



The 305 8th Street Community

The Story of our Progress



- 1949** The house at 305 8th Street was built as a single-family residence by S. O. McDonald.
- 1962** It became a boarding house for NASA contractors.
- 1979** It became a full-time foster home for adults with mental illness under direction of Irene Smith and her sister Inez Bastin.
- 1981** Irene Smith passed away and others operated the home.

1983 Concerned about problems at the home, Inez Bastin and her husband Gordon took over management. Inez often said of the residents, "I need them as much as they need me."

1989 The Bastins accepted two teenagers with intellectual deficiency (a different diagnosis from those already at 8th Street), who were aging out of state child custody. This decision resulted in loss of state funding, which goes only to homes for individuals with the same diagnoses.



1992 The Bastins received non-profit 501(c)(3) status. Their granddaughter Andrea Vosper spent time at the home and grew to know and love the residents. "8th Street has been part of my life since I came into their life," she says.

2001 Tragedy struck. Gordon Bastin passed away in April, and Inez followed in May. The home declined for years; the house was mortgaged and in disrepair. But the Bastin family's concern for the home and its residents led their daughter, Monica Vosper, and her daughter, now Andrea Vosper Williams, to visit. They saw that changes had to be made.

2007 Andrea became Executive Director. She says it's a calling passed on to her by her family. She successfully led a major renovation – with faith and donations.



2010 The mortgage was paid off by a grant from the Jane K. Lowe Foundation and anonymous donors.

2014 The property at 312 and 310 8th Street was donated by the Widman family. The house at 310 was refurbished as MOM's House. MOMs (*Medication, Observation, and Meals*) is 8th Street's first Supportive Program.



Unfortunately, 312 was not usable. It was torn down and a campaign was begun to raise funds for a new home on the site – more faith and donations!

2016 Construction began on Nora's House, for older residents who need more assistance.

2017 Nora's House opened. It is handicap-accessible and can house up to eight people.

2020+ Executive Director Andrea Williams continues the mission – with faith and donations.

