

Opening Doors

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For Immediate Release

Opening Doors Receives \$25K DRA Grant!

DUBUQUE (August 19, 2021) – Opening Doors is pleased to announce a grant award of \$25,000 from the Dubuque Racing Association (DRA). This award is the largest DRA grant in Opening Doors’ history! Since 2000, the DRA has donated over \$213,000 to support women and children experiencing homelessness.

This grant will partially fund an extensive \$51,000 three-phase exterior renovation project at Maria House. This grant will provide most of the funding needed to complete the first two phases. We will seek additional grant funds to cover the third phase.

“The exterior main entrance at Maria House was built in 1999,” said Ann Lorenz, Development & Marketing Director. “This area has had minimal improvements over the years. Our buildings and grounds committee, comprised of construction and facility experts from the area, recommended that this project receive top priority for safety reasons. Many thanks to the DRA for 19 years of funding.”

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Opening Doors is a nonprofit organization that helps women and children who are experiencing homelessness. We provide goal setting and life skills training that enable them to achieve their full potential. We offer a hand up in the world, not a handout.

Since 2000, Opening Doors has served over 4,000 women and children through a continuum of services. Teresa Shelter offers emergency and extended stay programs. Maria House offers transitional housing for up to two years. Francis Apartments offers an opportunity for income-based affordable housing with support services; a combination that has proven to be effective at ending the cycle of homelessness.

Opening Doors offers much more than a place to sleep. We provide the opportunity for women to claim their own power and become self-sufficient.