



January 9, 2022

**CORNERSTONE**  
REBUILDING LIVES, RESTORING HOPE

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church  
2200 W Old Shakopee Rd  
Bloomington, MN 55431-3093

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Revering  
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Dear Oak Grove Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your generous gift to Cornerstone of \$500.00 on 12/15/2021. We are truly grateful for your support. It has been a challenging two years, but we are optimistic about Cornerstone's future —and the futures of the families we serve. We could not have weathered this difficult time without the support of our community partners.

I wanted to share a story with you about one of Cornerstone's participants, whose story of hope and progress is only possible because of donors like you:

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Lila was homeless as a result of domestic violence and was facing an emergency housing situation. She was staying with a friend as a temporary option, but needed to find a more permanent home. Lila's Cornerstone Advocate enrolled her in public benefits, including child care assistance and a coordinated entry assessment that would speed up her ability to find affordable, safe housing through Hennepin County. Lila had done a lot of work to stabilize her life, including having a steady job, paying her bills on time, and providing excellent care and as much stability as she could for her son. However, a change in her temporary housing was a big surprise and a serious concern.

Lila's Cornerstone Advocate worked with two other local nonprofits to get her into safe, affordable, and sustainable housing. With teamwork, advocates were able to make a timely referral to keep Lila and her son from entering the shelter system. They are extremely happy in their new apartment and are continuing to receive support services from Cornerstone. She has also received a recent promotion! This is a great example of wraparound services working together to provide the best response in an urgent situation.

Your investment will help ensure families like Lila's have a safe place to live, emotional support, the opportunity to achieve financial independence, and connection to our shared community. Thank you for your support and I look forward to keeping you updated on Cornerstone's work in the year ahead.

**Honorary Board**

- Doodee Backstrom
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With gratitude,

  
Meg Schnabel  
Executive Director



**Executive  
Director**  
Meg Schnabel