



PROFILES OF HOPE: Meet Suzette, an IOH Board Member, Advocate, Donor:

I cared for my elderly parents for a number of years. I moved from caring for children to caring for parents, and when my Dad passed away I had hours of time available that had previously been filled. I didn't want to fill them with minutia, but with something important. So, when the opportunity presented itself, I offered to help with a big service project by Our Lady of the Assumption Church at IOH.

The first time I visited the facility, I met the Executive Director, Deborah Walker-Little. I was struck by her dedication to these families, and amazed at what I heard about the IOH program. I knew immediately that this place was different. It isn't a quick fix or a hand-out; it's a commitment to do things differently and get better results. It isn't just a place to live (although the stability of the apartments is a big piece); it's a program that changes lives. Issues are not resolved FOR the residents of IOH; instead, residents are offered guidance, safety, community and love while they work on issues.

As the service project progressed, I interacted with residents and got to know Deborah better. One day it hit me that I felt at home here. IOH is where I'm meant to be, a cause well worth my time, energy and resources. My husband recognizes the value of the program as well, and our support of the IOH mission has become another bond that we share.

IOH provides me with meaningful purpose beyond myself and my family. I'm honored to witness the miracles that take place, and to celebrate families' renewed hope as they realize how much they matter and all that they can achieve.