

The Lamb Foundation provides affordable housing and support services to senior citizens and adult individuals with mental, physical, and developmental disabilities who would otherwise be homeless.

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"Truly I say to you to the extent that you have done these things unto one of the least of my brothers, you have done it unto me"— Matthew 25:40

Quality of life goes beyond just meeting needs of food, shelter, and clothing. It requires the added life experiences of trusted relationships, learning opportunities, personal and spiritual commitment, and recreational activities in a living arrangement that provides care, nurturance, and yes... love. This is a family. This is a home.

The Lamb Foundation, based in Montgomery County, Pa., provides homes for women and men struggling with physical, developmental, and/or mental disabilities. As members of the Lamb family, residents have the opportunity to learn, laugh, work, and enjoy leisure within the comfort of familial homes. **Each Lamb Foundation home becomes a close-knit circle that grows and develops because of the unique personalities, abilities, and disabilities of each member.**

Most Lamb Foundation residents have some degree of mental or physical disability. However, many of our residents once were talented professors, bookkeepers, authors, salespersons, devoted parents, spouses, or have been caregivers themselves. Our homes are not clinical, medical, therapeutic in nature, or institutional. Lamb Foundation does not use terms such as “clients” or “patients.” **At the very least, the people living in Lamb Foundation homes are residents, and at their very best they are friends, family, and peers.**

By providing unique daily life and growth opportunities in a

small community, Lamb Foundation residents live complete family oriented lives in homes and communities in the North Penn Valley. This small community includes dances, music lessons, Bible studies, field trips, camping, shopping, sports, and when possible, paid or volunteer jobs within the organization.

The Lamb Foundation is privately funded, not publicly funded. It relies on private donor generosity and earned grants to make its mission a reality and its programs successful. Just as important are the program fees paid by the residents. Lamb Foundation also operates a large thrift shop named **Sweet Repeats**, as well as an eBay Store, **Sweet E Repeats**, to generate additional funds to augment its programs.

Lamb Foundation does not rely on any government funds, nor does it lean on the tax base of any community. The Lamb Foundation actively seeks and gratefully accepts grants, awards, project seed money, and private donations from a variety of funding sources.

The Lamb Foundation is Born

As a college student in the 1980's, Lamb Foundation Founder Donna Mengel could not walk among the homeless people she encountered on her way to classes at Temple University in Philadelphia without feeling the need “to do something.” Because of her strong Christian convictions, Mengel was not content to simply buy sandwiches for the hungry homeless. She began formulating plans for providing decent homes for homeless people, to serve them as faithfully as she would Jesus Christ, the “Lamb of God.”

Mengel started with her own home in North Wales Borough. She inquired into Aging and Adult services of Montgomery County for an opportunity to help meet the County's housing needs in some small way, and was directed to a program called Domiciliary Care. Within a month, the first three Lamb Foundation residents joined a bustling, multi-generational home with parents, teenagers, and younger children – her own and adopted children, including those with developmental disabilities.

As word got out about Lamb Foundation services, the list of applicants grew. Another home was purchased nearby, allowing the first home to become an independent Lamb Foundation home. For over 20 years, The Lamb Foundation has acquired, improved, furnished, and staffed dozens of homes, ranging from single studios and shared apartments to large, stately homes.

Today, Lamb Foundation residents live in over 45 fully-furnished, single-family homes that provide:

- **Either single or double bedrooms**
- **Utilities, including telephone and cable television**
- **Daily assistance with life tasks, as needed**
- **Laundry facilities/services**
- **Transportation arrangements**
- **Meals**

Lamb homes are unique in many ways because of Lamb's commitment to making each resident a member of the home's family. Both residents and staff commit to keeping the family living and private spaces clean and maintained with the attentiveness of private homeowners. Lamb Foundation residents support and care for each other, sometimes to their last days through medical issues and hospice. Each home member agrees to what they can or cannot do for each other.

Application and Interview

Not everyone is a Lamb Foundation candidate. When new residents apply, Lamb staff members carefully consider their individual needs and personalities to match them to the best home available. The extra time that goes into resident placement helps to develop lifelong friendships and long-term, caring relationships among each Lamb family.

In an arrangement unique to Lamb, residents are governed by a 30-day housing program agreement that includes a promise to follow Lamb rules and gives either party the opportunity to discontinue residency on 30 days notice. These provisions allow someone who cannot adapt to the setting to leave without the entanglement of a lease or other contractual difficulty. In some cases, Lamb staff can suggest other appropriate agencies.

The first step in the application process is the submission of an Intake Application Form, which is available for downloading from Lamb Foundation's web site at www.LambFoundationPA.org or by calling Lamb Foundation at 215-699-5600. Intake forms can be submitted by mail or by fax to 215-661-8825.

The next step is an office interview with the prospective resident and family members or other responsible and supportive parties. The initial interview is usually conducted at the offices of Lamb Foundation in North Wales. Depending on the results of the interview and housing available at that time, the candidate may be invited back for a tour of the home or homes available.

Inside a Lamb Home

Services and Support

Today's Lamb Foundation has grown in a spirit of ministry, service, and the understanding of practical needs. Lamb Foundation residents sometimes require assistance and support in taking care of the tasks of daily life. **It is important to carefully assess what each resident does (or does not) need, so that he or she can live as independently as possible.** The Lamb Foundation staff gladly help residents to:

- **Maintain their homes and property**
- **Prepare meals/menus**
- **Schedule appointments for personal needs or with physicians, social services, Medicare agencies, and more**
- **Keep appointments by assisting with transportation**
- **Obtain and manage prescriptions from doctors (Lamb Foundation does not pay for medications)**
- **Assist with the paperwork that can accompany appointments**
- **Access places of worship and develop spiritually, as desired**
- **Participate in work or recreational activities**
- **Address legal concerns and issues**

The Lamb Foundation is **non-governmental, non-institutional, and non-clinical.** When residents require support that exceeds Lamb Foundation services, staff members can assist them to get the treatment or attention they need by helping them enroll in psychiatric or counseling programs (when appropriate), or job coaching/placement agencies, and by coordinating services with other professionals.

Skilled and Caring Staff

Lamb Foundation staff members have varied backgrounds in domestic care, early education, missionary/ministerial work, nursing, and residential care. They are selected for their ability to combine high energy, personal skills, an open mind, and an overall good, friendly attitude toward the residents. In addition to assisting residents with cooking, cleaning, laundry, administrative paperwork, and transportation needs, the staff develop positive emotional bonds with the residents, creating a stable environment. Most staff members are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year, and demonstrate the good that comes from an organization of people who truly love and want to help those in need.

Work Opportunities

Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop and eBay store, Sweet E Repeats

The Lamb Foundation owns and operates Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop to raise funds to support its housing mission. Since 2004, the thrift shop operations have been augmented by Lamb Foundation's eBay Store, called Sweet E Repeats. Together, Lamb staff and residents work to tangibly demonstrate the values of recycling and stewardship in creating a second harvest of community-donated goods. Please see the back cover for more information.

Lamb Foundation Crews

In 1994, the Lamb Foundation assembled its first group of capable and trusted residents who wanted to assist the regular housekeeping staff. Today, Lamb Foundation has several crews of residents working alongside staff in maintenance, the thrift shop, housekeeping, and residential support, earning appreciation and prestige among staff and their peers, on both a volunteer and compensation basis.

Individual Jobs for Individual Talents

Some residents come to Lamb with extensive training in certain fields. Lamb recognizes that individuals who display certain innate talents or specific job skills deserve the chance to cultivate them. For this reason, visitors may find residents in Lamb's reception area, maintaining the office library, and teaching other residents to read, to play music, or to use the computer.

Social Recreation Opportunities

Dances and Road Trips

On holidays, Lamb residents join members of other special needs communities to relax and have fun at foundation-sponsored dances. In warmer weather, they meet for outdoor summer concerts, picnics, and pet shows.

The Foundation takes its activities on the road by sponsoring bus trips to Lancaster County and Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, to Cape May in New Jersey and to numerous Pa., N.J., and N.Y. state and county parks, events, and celebrations.

Lamb Getaways

The Lamb Foundation organized its first-ever one-week sleepover adventure for 20 residents in the summer of 2001 at Camp Oaks in Bucks County, where the founder's family owns two waterfront cottages which they share with friends, including members of the Lamb family. This getaway created special bonds among the participants, enhancing their self-esteem. Now, Lamb Getaways are held in three one-week sessions, when residents may enjoy activities such as:

- **Swimming**
- **Campfires**
- **Daily trips (flea markets, miniature golfing, bowling, movies, and more)**
- **Boating**
- **Crafts**
- **"LambOlympics"**
- **Fishing**

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

The Lamb Foundation believes that spiritual growth is an important component in the life and health of each resident. Residents who wish to participate may attend worship services and Bible studies designed to address the issues of our time. Lamb Foundation also assists with transportation to churches and synagogues for residents to worship and exercise their respective faiths.

Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop

Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop, based in Montgomery County's North Wales Borough, demonstrates how innovative thinking can benefit Lamb's funding and residents, as well as the surrounding area and the global community.



To help maintain more than 45 homes and serve over 160 residents, Lamb Foundation welcomes tax-deductible donations of good, used furniture, clothing, jewelry, home goods, and more. Items immediately needed by residents or their homes are distributed first.

Anything else is

prepared for sale in the Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop or listed for auction on our eBay store, Sweet E Repeats.

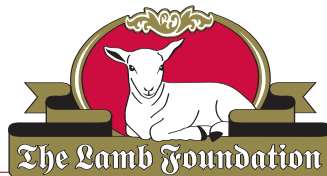
Funding

Because Lamb Foundation exists on residential fees, private donations, and grants, not governmental funds, Sweet Repeats functions as another source of income for Lamb. Fully 100 percent of Sweet Repeats' Thrift Shop and Sweet E Repeats eBay sales are deposited into Lamb Foundation's general fund for its housing program.

Clothing and small item donations can be dropped off at Sweet Repeats during store hours. Larger items of furniture are accepted at Lamb Foundation's warehouse by appointment only. If needed, Lamb Foundation crews will pick up good, clean furniture, working appliances, and large useable items in our area.

Sweet Repeats Thrift Shop
115 South Main Street
North Wales, PA 19454

STORE HOURS: Monday to Friday – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. STORE PHONE: 215-661-8800
eBAY: stores.ebay.com/SweetERepeats • FOR PICKUP INQUIRIES, CALL: 215-699-5600



The Lamb Foundation accepts private and in-kind contributions, as well as earned grants to fund its housing program and mission. To find out how you can support Lamb, please call us at 215-699-5600.

Residents

Sweet Repeats offers Lamb residents another opportunity to expand their job skills, earn money, and nurture their own self esteem. Residents who would like to volunteer at the store learn marketing and retail display techniques, recycling principals, and interpersonal sales skills. The work keeps the residents active and involved in the community, and instills a spirit of volunteerism which is particularly beneficial to residents who are struggling with depression and isolation. Sweet Repeats provides clothing, shoes, and accessories to meet the needs of its residents, which proves very helpful to residents who are seeking outside employment and need "work" wardrobes.

Surrounding Area

Members of Lamb's surrounding community also shop at Sweet Repeats, where they can find surprising bargains not readily available at other stores. Sweet Repeats also offers Lamb's neighbors the chance to make tax-deductible donations of their excess goods to a local charity benefiting local people in need.

Lamb Foundation donates excess food, furniture, and clothing, when available, to needy or calamity-stricken citizens in Southeastern Pennsylvania, in response to direct contact or through other 501(c)(3) organizations.

Global Community

Lamb Foundation recycles clothing and textiles that Sweet Repeats does not sell to DuMont Industries, a Philadelphia-based company that sends clothing and textiles from the United States to needy people in overseas communities. Lamb Foundation residents and staff also participate in mission work by sending clothing to Liberian orphanages, world-wide hurricane relief efforts, and by filling shoeboxes with small gifts and necessities for children with the Samaritan's Purse project during Thanksgiving.

"And from everyone who has been given much shall much be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more."

— Luke 12:48