



THE BEACON

**Barrett Foundation, Inc.
Spring 2007**

Letter To A Friend...

Dear Linda,

For some time now I've been wanting to send you this letter. You've been on my mind a lot lately. Remember when Mike first introduced you to me back about 9 or 10 years ago? You quickly agreed to perform at our fundraiser that year and later joined our board of directors. I was so thrilled to meet you and as it turned out, of course, we became good friends. I especially appreciate your sense of humor and your no-nonsense approach to solving problems. I know I can always count on you when I need to sound off ... We're coming up on our Christmas lunch date – are we doing the Hilton again this year? If we could just get through one lunch without everyone stopping and talking to you and our food getting cold in the process. You hate cold food ... And there are the leftovers – Picasso will be one happy puppy when you get back to the car.



Dorothee Otero & Linda Cotton

I know your health has been giving you a lot of problems lately. I wish you'd take better care of yourself. You do so much for everyone else when you really should be putting yourself first. Girl – get some rest – the world still needs you. I know telling you to slow down is like trying to stop the New Mexico wind – it just doesn't happen.

The fundraiser this year was such a phenomenal success – every year it just gets better and bigger. You are the star of that evening and I look forward to many more years of your lively entertainment and humor. You have such a wonderful talent!

Ok, have to go now. I just thought I would write you this little note to let you know how much I appreciate everything you do for Barrett and for being such a great friend. Call you next week.

Dorothee

This was an actual letter I wrote to Linda a few months ago. The letter stayed on my computer and was never sent ... how sad in retrospect. My dear friend Linda Cotton died very suddenly on Thanksgiving Day 2006. I can't count the many things she did for Barrett – she brought her heart and soul into everything she did. She was an advocate for our clients, and many times Linda would walk into the shelter and strike up a conversation with someone in the hallway. She had a sense of humor that was unparalleled – I always told her she should have been a comedian. Linda managed to entertain the crowds with not just her beautiful voice but also her humor.

I know I speak for many when I say what a tremendous loss our community suffered the day Linda left. We will never know how many lives Linda affected through her love for music and entertaining, her dedication to her favorite causes, her tireless efforts to make the world a better place, and through being a devoted friend. We will miss her always.

Executive Director



Linda Cotton



Barrett Foundation
505-246-9244
www.barrettfoundation.org

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Law Student
Kathy Garcia, Vice President
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Home Team Realty
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Our Mission:

To provide housing and supportive services to homeless women and children who are striving to break the cycle of homelessness.

Barrett House - Emergency shelter for homeless women and children. Sr. Dorothy Hansen, Program Director, Daisy Williams, Case Manager

Bridges - Supportive housing for families & single women. Ami Reese, Coordinator/Case Manager .

Casa Milagro - Transitional housing for women suffering from mental illness.

Gloria Keliiaa, Program Director

Casa Verde - Permanent, affordable housing for women suffering from mental illness.

Debra O'Malley, AfterCare Manager

Casa Socorro - Permanent housing for chronically homeless women.

Ami Reese, Coordinator/Case Manager.

Barrett House Attic - Thrift Shop.

Maria Avila, Manager

Barrett Foundation, Inc.

Corporate Office/Grants/Fundraising

Dorothee Otero, Executive Director

Jill Criswell, Director of Development

News From The Board...

Barrett Foundation Board has elected the following new directors: John Jennings, CPA; Anne Nokes; Laurie Monfiletto; Erin Wideman, CPA; and Judy Wilson. Officers are President – Stormy Ralstin, Vice-President – Kathy Garcia; Secretary – Colleen Wagoner.

The Board of Directors presented past board president Stanley Weinstein, ACFRE a gift to thank him for his years of service. Stanley made a significant contribution to the organization through his commitment to improving strategic planning, board development, and fundraising. His work on the capital campaign helped take the new Barrett House facility from dream to reality. On behalf of the homeless women and children who will benefit from his commitment to Barrett's mission for decades to come, we say a sincere "thank you" to Stanley Weinstein.

New Beds Donated By Tempur-Pedic Albuquerque

Economic Development and government leaders from the city, county, and state, including Gov. Bill Richardson and Rep. Heather Wilson, attended the dedication of Tempur-Pedic Albuquerque's new manufacturing plant on January 26, 2007. The new plant is the largest mattress manufacturing facility in the world.

Tempur-Pedic CEO, Thomas Bryant announced the donation of 65 beds to Barrett Foundation, an example of the company's commitment to being an involved citizen. Casa Esperanza, who provides housing for families of cancer patients, will also receive beds.

Tempur-Pedic's very generous gift to our emergency shelter and other housing programs will provide thousands of hours of good rest for the homeless women in Barrett Foundation housing.



Tempur-Pedic CEO Thomas Bryant, Dorothee Otero, Colleen Wagoner, Jill Criswell, and Kathy Garcia

Casa Verde – A Gift She Never Expected

Carla battled mental illness for years before coming to Barrett House. After her husband and two children died in a car wreck, the severe depression she had experienced most of her adult life became crippling and life threatening. She lived in her car many times before seeking shelter. She lost her job, her friends, and her home. At times, she sought professional help and took medications, but "I attempted suicide every chance I got," said Carla.

The Barrett House case manager recommended that Carla move into our transitional housing program, Casa Milagro. Skeptically, Carla agreed to try it. She stuck it out, week by week, for the whole eighteen months, battling each day to regain mental stability. "I had to relearn a lot of things most people take for granted," Carla said, "like how to manage money, cook, shop, use the bus,

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Masquerade Ball Sets Record

Kylene & Perry Molley



Lynn & Bill Biava



Leba, Elliot & Mark Pierce



St. Joseph Community Health Foundation Table

Thanks to our generous sponsors, business and individual auction donors, and more than 300 guests, the 2006 dinner and auction was the most successful fundraiser in Barrett's history, with an increase in net income of more than 36%. Entertainment by Linda Cotton and her band, tuxedos, elegant dresses, and colorful masks made the Harlequin Moon Masquerade Ball a night to remember.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR 2007!

This year's theme for Barrett Foundation's annual fundraiser is *"The Beat Goes On."* The gala event will be a tribute to extraordinary entertainer Linda Cotton and will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2007. The evening will continue our tradition of fabulous music, gourmet dinner, and exciting auctions. Save the date!

THANK YOU!

2006 Sponsors:

Berger Briggs

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NM

Cardinal Health

Carol Rickert & Associates

First Community Bank

Lovelace Auxiliary

St. Joseph Community Health Foundation

Scott & Karen Sibbett

Wells Fargo Bank

Old Town Merchants Association Benefits Barrett House

The **Old Town Holiday Stroll**, always provides a festive kick-off for the holiday season, with a variety of entertainment, a visit from Santa, holiday shopping and dining bargains. The sale of discount buttons for OTMA stores and restaurants, along with donations of **Flying Star Café** hot chocolate and a raffle with prizes donated by **Church Street Cafe** and **Somé Gallery**, helped raise more than \$7200.



Stroll sponsors included:

770 KKOB, 99.5 Magic FM, Flying Star Café, City of Albuquerque, NM Dept. of Tourism, Wells Fargo, Comcast, and Clear Channel Communications. Volunteers from **Metropolitan Board of Realtors** worked throughout the day and evening to sell buttons, direct traffic and staff the information tent on the plaza. We are grateful to the 2006 Stroll Committee, led by **Betty Panos of White Feather Trading Co. and Kathy Hyatt of the Bottger Mansion.** Their year-round work on the Stroll has made this one of Albuquerque's premier holiday events.

(Save the date: **Holiday Stroll December 1, 2007.**)

Casa Verde – A Gift She Never Expected

(Continued from page 2)

and even how to find a job.”

Today, Carla is more stable than she's ever been. After completing the transitional program, she moved to Barrett's permanent housing for mentally ill women. She takes great pride in her ability to live independently. Like other Casa Verde residents, she may participate in art therapy and AfterCare programs whenever she wants. Carla believes that living in a good neighborhood and a nice apartment contributes to her stability and says, "I never thought I'd get a gift like this. I just never realized how much it means to have your own home."

Volunteers Make It Happen

Answering phones, teaching critical skills, selling Holiday Stroll buttons, sorting clothes, painting rooms, trimming trees, washing windows, throwing parties for children ... what do these have in common? They are just some of the activities generously performed by Barrett Foundation volunteers throughout the year. They keep our facilities looking great, support and educate clients, help us fundraise, and keep our administrative costs down to less than 15% of our budget. Barrett volunteers have provided the support that makes our work possible for more than twenty-one years.

THANKS FOR CARING!

Sweet Volunteers



Nancy Sweet

Nancy Sweet, our new Volunteer Coordinator, is a busy professional with young children and a husband who just started his own business. A few months ago, she decided the time was right for her to “give back” to others by helping women in need. She walked into our offices one day and offered to “do anything” we needed, and said she could volunteer two mornings a week. It wasn’t long before Nancy, who had made herself invaluable to us, was invited to become our new Volunteer Coordinator. She is in our offices four

mornings a week to recruit, screen, orient, and train volunteers. She helps wherever there’s a need and has even been known to repair furniture! Nancy says she wants to help volunteers find the right fit for their interests. Currently, she’s looking for people who can work a few hours a week as an afternoon receptionist at the Foundation’s office or as a retail worker at the Barrett House Attic thrift store. To volunteer, call Nancy at 246-9244, Ext. 107, Tuesday – Friday, mornings. Volunteers like Nancy make our day!

Notre Dame Students Learn at Barrett House

For several years, University of Notre Dame students have come to Barrett House as summer interns. Notre Dame encourages the students to explore complex social issues and their own responsibilities within them. They are challenged to work with the marginalized people they are living among. Students say it teaches them more about poverty and homelessness than they could ever learn in a classroom.

A recent intern commented, “Living in a homeless shelter, I saw how difficult day-to-day life can be for a woman who is homeless. It’s clear that extricating oneself from poverty is not a simple task.”

She spoke of the importance of respecting the women. “I met a woman who had been working on a Ph.D. when something caused her to become homeless,” and others “who led stable, middle class lives that fell apart because of illness or tragedy. Living with homeless people makes it impossible to think of them as ‘other.’”

(Notre Dame Students continued)

It exposes the fact that we are all in a human community together.” The Albuquerque Notre Dame Alumni Club sponsors the students each summer, providing unique learning opportunities for students and valuable support for homeless women and children.

Intern Walks Away Changed

Kim Powers, a student at University of Phoenix, had many misconceptions about homelessness until she interned with Barrett Foundation. As Kim learned to interview clients and evaluate their mental health, she found her ideas challenged. “I never knew people could have an education and a job, and still wind up homeless. So many of their stories hit close to home; it could easily have happened to me.”

Kim says, “At Barrett House and Bridges I saw the tremendous importance of ongoing case-management for these women. Their success after leaving Barrett programs is amazing. I believe it’s because of the wisdom and experience of Barrett’s case managers.”

“I think Barrett Foundation is a fabulous organization. When I left, it was with so much respect for the work you all do. What I learned there changed forever the way I think about homeless people. I walked away changed.”

One of the things I keep learning is that the secret of being happy is doing things for other people.

Dick Gregory

American comedian & civil rights activist

Memorials & Honorariums

Since July 1, 2006, donations have been made in the names of the following people. We are sure that they would be pleased to know these gifts were made in their honor or memory, and that the contributions will help Barrett Foundation give homeless women and children new hope and opportunities to build new lives.

Brothers of Good Shepherd	Sonya Chula	Bill Huntsman	Virginia Puccini
Lou, Tina, Lee & Elaine	Walter Cohen	Sr. AnnRita Johnson	Tony Quaranta
Rinchem Girls	Ruth Cooper Streeter	Judy Jones	Diana Quinn, MD
The McGehees	Leslie Corey	Veronica Kennedy	Claire & Rollande Quintal
The Rout Family	Patrick Corrigan	Robert Kilsdonk	Richard Ralstin
The Vigil Family	Linda Cotton	Peg Kindley	Louana Rehab of New Mexico
Phyllis Ables	Jill Criswell	Phyllis Kiner	Lois Reidy
Phyllis Adler	Katie Dexter	Eva Lane	Joan Russel
Betty Ahrens	Denise Doertler	Russell Latenser	Pat & Tandy Seery
Ada Marie Alvey	Fran Dubuque	Marvin Lyon	James & Mary Serna
Shirdi Sai Baba	Cleto & Mela Duran	Rick Mack	Robert Smith
Peggy Balcomb	Peg Kindley & Esther Mailander	Regina Maguire	Roberta Stebbins
Brother Mathias Barrett	Salvador Garcia	Michael Maloof	Paula Stein
John J. Barrett	Gilbert Garduno	Neli Marsh	Margarita Stelzner
Kevin Joseph & John Bruce Beel	Georgine Getty	Helen McMullen	Sandra Leigh Strome
Sister Juniper Bickel	Robert Gibson	Zola Mendenhall	Roberta Torrison
Rosemary Bingham	Martha "Chip" Griffin	Mary Lou Michnovicz	Gloria Weisburd
Sr. Mary Jo Boland	Neile Gurule	Marilyn & James Moran	Mr. & Mrs. K.H. Wincey
Richard Brannon	Allison Harlan	Mike Nelson	
Dorothy Brown	Irene Harte	Rondolyn O'Brien	
Elizabeth Buescher	Jeannette Held	Janette Pacheco Eads	
Kevin Calnan	James House	Jayne Pearson	
Juana Chavez	Shirley & Gail Huffman	Minerva Pecora	
		Kay Price	

A Generous Gift

The Estate of Shirley Kuhl recently made a distribution of \$20,550.65 to Barrett Foundation. Shirley was a dedicated volunteer at Barrett House for many years. Her will designated that Barrett would receive 5% of the residual of her estate. We are always grateful for the kindness of individuals who make Barrett Foundation a beneficiary of their estate plans.

Ways to Give...

- **Gifts of Cash** – We depend on donations to support the Barrett House shelter and our transitional housing for mentally-ill women. We gladly accept cash, checks, and credit card charges.
- **Matching Gift** – Please check to see if your company has a Matching Gifts program. Many do and will provide this additional support if you send us the appropriate paperwork.
- **United Way/CFC** – If you give through United Way or the Combined Federal Campaign, please consider designating a portion of your donation to Barrett Foundation.
- **Life Insurance Policies** – If you have an unneeded policy, consider making Barrett Foundation the owner and beneficiary.
- **Appreciated Stocks, Bonds, Property** – or other assets may provide you with tax benefits as well as provide important support for Barrett Foundation.
- **Make Barrett Foundation a beneficiary of your will** – This can often be accomplished by attaching a codicil to an existing will. Call Jill Criswell at 246-9244, Ext. 108 if you would like a copy of a sample codicil. As always, consult with your professional advisors to explore ways that you can give most advantageously.



**Barrett
Foundation**

Building Futures for Women and Children
10300 Constitution Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112



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United Way
of Central New Mexico
www.unitedway.org

The Beacon Shines On...



Lovelace Auxiliary presented a \$10,000 check to Barrett Foundation at their holiday luncheon. **Pam Dickerhoof, Director of Volunteer Services**, said the Auxiliary supports Barrett Foundation and other local charities “because of the important work they do in the community” ... Many thanks to Christ United Methodist Church members who raised over \$8,400 for us through their annual Family Fun Carnival ... **The Harmony Project, directed by Julie Christine**, presented Broadway music to entertain guests at Barrett’s annual September gala. In addition to programs for private events, this community chorus is committed to serving people in need ... **Blake Brown of Rudy’s Country Store and Bar-B-Q** donated a great lunch for our party honoring sponsors and auction donors ... The **Albuquerque Community Foundation** recently presented us with a grant of \$10,000, from the **Woodward Fund of the Sandia Foundation**, a long time supporter of our work ... **Rotary Del Norte** helped us purchase new appliances for Casa Verde apartments with their grant of \$5,000 ... **Kimberly Funk, owner Molly Maids on Menaul** gave the Barrett House an early Christmas present with their professional housecleaning. Thanks to their employees’ generous donations of time and effort ... **Albuquerque the Magazine, New Mexico Woman, and Accent** have recently published articles about Barrett Foundation, helping the community better understand homelessness among women and children ... The **Uptown Civitans** provided a great breakfast and Christmas party for the women and children, with **Paul and Judy Wilson of Home Team Realty** playing Santa and helper ... Our sincere thanks to all the individuals who “adopted” families and single women for the holidays – making Christmas brighter with their thoughtful and generous gifts.

Great Values at The Attic

The Attic accepts new & gently used items:



- ◆ Furniture
- ◆ Clothing
- ◆ Books

Did you know the *Barrett House Attic* at 4308 Lomas NE is a good place to shop for **great new and used furniture?** Other popular items include back-to-school clothes and formal dresses.



What should you donate?

- Furniture in very good condition with no pet exposure.
- Clothing that’s clean and ready to wear.

Donations accepted Monday - Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Call 262-1073 for details.



DID YOU KNOW...



You can donate your vehicle to help us take care of the women and children who need shelter. Call Lori or Michaela at 246-9244 if you are interested. Generally, your vehicle will be picked up within five business days of our receipt of the complete information.