Thank you to everyone in the community who helped Friendship House serve more meals in 2014 than any year on record (61,427 to be exact). 2014 was the first full year of operating the new Friendship House Café and Hunger to Hope and we couldn’t have done it without your generous donations. It’s truly a blessing to live in a community with residents so dedicated to giving a "hand up" to those in need. I say "hand up" instead of "hand out" because one thing that makes the Friendship House different is our unique ability to change lives and guide our residents to getting their lives either on track. The employees and volunteers of Friendship House work hard to steer our residents towards leading fulfilling and productive lives. This includes job training, counseling, linking the resident to other community resources, or providing transitional housing. A "hand up" is one of the most important philosophies that guide us in our efforts and one of the main reasons I am so happy to be Treasurer of Friendship House.

In 2014, we continued to strengthen our financial position during the year, so that we can make sure we are able to continue providing compassionate service to as many of those in need as we can. Some of the projects we plan to fund in 2015 include an upgrade to our outdated phone system, an expansion of Hunger to Hope, and a remodel of the old kitchen space inside the Men’s House.

Our Friendship House Café may be built and fully functional, but it is as important now as it ever was that we continue to see a steady stream of donations so we can keep food on the table, maintain the 100-year-old houses that provide shelter to our residents, and provide all the services our residents need to get back on their feet. Thank you again for your tremendously generous support of Friendship House. ♥