



Immediate Release

Vista Maria receives grant from the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation

Providing a safe and secure space to grow for adolescents and young adults.

(Dearborn Heights, MI) - Vista Maria has received a grant of \$33,240 from the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation to support the Shepherd Hall Transitional Living Program, which provides an affordable living environment for at-risk young women and adults in Southeast Michigan to access the support necessary to practice independent living.

In 2012, Vista Maria developed the Shepherd Hall Transitional Living Program to serve young women and adults who were "aging out" of the child welfare system or were homeless by offering a safe environment for them to live, learn and make the transition to independent adulthood. Participants in the program actively practice their independent living skills, complete their education, work to secure and maintain employment, and improve their relational competencies to achieve the goal of reentering their communities as independent, self-sustaining adults.

Sharon Newson-Dunn, Shepherd Hall's Program Manager, says, "Making a difference in the lives of the young people we serve is what we strive for. Preparing them for independence in the community is what we work towards. Because our young people have a choice and a voice, the Shepherd Hall team wants to be the better choice for them as a service provider. Insuring that our young people reside in a safe, well-maintained environment; providing transportation assistance to needed services and opportunities in the community; and making sure that our young people are not suffering from food insecurity will continue to be actualized through the generous grant from the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation "

Through the Shepherd Hall Transitional Living Program, Vista Maria positively influences young women to welcome responsibility, reach their goals, and instill hope for their futures. The \$33,240 grant from the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation will fund rent, food, basic needs, and transportation assistance as well as help them realize a life beyond trauma and ignite a life of possibilities.





About the Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation:

Our Mission: We are dedicated to transforming lives in profoundly positive ways through grants focused on health, youth and family, and animal welfare. By maintaining the focus of our work on our mission, we hope to enrich lives by providing the resources needed to lead full and healthy lives. At the foundation, we believe in working with organizations in our focus areas to create opportunity, have community impact, and promote wellbeing.

How We Advance Our Mission: We provide access and opportunities to underserved youth and families; equip medical researchers with the tools they require to advance their work; improve health care access and outcomes for vulnerable people; and support organizations that offer assistance to animals.

Visit www.dresnerfoundation.org for additional information.

About Vista Maria:

Our Mission: We foster restorative relationships and deliver innovative care, treatment, and education so that vulnerable youth and families believe in their worth, heal and build the skills for success.

Our Vision: All children, families and communities achieve success through continuous learning and relationships that promote personal, professional and family well-being.

Visit www.vistamaria.org for additional information.

For more information or to schedule an interview with Vista Maria's President and CEO, contact: Jennifer M. Golabek, Marketing Manager, at (248) 914-0742 or jgolabek@vistamaria.org.

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