

The Ruth House in Brockton, Massachusetts is home to 10 teenage mothers and their children who would otherwise be homeless. Here, they have found refuge, safety, stability, and hope for the future. Here, these young mothers work on education, vocation, parenting and life skills that will prepare them for transition to self-sufficient living and a future filled with hope and promise.

In general, these young mothers are extremely committed to improving their lives so that they can live on their own and parent their children well. Even though they often need a great deal of support, these young women possess a range of personal strengths that have been largely unexplored because they have not had the opportunity to grow within a safe and supportive environment.



I've spent 18 months at the Ruth House, and I love it here. I've learned how to be a better Mom and take care of my family. I feel ready to move on with our lives.

- Former Ruth House Resident now living independently

The Ruth House is one of two programs of Lutheran Social Services that offer transitional living for parenting homeless mothers and their children.



The other program is the Florence House in Worcester, MA, which opened in 1987. These two programs are full almost 100 percent of the time. Together, they have sheltered more than 1,500 young families, supported them in their pursuit of education, vocation and life skills, and returned them to the community prepared to live independently and care for their families.

The Need

The chief funding source for the Ruth House program—the Massachusetts Departments of Social Services—does provide funds for operations and maintenance, but not for major capital improvement. In fact, most repair work over the years has been accomplished by LSS, with generous support from individuals, congregations and foundations.

The Ruth House has had minimal renovation work since it opened in 1995. As a result, important maintenance has been deferred. Charitable gifts have made some repairs and renovations possible. But these have merely applied the proverbial “band-aids” to an aging, century-old facility.

Board members and other friends of LSS, as well as Ruth House staff, are determined to ensure that the program continues to provide residents with dignified, comfortable and secure surroundings for as long as there is a need.

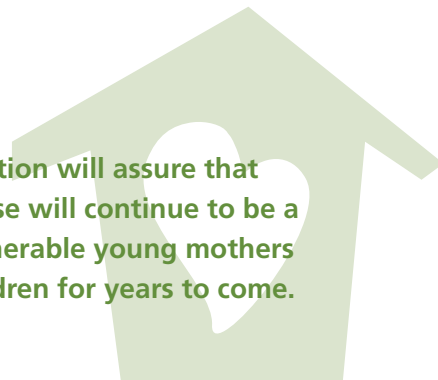
The Goal

A needs assessment has determined that \$830,000 is needed to accomplish the following essential improvements:

- Update the one-zone heating system to a more efficient system that would include central AC and the addition of individualized controls.
- Upgrade all bathrooms
- Replace ill-fitting windows that are hazardous to open and close
- Connect playground to house for safety, build privacy fence along Main Street
- Upgrade playground
- Repair/replace exterior elements: roof, pillars, walkways, gutters, downspouts, porch
- Repair/replace interior finishes: entryway, ceilings, stairways, doors
- Repair/replace flooring and walls in offices, hallways.

Donors to the Ruth House Campaign may designate their gifts for any of the specific needs listed in this brochure or give to the campaign’s general fund to improve the residence for young families.

Your contribution will assure that the Ruth House will continue to be a home for vulnerable young mothers and their children for years to come.



This House Is a Home
A Campaign for the Ruth House

Giving & Naming Opportunities

Donors who wish to name a room or space will be honored with a brass plaque bearing the inscription of their choice.

- Dining Room \$50,000
- Playground Upgrade \$40,000
- Family Recreation Room \$30,000
- Community Space \$30,000
- Individual Family Rooms (12) \$10,000
- Offices, Counseling Space \$10,000
- TV/Reading Rooms (2) \$10,000
- Landscaping \$5,000
- Workout Room \$5,000
- Resident room decor \$1,000

Please complete the reverse side of this response form and send your gifts to:

The Ruth House
553 North Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301

or donate online at LSSNE.org/Ruthhouse



Yes, I /we want to support the Ruth House Campaign!

I/We are pleased to pledge \$ _____

- Payment in full is enclosed or
- Payment will be made
 - monthly quarterly or annually
 - over a period of _____ years.

Enclosed \$ _____

I/We wish to designate our gift as follows (see reverse side of this form for giving/naming opportunities):

We wish to name a room (LSS will contact you for further information.)

Name (as it appears on credit card)

Credit Card #

Exp. Date

Billing Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone

Email

Signature

Congregation

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

- I/We are members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
- My company has a matching gift program. Please write your company's name below and enclose the appropriate form.

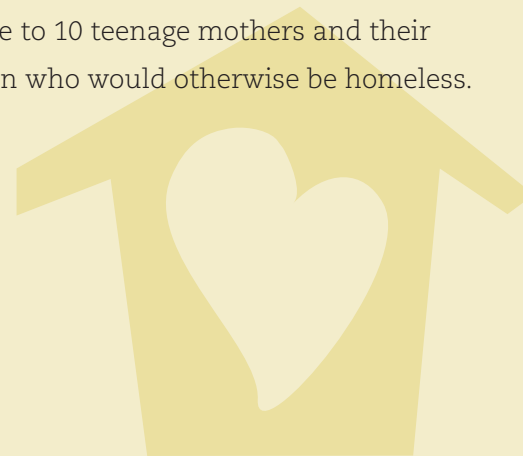
If paying by check please make check payable to the Ruth House Campaign.

Mail form to: *The Ruth House*
553 North Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301



For 10 teenage mothers and their children, there is a house that is indeed a home.

The Ruth House in Brockton, Massachusetts is home to 10 teenage mothers and their children who would otherwise be homeless.



In response to Christ's love, Lutheran Social Services serves and cares for people in need.

In 1872, the first program of Lutheran social ministry in New England opened its doors. Brook Farm in West Roxbury, Massachusetts was the site of the Martin Luther Orphans' Home. One hundred and thirty-five years later, Lutheran Social Services (LSS) is the third largest church-related charity in New England, with 55 programs that serve 5,000 individuals every day. The LSS mission is carried out through services for older and disabled adults, refugees, children at risk, parenting teens and their children and low income families in need of transportation.

 **Lutheran Social Services**

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Wellesley, Massachusetts 02482
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www.lssne.org

The Ruth House
A Program of Lutheran Social Services



This House Is a Home

A Campaign for the Ruth House



A Home for Parenting Teenage Mothers and their Children in Brockton, Massachusetts

 **Lutheran Social Services**