

## How can I support Clare House?

- Make a gift on CSS's secure web site [www.cssalaska.org](http://www.cssalaska.org).
- Many employers provide matching gifts for their employee's charitable giving. Provide a matching gift form from your employer to enhance your personal gift.
- Give an honorary gift for a loved one's birth, birthday, wedding or anniversary or give a memorial gift.
- Make a planned gift with a bequest in your will or designate Clare House as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy.
- Volunteer — find out how by visiting [www.cssalaska.org](http://www.cssalaska.org)
- Host a collection drive for diapers, bleach or laundry soap.
- Pick up an extra gallon of milk or a dozen eggs and drop them off at Clare House.
- Purchase gift cards for Fred Meyer, Wal-Mart and Target that will be used for or by the residents.

*For more information about making a financial gift please contact Adele Alderman at 222-7355 or [aalderman@cssalaska.org](mailto:aalderman@cssalaska.org).*



"We are pleased to support Clare House because strong and stable moms equals greater security for kids. When kids have a good home life their chances for success at school and in life improve dramatically. Please give your support to Clare House and make sure this important program continues."

Stacia & Rob Gillam  
Dedicated Clare House Supporters

### For More Information:

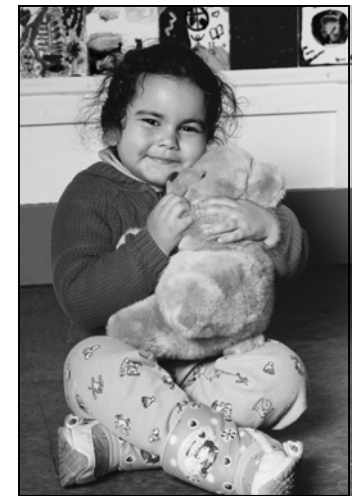
Barbe' Neeson, Program Director  
907.563.4545 or [bneeson@cssalaska.org](mailto:bneeson@cssalaska.org)

Melissa Bartley, CSS Volunteer Manager  
907.222.7344 or [mbartley@cssalaska.org](mailto:mbartley@cssalaska.org)



# Clare House

*An emergency homeless shelter for women with children and expectant mothers.*



Catholic  
**Social Services**

*Providing Help  
Creating Hope*

420 West 54th Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99518  
[www.cssalaska.org](http://www.cssalaska.org)  
563-4545

**Second to losing a parent, homelessness is the most traumatic event that can happen in a child's life.**

The fastest growing homeless segment in our nation is women with young children. Women who find themselves homeless are in crisis. Their primary concern is finding food, shelter and clothing for themselves and their children. Clare House is Anchorage's 24-hour, emergency shelter for homeless women with children and expectant mothers who aren't in current life threatening domestic violence situations.

Recognizing a family's need to have stability in order to maintain housing, Clare House staff work with adult residents to review their personal situation. This includes exploring the causes for their homelessness and putting together an assessment plan with referrals for childcare, employment and permanent housing. All the services offered at Clare House are designed to lead a family out of despair and instill hope for a practical path to economic stability and self-sufficiency.

A very important benefit to the children at Clare House is a collaborative relationship with the Anchorage School District to provide transportation to pick up children at Clare House and other shelters and take students to their "home" schools for classes.

## Clients

In fiscal year 2009, Clare House sheltered 468 women with children and expectant mothers — that equals 14,794 bed nights.

Approximately half of the women who reside at Clare House report that they have been victims of domestic violence/sexual assault at some point in their lives.



## Volunteers

Every afternoon, a family or a community group arrives at Clare House with a nutritious dinner for approximately 45 people. They are a part of the network of Clare House meal providers that was established in 1983.

Volunteer opportunities range from leading children's activities on Saturday morning to hosting collection drives. Group volunteer projects happen year round. For example, groups have built a playground, painted the interior of the shelter and landscaped the yard.

**88.7% of adult residents met with a case manager to develop a service plan within the first 3 days of their stay.**

*"They give you what you need to get going. I've always been independent, so I know you need to do the footwork yourself, you can't have them do it for you!"* explained Tracy a mother of two who stayed at Clare House for two weeks during a difficult period in her life.



*"Clare House is a place to get help, not to hide,"* said Pat, a former waitress and bartender who worked consistently throughout her life before a disabling back injury.



*"I am a grown woman. I made some bad decisions but I'm ready to start making some good ones,"* said Debbi during her first night at Clare House.