

News From The Road Home

Dane County

Spring/Summer 2026

Our Partners

Frizz & Frillz
Supports Family
Hair Care Needs



Local entrepreneur Chloe Homan, through her brand Frizz & Frillz, donated hair care and makeup products to be shared with mothers and teenagers served by The Road Home. Self-care is a crucial part of any family's journey to stability and health.

CORE Team Brings Easter Joy to Youth



The Madison Police Department CORE team helped connect The Road Home with a generous community member who donated Easter baskets filled with treats for kids this spring.



Watch
Christina's
journey on
YouTube



Madison Community Foundation Features Former Road Home Participant's Journey to Homeownership

"Being homeless made me strong. It made me want bigger and more for myself. And I feel like me and my kids deserve that."

Hundreds of guests at Madison Community Foundation's annual "Madison Gives" event heard this and more from a former participant with The Road Home, Christina, this May.

Christina was featured in a video premiered at the event, sharing her journey from homelessness to homeownership with The Road Home's support. Early in her journey, Christina shared a clear goal: to own a home and create a stable place for her children. While participating in one of our programs, Christina worked with a dedicated housing advocate, supporting her goal-setting and skills-building.

Madison Community Foundation's video also features Belinda Thomas, a current board member of The Road Home and local real estate agent. Belinda is a former member of our staff and, in that role, supported Christina in her homeownership goal. Belinda was Christina's cheerleader and resource navigator. She helped her ask the right questions, handle paperwork, find a real estate agent and mortgage lender, and more.

After years pursuing her goal of homeownership, Christina purchased her home in 2018! Today she lives there with all six of her kids and runs a home childcare business, which she has plans to expand soon.

Madison Community Foundation's decision to feature Christina and The Road Home recognize the long-term work needed to support local families on their journeys from homelessness to permanent stability and self-sufficiency.

Reflecting on her journey from homelessness to homeownership, Christina says, "people from The Road Home, they believed in me – just like I believed in myself."

Because of donor support, The Road Home's programs continue to meet families where they are after so many other doors close to them. While not every family The Road Home serves aims to be homeowners one day, they each strive for the best for their kids. Christina's story exemplifies what parents, even those for whom so much has gone wrong, can achieve for their kids when the community comes around them to offer assistance and resources.

Every child deserves a home

890 W Wingra Dr. | Madison, WI 53715

trhome.org





It Takes A Village: Kendra's Story

For Kendra, independence has opened the door to something she always hoped for: creating stability not only for her own five children, but for the neighborhood children who now see her home as a safe place.

Every other day, she wakes up to small knocks at her door. Children from across the neighborhood stop by for snacks, games, or simply a moment of care. Over time, Kendra has become a trusted presence in their lives, and her home has grown into a space of connection and belonging. “We’ve all been living over there for a while, so they’re all kind of like cousins,” she says.

As a single mother of five, Kendra sees these moments not as chaos, but as purpose. Caring for others is central to who she is, and housing stability has given her the ability to extend that care beyond her own family. She dreams of one day opening a business providing respite care for children with special needs, building on her experience working in childcare and supporting young people.

“My family has grown, but mentally, I’ve grown too,” Kendra says. “I was able to give myself something my parents weren’t able to give me.”

Kendra’s journey to stability began after fleeing a domestic violence situation in Milwaukee and arriving in Madison with limited resources. Everything changed in 2018 when she was accepted into The Road Home’s Housing and Hope program. With supportive housing and advocacy, she was able to secure stability for her family and access resources that helped her move forward.

Today, Kendra reflects on how far she has come. For her, housing has meant more than stability. It has provided the foundation to build community, pursue her goals, and strengthen the sense of care within her neighborhood.

Table Hosts and Sponsors Lead the Charge for Real Change

Be part of creating a community where every child has a safe, stable place to call home by joining us at our **Homes for Families Fundraising Breakfast on October 8, 2026, from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.** at the **Alliant Energy Center**.

Sponsorship and table hosting opportunities are available for individuals and organizations ready to help families achieve lasting housing stability.

For more information about sponsorship, table hosting, or nominating a Table Host, please contact Elliott Valentine, Development Director, at elliottv@trhome.org.



Healing House Enters New Chapter with JustDane

As our partnership with JustDane at Healing House came to a close in early April, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many congregations and volunteers who supported families over the years.

Since opening in 2019, Healing House has provided a safe, recuperative space for families experiencing homelessness while caring for a loved one undergoing major medical treatment, often related to pregnancy. Your generosity, whether through preparing meals or offering time and care, reached local families when they needed it most.

Together, we served **312 individuals**, providing stability and support during critical moments.

While JustDane will continue operating Healing House, we are grateful for the role our community played in its impact.

Why I Give : A Leap Above Dance



"Dance is beautiful in the way that it creates community through connection. A Leap Above Dance (ALAD) has served as a second home to many dancers over the past twenty-five years. Each year, we put on a recital and each year, we recognize how fortunate we are to have a community that supports our studio and our dancers. While we know how lucky we are to do what we love, we know that not everyone is as fortunate. So, for the past several years, we've been choosing a local organization to support through a drive at our recital. This year, in celebration of the studio's 25th anniversary, our recitals were called "Coming Home" as a reflection of what ALAD has become to many – a second home. This year especially, we welcomed back alumni and truly celebrated the home that has been created through dance, the studio, and the people.

"The Road Home was the perfect organization to support at our recital this year. We love that they are not only helping families find stable housing, but that they are also committed to helping them hold on to that stability by offering essential items, resources, and making impactful connections. We understand the positive impact of community and admire The Road Home for its mission, vision, dedication, and strong sense of community.

"As we welcomed our dance families to our shows, we invited them to give to other families in need with donation boxes available at the theater entrance. Throughout the shows, dancers of all ages did their part by making blankets backstage. While our dancers were taking the stage, we hoped that by collecting household essentials, we could make a small difference in helping The Road Home 'set the stage' for a brighter future for families in need. Together, we could welcome everyone home."

The Courage to Reach Out

"It's funny. I work around Pokémon cards, Dungeons & Dragons, and a bunch of people decoding messages I still don't fully understand."

For Katie, stability became something she had to fight for after facing housing instability, job loss, and repeated barriers while trying to rebuild life with her family. Even as she worked hard to move forward, each setback made the goal of stable housing feel further out of reach.

After a series of housing denials and unexpected challenges, Katie and her family arrived in Madison with only one night left in a hotel and no clear place to go. With rent assistance and case management, they were able to secure an apartment and begin rebuilding stability.

Today, Katie is back working, leading teams, and focusing on creating a stable future for her daughter. While the journey was not easy, she reflects on how receiving support made a critical difference during a time when she felt overwhelmed and out of options.

"What I can say is this program was able to give me my dignity back."

Read more about Katie's journey to stability and how community support helped her family rebuild their future at www.trhome.org/katiestory



Scan the QR code or visit trhome.org to donate today! You can also use the enclosed envelope to donate and support our mission of ending family homelessness.

Contact Elliott Valentine, Development Director, for information on joining our Giving Society: elliottv@trhome.org

We're excited to share that our organization has earned a 2025 Platinum Seal of Transparency with Candid! Now, you can support our work with trust and confidence by viewing our #NonprofitProfile: trhome.org/who-we-are





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You're Invited: 2026 Homes for Families Fundraising Breakfast

Start your day inspired! This special morning will feature stories from families whose lives have been transformed through The Road Home's programs, a chance to connect with community leaders and supporters, and updates on how your support helps provide safe, stable housing for children and parents. Enjoy a delicious breakfast while celebrating the impact our community is making together.

For updates and details on the breakfast, visit our website at www.trhome.org/breakfast

