



A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS TRANSITIONAL LIVING



NEWS LETTER

April 2025

Peggy Van Ningen spent many years as a nurse at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis. During that time, she and her husband, Jerome, purchased a charming three-story home on the corner of Pacific and Lake Shore Drive in Ortonville. The couple enjoyed spending weekends and vacations at this retreat, which Peggy saw as a peaceful refuge from their busy lives in the city.

Upon retiring and moving to Ortonville full-time, Peggy's house became a sanctuary not only for them, but also for many women facing difficult situations. Peggy hosted Bible studies, coffee gatherings, and domino games, always offering a listening ear and pointing others toward her Savior, Jesus Christ.

Last summer, as Peggy prepared to move to Florida to be closer to family, she envisioned her beloved home serving as a haven for women in recovery. When Alicia Dixon and her husband, Ellis, were approached with this idea, they prayed for guidance and ultimately felt called to pursue the vision. They gathered a group of like-minded individuals to form the board of a new nonprofit, A Light in the Darkness Transitional Living. Dan Adermann, Jackie Plotz, and Kristin Roe joined the board, and together, they began navigating the many challenges involved in bringing this dream to life.

Over the past several months, we've encountered obstacles but have overcome them through faith and determination. The people of Ortonville have generously embraced this vision, with countless donations, fundraisers, raffles, and silent auctions helping raise the necessary funds for the purchase, repairs, permits, and licenses needed to make the dream a reality. In addition, many have volunteered to refresh and refurbish rooms, ensuring that the house will offer a fresh, welcoming environment for the women who will soon call it home. The City of Ortonville has granted approval for up to 10 women to live in the home, and we are awaiting final clearance from the State of Minnesota for 8 residents. These women will have completed treatment for alcohol or drug addiction and will be referred by their treatment facilities. Each will be interviewed by the board, and all residents will agree to a code of conduct. The program will offer peer support, NA/AA meetings, Bible studies, and practical guidance to help these women become self-supporting, responsible members of the community.

Addiction touches many families, and often, when individuals complete treatment and return to environments lacking support, they may relapse. A sober living home provides a vital environment where women can continue their recovery with the guidance of others who have walked a similar path. Trained mentors will encourage and hold the residents accountable as they rebuild their lives.

If you would like to be part of this incredible journey, there are many ways to help. First and foremost, your prayers are of great importance to us and to the women who will soon call Peggy's House their home. Financial contributions are also crucial, as we are currently raising funds for new carpet and additional home repairs. It is important to note that all board members volunteer their time, with no compensation. Every penny donated goes directly toward preparing Peggy's House for its grand opening.

When the women move in, they will be expected to seek employment or volunteer opportunities and find a church home. If you're an employer, consider offering a second chance to someone who is ready to rebuild their life. To donate money, you can go directly to CenBank in Ortonville and deposit money into the A Light in the Darkness Transitional Living account.

For more information or to get involved, please email us at alightinthedarkness617@gmail.com.



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Check out our booth
Ortonville Spring
Expo March 15 2025

Proceeds to help those in
recovery

a light in the darkness
TRANSITIONAL LIVING

**GUN
RAFFLE**

GUN DETAILS
1939 Browning A5 shotgun.
12 gauge Semi Automatic
estimated value \$1,000-\$2,000

\$50 PER TICKET

**MARCH 12
TO
MAY 12**

**Need not be
present to
win!
Drawing on
Facebook
Live!**

Contact people
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PEGGY'S HOUSE 508 LAKE SHORE DRIVE ORTONVILLE, MN



IN OUR FIRST NEWS LETTER WE WILL TRY TO UPDATE OUR PROGRESS ON PEGGY'S HOUSE, We are happy to announce that renovations have begun on the rooms on the second and third floors as well as the first floor office. There is the smell of paint in the air. Such creative ideas for updating the rooms. This week is busy with surveyors and inspectors coming to view the property. The carpet on the second and third floor is old and needs to be replaced. We have raised half of the money and still have an ongoing raffle to help pay for the carpet. The raffle is for an antique gun that was donated. (See the flyer on this page) On the second page there is an article that will be sent to local newspapers!