

From: Bridge of Hope, Edith Yoder <EdithY@bridgeofhopeinc.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:00 AM

Subject: Are you ready to make new memories?

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October 2021

**CHURCHES RESPOND.
HOMELESSNESS ENDS.
HOPE BEGINS.**

A background image showing a close-up of an open notebook with lined pages and a red pen resting on it. The image is slightly blurred, focusing on the text overlaid on it.

Creating New Memories

Are you ready to make new memories?

Jesse is turning 3 years old next month and has spent over half of his life in a homeless shelter. But this month, Jesse and his momma, Brittany*, moved into their own apartment. Brittany completed a job training program and a few weeks ago started a new job. Brittany and Jesse were delighted to walk in the front door of their new apartment. After 18 months in a homeless shelter, Brittany says, "We are ready to make new memories."

I thought of Brittany as I was watching the new Netflix series, *Maid*, episode 1, which seems to capture the sheer aloneness and shock of becoming homeless.

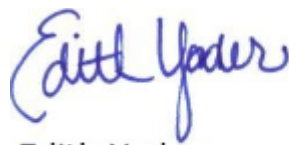
Who will walk with you...

- when you can't get a job after finishing a job training program, because you can't afford a car and the bus route doesn't pass both the daycare and potential employers?
- when you can't find someone to watch your son while you go to job interviews, but you can't take your son on interviews with you?
- when you can't save money for a security deposit because you are getting job training, so you can find a job that pays more than minimum wage?

The unbearable aloneness, in the midst of domestic violence, single parenting, or living in homeless shelters, can feel overwhelming.

Bridge of Hope – and **Neighboring Volunteers** from churches, Bible studies or small groups – are **holding out hope** to families facing homelessness every day. Being present with a single mom who feels so alone. Showing up for a child who is struggling. Seeing strengths in a teen with learning differences. Throwing a birthday party for a little boy who finally has his own bedroom.

Are you ready to help a family make new memories? Are you ready to **neighbor**?



Edith Yoder
Chief Executive Officer



A car is not a home. A hotel room is not a home. Learn about [Ana's story](#) and how you can help more families today?

We're welcoming **Erie United Methodist Alliance (EUMA) in Erie, PA**, as our newest Program Site location! Committed to making family homelessness rare, brief, and one-time, they believe engaging churches through Neighboring is the missing piece needed for the families they serve. Welcome to the Bridge of Hope network, EUMA!

We invite your prayers:

- Women in Bridge of Hope struggling to know themselves as beloved children of God as they overcome the trauma of domestic violence.
- Healing for children who have experienced or witnessed violence and other traumatic events.

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