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A Nonprofit Charitable Organization
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Letter Number One

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HOPE HOUSE NEWSLETTER

This is a letter from me, Gail Grenier Sweet, to you. Because you have donated your time and talents to Hope House. Or because you have donated your money to making the dream come true. Or because I think you will be interested and will want to share yourself with us in some way.

I decided to send out this newsletter because lately people don't say "Hi Gail" to me.... They say "Hi how's Hope House?"

So here's the news.... Feel free to share this newsletter with friends or to duplicate parts of it.

HOUSE-HUNT UPDATE

Back to Square One. For the last five months we've invested enormous amounts of time and energy trying to purchase a house on 35th Street. We had it appraised to make sure that it "measured up" to the price we were offering. Kurt Cira drew meticulous scale plans of the interior of the house (as required by the City Zoning Appeals Board). Susan Maronek walked door to door collecting neighbors' signatures approving of Hope House on their block. I spent hours on the phone, at the typewriter and Xerox machine preparing fifteen copies of Hope House's plan of operation (another City requirement).

The home owner had assured us of a land contract. But at the last minute, for reasons not within our control, she decided against it.

A disappointment, for sure. But perhaps also a sign that something better may come along. An opportunity to explore even more alternatives. The house we had picked out was beautiful and seemed "right;" but maybe it wasn't the BEST thing for Hope House.

Consider these creative ideas I've heard since December....

HOPE HOUSE OPTIONS

- (1) Purchase an unused school, rectory, convent, or other such building.
- (2) House single moms and babies in private homes till Hope House exists.
- (3) Rent a number of apartments in one building and sub-let them.
- (4) Buy a house with a large unfinished attic and build rather than remodel.
- (5) Ask some heirs of an estate to donate a house as a tax write-off.
- (6) What are your ideas?

If you know of a house owner or apartment landlord who could help us, please call me at (414) 251-1829.



If you receive a duplicate newsletter... please pass it on!!