

## Capital Campaign Update

*Contractors began work on the Family Shelter dorms this past December as part of Putting Families First: The Campaign for Homeless No More. The Homeless No More team worked to create an environment for the families we serve that is off-campus while the construction continues – serving as many families as ever with just as many programs.*



Over the past few months, the Homeless No More team successfully created and implemented a plan to move the residents of Family Shelter to multiple motels in the midlands as the dorms on the campus were being renovated.

“The hardest thing was just making sure that the clients understood nothing really was supposed to change just because they weren’t on campus with us,” case manager Aisha Moorer said, “just making sure that they knew that they still had to communicate with us consistently.”

Communication between the case managers and the residents was a challenge in the first few weeks of the move. Before, families “could just show up and stick their heads in” Moorer said, “now they had to send an email, or they had to call...that was a little bit of a struggle for some in the beginning, but everybody adapts.” Case managers sometimes talk with families several times a day, and HNM provides transportation so they are able to meet face to face at least once a week.

“Our families may be off-campus, but they’re still receiving as many services as if they were living on-campus,” said HNM President and CEO Lila Anna Sauls. “Our team makes sure they have eLearning support, transportation, job coaching, and even food boxes.”

During the renovation, bathrooms will be updated, floors will be repaired, and walls will be painted. Space will be made for larger families, and security upgrades will be put in place.

*A week-long celebration will be held to welcome families “home” as the dorms are re-opened that will include tours of the new facilities. Invitations will be sent during May!*