

## Founder's Message

Of the many accomplishments throughout my real estate career, one I'm most proud of is Transitional Youth. My wife Susy and I started Transitional Youth in 1991 as a means to support homeless children. Although we had a distant dream of ultimately providing these youth with homes of their own, we initiated assistance through financial and material contributions to other local youth programs.

We understood homelessness was, and still is, a complex concern compounded by alcohol, drug, and mental health issues. Economic and employment downturns push more at-risk families towards life on the edge. Yet as needs grow, so does Transitional Youth's momentum. Every year our scope of contributions increases. People and businesses we come in contact with want to help.

After many years of forging ahead with outreach, activities and donations, in January of 2005 we realized a long-held dream and opened the doors of our first home. Our plans include more homes and transitional apartments. Words can't express my gratitude for the numerous blessings Transitional Youth receives to help our kids create productive, meaningful lives.

I'm thankful for caring employees, partners and dedicated volunteers who allow Transitional Youth to thrive. We believe that through God's grace, and continued community support, our future's wide open. Just as our youth discover the courage to seek changed hearts, so can we, to see the potential they may not yet see in themselves.

Thank you,

Bert E. Waugh, Jr.

