



Every family
deserves happy *Traditions.*

Dear Firstname:

Every Christmas as a child, Irene awoke to biscuits and gravy made by grandpa and cookies – lots and lots of cookies – made by grandma. Her son hasn’t been so lucky ... until now.

This year, Irene’s son will wake up on Christmas morning to biscuits and gravy made by his mother because they’re at Sheltering Wings ... and they’re safe.

“Oh, I’m so looking forward to celebrating Christmas here!” she told me recently. In fact, she’s so excited and grateful for the kindness she’s been shown that she’s planning to make her favorite breakfast for anyone in the shelter who wants to join her little family.

“Everybody wants to be around people who care about you on holidays. My son and I feel that here,” she said. “If things had kept going the way they were [before I left my husband], I could be dead, in the hospital or separated from my child this Thanksgiving and Christmas. Now I know none of those things will happen.”



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Irene is used to holidays that end in pain inflicted by someone who says he loves her. She's not alone. So many domestic violence survivors anticipate Thanksgiving and Christmas with a sense of dread. During this otherwise festive holiday season – whatever holiday they might celebrate – abusive family members create memories no one wants to remember. However, no matter how bleak their past circumstances might be, Sheltering Wings is giving them hope – the very thing Thanksgiving and Christmas is all about.

This Christmas, Irene and her son will begin creating memories they will cherish forever. Their celebration may not match her fondest memories, but it will be surrounded by love, safety ... and biscuits and gravy.

Will you add a tradition to your holiday celebration? Your gift to Sheltering Wings means our residents can start new family traditions ... and help us victims of abuse all year long. Please give today!

Gratefully,

Cassie Mecklenburg

Cassie Mecklenburg, Executive Director

P.S. *Thank you for being such an important part of Irene's renewed family traditions! No gift is too small.*

Yes! I want to ensure Sheltering Wings is there to help families for years to come!

TO DONATE ONLINE visit www.shelteringwings.org/christmas-traditions

☐ Please use my credit card to make a monthly tax-deductible donation of:
☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other \$ _____

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Thank you



Healthy Me. Stronger Us.
shelteringwings.org