



Mary Elizabeth Inn—Changing the lives of women since 1914

Dear United Methodist Women,

I am very honored to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of The Mary Elizabeth Inn. I have been Director at The Inn now for almost six months. I began my work at MEI amidst a lot of transition, and while things have been quite busy, I can honestly say that I am getting a lot of personal and professional fulfillment out of my new role as Executive Director.

I come to The Mary Elizabeth Inn with extensive experience and training in the administration and management of low-income housing. I have an educational background in Social Work, several years experience as a Case Manager and 6 years of experience working as a Senior Property Manager for a non-profit agency providing supportive housing in San Francisco.

Over the past several months, the Inn has gone through many changes. With the support of San Francisco's Department on The Status of Women, we have been able to increase the number of subsidized housing units for low-income women who are victims of Domestic Violence from 10 to 30 possible units. These units are set aside to provide stable housing with access to case management services on site, provided by La Casa De Las Madres, for women coming directly out of San Francisco's Domestic Violence Shelters.

Our Housing First program, housing for chronically homeless women, and SHIA program, housing for low-income women with disabilities, continue to remain at full occupancy, with a very actively engaged and community-minded resident population.

The Inn has also employed a new food service provider, Southern Slant, which is a female owned and run catering business. Along with this change, all The Mary Elizabeth Inn residents have been given the option to choose whether they want to participate in the meals program on a monthly or weekly basis, for a very low personal cost for breakfast and dinner.

The Mary Elizabeth Inn has recently opened its new Business Access Center on the first floor of the building that is equipped with four computers, printers, and Internet access. Michael Anketell, our Fund Developer, and I are in the process of seeking funding in order to provide on-site computer education classes for our residents in an effort to create an opportunity for our residents to gain the education and employment skills necessary to return to the work-force, or to further their current careers.

On October 18th of this year, we will be holding our Fourth annual Benefit Luncheon at Marine's Memorial in San Francisco, so save the date. This year we plan to start a new tradition and institute a silent auction. We look forward to seeing all of you there. Thank you for your continued support for the Mary Elizabeth Inn—without your help we would not be able to continue to deliver safe, supportive and accessible housing for the women in San Francisco who are most in need.

Sincerely,

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