

OPINION

Journal News

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IN OUR VIEW

One Way Farm deserves help

Since moving to Fairfield from Cincinnati in 1976, One Way Farm has helped more than 4,000 abused, abandoned and neglected children.

But in order to continue making a difference in the lives of so many, One Way Farm Founder and Executive Director Barb Condo needs help.

A slow holiday giving season, higher utility and gas costs and rising insurance rates left the shelter about \$40,000 short of where it stood a year ago. Condo is not one to give up easily, however. She sent out letters to businesses and residents asking for help.

Condo says she has gotten a good response but more is needed. We hope the community, not just in Fairfield but in surrounding areas, will pitch in to help overcome this shortfall.

Condo says she stepped out on faith in writing the letter, which closes by stating, "There is a scripture that says, 'You have not because you ask not.' I feel this is true. I am asking."

In addition to sending out the letters, Condo has continued other fund-raising efforts.

"It's easier to get products than money," she said. "Last week I spoke at two churches, and now I have a liquid soap church and a ketchup church. If I need a product, I ask one place for one product."

For those who don't like to give money because they fear it may be misspent, giving particular products that the youths need is a great way to oversee that gift.

Clothing and food items have already begun to roll in. A local barber has agreed to give free haircuts, which Condo said was a big expense before. Currently, One Way Farm is seeking hamburger meat as well as restaurant and entertainment certificates.

"We're trying to somehow retrieve that (lost) funding," Condo said. "We're trying to find companies that will donate their product. We've had to assess where to spend the money and how to cut back on spending."

But cutbacks alone won't do it. The good-hearted people of this area are going to have to step up, as they have done in the past for other worthy causes and organizations. We believe they will. To donate or ask questions about One Way Farm, call 829-FARM (3276).