Our Mission:
Third Street Alliance for Women & Children provides a safe and healthy space for women, children, and families to live, learn, and thrive.

You’re invited!

Thirty for Third Street
Maria Spillane, Independent Consultant for Arbonne International, is making Third Street Alliance the beneficiary of the profits of all sales during the month of August. She set a goal of 30 events. Please help her reach her goal and support Third Street Alliance. For details, see the Events page on our website, thirdstreetalliance.org

Dancing on the Odds
$10 Lessons at 7pm
Dancing 8pm—10pm
July 29: Rumba
August 5: Dancing
August 19: Hustle
Sept. 16, 30: Two Step

Tae Kwon Do
8 weeks $58**
Beginners
Tues & Thurs: 6-7pm
Colored Belts
Tues & Thurs: 7-8pm
Sat: 8-9am
Advanced Belts
Sat 9-10:30am
** Discounts for additional family members

Save the Date:
Oldies Dance
Sat., Nov. 12
Rock n’ roll and travel down memory lane while dancing to the music of the “old days.”

www.ThirdStreetAlliance.org
Cooking Up a Solid Future
Yolanda McGee wants to make certain her catering business lasts for generations.
Yolanda has moved out of Third Street Alliance’s shelter and is currently working as a driver for Easton Coach. But her goal is to own a catering business.

She has enjoyed cooking her whole life, and it’s what makes her happy. But life wasn’t easy for Yolanda, who has suffered through domestic abuse. When she first came to TSA, it was hard to open up to others, she said, but quickly learned how.

“It’s not an embarrassing thing to ask for help,” she said. “I learned that from Janice Thomas. If you need help, say something.”

Feeling confident again, Yolanda attended a BW NICE mixer and met women who were uplifting.
“I never had a role model to actually give me the extra push,” she said. “Once I met the women from BW NICE, I had a support system from these women.”

That support has led her to begin working on her business, setting herself up with a mentor and getting her credit back on track over the next year. She is taking the steps to ensure it will provide a solid future for her son.

Yolanda has catered events at Third Street Alliance, including Grace’s Garden party held in June. In April, she was able to share her story at the BW NICE Red Shoe lunch in Bethlehem.

Yolanda hopes she can pay forward to those who are going through what she did by sharing her story and help more people like her.

“They are not alone in their situation,” she said.

Parents Who Care
By partnering with Family Connections of Easton, Inc., four resident moms came together and met for four sessions that built on the families’ strengths, developed positive parenting skills, and promoted family fun activities to improve the quality of life for children and families.

The mothers met with a facilitator using the “Active Parenting Now” video series to initiate discussion.

The group sessions included discussion, questions and answers, and sharing experiences.

Workshop topics included parenting styles, stress management, communication, and taking care of themselves as caregivers.

“It was great to give the moms a chance to exhale,”
Director of Homeless Services Janice Thomas said. “We provided childcare for them and we know some have acquired new skills and others have sharpened their skills to help their children succeed.”

She hopes to also provide sessions to TSA’s Learning Center parents.

Yolanda speaking at the BW Nice Red Shoe Luncheon on April 29. // Photo Credit Terree Yeagle, The Moment

Tae Kwon Do

Save the Date:
Oldies Dance

Rock n’ roll and travel down memory lane while dancing to the music of the “old days.”
I have the pleasure of sharing with you a few of the amazing acts of kindness and generosity that have been bestowed on Third Street Alliance over the past few months.

Through a donation of sofas, loveseats and chairs, Chip Maragulia and Monarch Furniture refurnished our shelter lounges, adult day program calming area, and our reception area.

We were the recipient of the proceeds from four wonderful events - The BW NICE Red Shoe Fashion Show & Luncheon and Listen to Your Mother 2016 Show; Also MOD Pizza on Freemansburg Avenue pledged the proceeds from their Grand Opening on July 1 to support TSA and we were also the beneficiary of Larry Holmes’s Heart of a Legend Golf Tournament in July.

As part of the Lehigh Valley Volunteer Center Challenge, Valley National Financial Advisors gathered welcome baskets for new shelter residents, and won the mid-size company challenge.

Volunteers from One Financial Services donated a total makeover of our Bixler Courtyard – be sure to check it out the next time you are on Third Street.

Every day, through our commitment to deliver excellent programs and services, we strive to live to the trust invested in us by our generous donors and supporters.

We’re pleased to share with you that the Easton Chamber of Commerce recognized our work and honored us with the 2016 Nonprofit Excellence Award.

We are grateful to all of our donors for the truly amazing support we receive. We could not do the work we do without you!
This Donation “Floored” Us!

When we received an inquiry asking whether we would accept a donation of a large rug, what we received was not what we initially expected. It was much more than just a big carpet.

Through the generosity of Derek and Jamie Gottschall, Third Street Alliance became the recipient of an extraordinary carpet. This beautiful 100% wool, custom made Stark needlepoint rug was used in a room that was designed specifically for this floor covering.

The Gottschalls were moving and their new home could not accommodate the 14.25’ x 36.17’ carpet. It was suggested to them that they donate the carpet to a non-profit, and Third Street Alliance was contacted. Although the carpet is 20-25 years old, it is in “like new condition”.

The appraisal on the carpet values it in the $52,000 range.

We are unable to use the carpet at the mansion as the size is larger than any of the rooms. This beautiful piece of woven art needs to find a home.

If you, or someone you know is interested in purchasing the carpet, please contact Wendy Hughes at whughes@thirdstreetalliance.org.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to beautify your home and to support the mission of Third Street Alliance. We are very grateful to the Gottschalls for their generous donation.

Giving three ways

Being the beneficiary of a donation such as the Stark carpet is a unique experience, and one not likely to be repeated. But every day we experience gifts of kindness and generosity. Whether these donations are large or small, each gift makes a difference in the lives of those we serve.

Here are a few of the many ways that you can support Third Street Alliance:

Financial Support:

You can support Third Street Alliance through making a financial donation by cash, check or credit card. It is as easy as visiting us, putting a check in the mail (use the envelope enclosed with this newsletter), or making a donation online through our website, on the homepage use the donate button—it’s that simple!

Are you aware that you can participate in a payroll deduction program through the United Way, Benevity, Your Cause or other programs? Talk to your employer about payroll deductions and matching gift programs.

Goods and Services:

Our programs are in need of many items – check the list of what is needed on our website, under “Ways to Help.” Donations of gift cards are always appreciated!

If you enjoy shopping online there is now an easy way to give to charity. Amazon Smile costs nothing to join or use when shopping. Through Amazon Smile, a .5 percent donation is made to the charity you choose when you shop. Sign up at https://smile.amazon.com and just select Third Street Alliance as your charity.

Check our Amazon wish list for recent additions of what may be needed.

Volunteering:

From holding babies to wielding a hammer, whatever your skills it is likely that we have a use for them. Both individuals and groups can perform volunteer activities. Contact Wendy Hughes at whughes@thirdstreetalliance.org for information or complete the online volunteer application.

We are grateful for every gift. Thank you so much!
Third Street Alliance for Women & Children

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Parents and Teachers Working Together

The Learning Center is planning to create a parent-teacher organization with the help of Ms. Zandrea, our Family Engagement Partner; Nancy Frederick, Director of the Learning Center; and families.

Following conversations that Nancy has had with parents, there is an interest by parents being more involved in the center and their child’s education experience, Nancy said.

“I created a parent survey recently and the responses were great and very helpful,” she said.

One of the questions in the survey asked if parents would be interested in participating in an organization.

“Fifty-six percent said ‘yes’ and 38 percent said ‘maybe,’” Nancy said. “I was excited to see such high numbers.”

Zandrea and Nancy are now in the development stages, brainstorming how to get the group started, how families can participate and when to meet. They also hope to come up with topics that need to be addressed and research what families want to see addressed.

Become involved! Contact Nancy at nfrederick@thirdstreetalliance.org.

Graduation Day is Here

In June, the Learning Center classrooms were transitioning and graduating. The Pre-K Counts. Pre-School and Kindergarten classes held graduations with all the pomp and circumstance. The Pre-school class wore mortarboards with their names on as parents watched. Afterward, students showed off their artwork that was on display in the gym and there was cake!

During the summer, the students will be taking various trips to New Jersey and Philadelphia, including to the Land of Make Believe, the Liberty Science Center, the Philadelphia Zoo and more.

The students have been practicing their balancing and teamwork skills through yoga classes with Ms. Melanie of the Shanti Project.
2016 Historic Mansion Tours

Visit the home that Herman Simon built in 1902 “for the ladies.”

Saturday, September 24
Saturday, October 1
Saturday, November 5

Tours 11 AM to 2 PM

Tours run every half hour
Last tour leaves at 1:30 PM

Tours are free, donations appreciated

We’re going GREEN! Please be sure to provide us with your E-MAIL address to receive timely newsletters, program updates and event information so that we can be even better stewards of your gifts. To be added to our email list, please contact krose@thirdstreetalliance.org, or visit our website.

Guides are needed, to volunteer please contact Kim krose@thirdstreetalliance.org or 610.258.6271 ext.234
Senior Prom 2016

A Starry Night

It was just like the old days as seniors danced and enjoyed themselves at the prom. The 9th annual Senior Prom was held on June 17 and attended by the Sharing the Caring clients and their loved ones.

Ron Richardson, a former member of The Platters, delighted guests with his musical talents, singing songs from the 50’s and 60’s.

To prepare for the big event, each member helped in with making the decorations and center pieces, tracing patterns, cutting, and gluing stars together for the Starry Night theme.

Those stars dotted the gym and hung from the ends of balloons, making it shimmer in the daylight hours.

Every client was given a corsage or boutonniere, provided by Bloomie’s Flower Shop in Easton.

“Prom was beautiful and I danced with my husband like old times,” one member said.

Apple muffin favors were baked by the clients and a stuffed teddy bear was raffled off to a guest. The money collected from the raffle will go back into the Sharing the Caring program.

Tom and Margaret were crowned the prom king and queen and the two shared a dance together. This was Tom’s second year being crowned the king and Margaret proudly wore a pink and fuzzy crown.

“All were together, socialized (and) danced,” a family member said. “No one was left alone.”

Guests enjoyed an Italian-themed lunch, as well as coffee and cake provided by Wegman’s.

Upcoming Events with Sharing the Caring

It’s not summer without picnics and ice cream trucks! Sharing the Caring is looking forward to its annual summer picnic and visit from the ice cream truck in August!

Just in time for fall fashion season, a fashion show is planned in September, with the help of Twice Chic Boutique in Easton, providing the fashions our clients will wear.

We are currently seeking responsible volunteers for summer walks outside and to help with other program activities. If you know any high school students age 15 and older, college students, retirees or anyone else who might be interested in being a regular volunteer at our program, contact Mahpareh Fakhraie, director of Sharing the Caring at mfakhraie@thirdstreetalliance.org.