

Frank & Donna Matusik

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October 23, 2014

*Dear Jessica, Staff at Mental Health Association and everyone at Ocean County Long Term Recovery Group,*

*On October 29 2012 my wife Donna & I lost our home of 42 years as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Like so many others we were in shock and didn't know where to turn or what to do. Our Insurance Company made things even worse when they informed us we would only be awarded 44% of what we had been paying for in insurance coverage. Certainly not nearly enough to rebuild our home, which had to be demolished. Through the recovery process Donna suffered a serious bout with Vertigo that required three trips per week to a Chiropractic Neurologist for almost an entire year. Since she couldn't drive I had to take her and miss time at work, which put a huge financial strain on our business of 22 years. Thankfully she has made a full recovery and is doing much better now. It's still very difficult for her when we have a bad storm but hopefully that will get better as time goes on. I stopped into The Mental Health Association seeking guidance on how to deal with everything going on and I met three amazingly compassionate women who allowed me to let loose my emotions and cry for the first time since the storm. They listened to my story and said they might be able to lend some assistance as the process went along.*

*Jessica Stephensen (Our Angel) was assigned our case and has been truly amazing in helping us that words can't explain what she means to us. The first thing she did was give us hope that we would be able to get through this nightmare and survive it both physically and mentally. Then she worked harder than I can imagine preparing our case to hopefully get us some assistance that we so desperately needed in order to relieve the financial stress we were under. Our Modular Home has been completed but we didn't have the money to finish paying for it. Our Modular Builder put up the money to the manufacturer to make sure we could get back into our home. Today I found out that your organizations are going to help us get through this and I can't decide whether to smile or cry tears of joy because much of the financial stress we've been feeling for so long appears to have been lifted off our shoulders. This is our happiest day since October 29, 2012. I know it's your "job" to do this for people but what you are doing is truly amazing and is so appreciated that it's hard to express in words what this means to us.*

*Donna and I would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for what you are doing for us. If it weren't for you and your team we would have continued to stress through sleepless nights full of worry and a sense of hopelessness. So for your assistance in relieving us of that pressure we will be eternally grateful. God Bless each and every one of you. You are making a huge difference and saving lives in the process. When you place your heads on your pillows at night you should be extremely proud of what you are doing for people.*

*Thank you again for being such FANTASTIC organizations but more importantly for being AWESOME people.*

*Your friends,*

*Frank & Donna*