give the following gift, offering a physical example of commitment, care and concern for the homeless women and children in our community.

\$10,000 or more	Benefactor
\$5,000 to \$9,999	Patron
\$1,000-\$4,999	Investor
\$500-\$999	Sponsor
\$250-\$499	Sustainer
\$100-\$249	Advocate
\$1-\$99	Friend

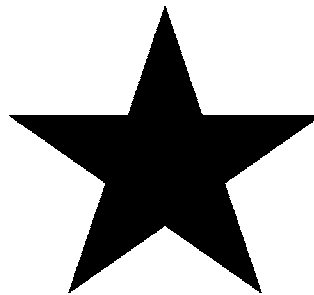
This is an anonymous gift. Your name will not be included in our annual report.

First Light Facts

FY 2005

July 2004—June 2005

- 1,346 homeless women and children were served in the emergency shelter and in the emergency overflow shelter. (unduplicated)
- 15,001 nights of shelter were provided.
- 632 mental health assessments were conducted
- Compared to FY 2004, homeless recidivism at First Light was reduced by 48.8%. (A decrease from 129 returns in FY 2004 to 63 returns in FY 2005.)
- First Light was blessed with the dedication of more than 1,500 volunteers working over 7,500 hours in FY 2005.
- Since First Light opened its doors in May 2000, the number of guests served annually at First Light has more than tripled.



Check out First Light's Website!

www.firstlightshelter.org

New information and design coming soon!

Thanks to Beth Wilkins and Martine Craven!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

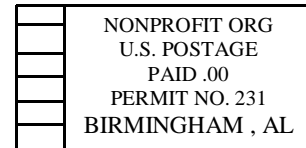
This contribution is made: Name: _____

In memory of In honor of Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

First Light, Inc.
2230 Fourth Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203

205.323.4277
www.firstlightshelter.org



First Light Board of Directors

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Cary Speaker	

First Light Staff

Ruth G. Crosby, Executive Director
Rachel C. Cabaniss, Development Director
Sherry J. Webb, LBSW, MSW, Director of Social Services
Shannon Horsley, Program Manager & Volunteer Coordinator
Sherri E. Washington, BSW, Social Worker
Vicki N. Hampton, BSW, Social Worker
Selithia M. Anderson, Shelter Assistant
Osarieme Erhunmwunsee, Shelter Assistant
Carmen Taylor, Weekend Manager
Marilyn A. Gross, Art Therapy Coordinator
LaShon Walker, Social Work Intern

WISH LIST

Hygiene and Personal Items- New, unopened packages only

Cold, sinus, allergy and cough medications/Cough drops
Over-the-counter stomach medications (antacids, Pepto-Bismol, laxatives, Imodium)/ Pain relief medications
Medicine Boxes
Feminine hygiene products
Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
Deodorant
Trial-size lotion/Trial-size shampoo & conditioner
Hairbrushes & combs
Denture cleaning and adhesive supplies

Food- New, unopened packages only

Fruit
Cereal
Cereal Bars
Pop-tarts
Instant grits and oatmeal (individual packets)
Powdered drink mixes
Paper or Styrofoam bowls and cups
Plastic forks, spoons and knives
Napkins
Quart and gallon-size Ziploc bags