



### Newest Partner

BloomAgain is proud to announce our newest strategic partner, Coastal Communities Family Success Center. Coastal Communities FSC offers programs and services to families in the greater Long Branch area. These resources include parent education, family literacy, life skills training, employment, parent-child activities, and outreach events.

It is part of a network of family success centers, established by the NJ Department of Children and Families, throughout the state. This is the second of these centers to partner with BloomAgain. Bayshore Family Success Center has referred many worthy grant recipients to BloomAgain. With our newest partner, Coastal Communities FSC, the BloomAgain team is hoping to help more families in Long Branch and the surrounding towns.



### Budding Donors

It's often said that women don't participate in charitable giving at the same rate as their male counterparts. Well, these sisters started giving before they learned to drive! When Isabelle, "Izzy" Erskine from Holmdel turned 15 in January, she decided to do something amazing. Instead of

asking for traditional birthday gifts from her friends, she asked them to make a donation to BloomAgain Foundation NJ.

Izzy's crew of seven young women gave 300 dollars to BloomAgain to help economically vulnerable working women from our area who are struggling with an illness or injury. "I hope by doing this others will follow to make life easier for women who are sick, and knowing I helped just a little is the best birthday gift I could receive."

Izzy's inspiration for this generosity is also impressive. Olivia Erskine, Izzy's sister, also age 15, sparked the giving trend by donating to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Thank you to the Erskine sisters for setting a wonderful example at such a young age.

### Welcome Aboard

BloomAgain is pleased to announce that Ursula Henry has joined the BloomAgain Foundation NJ Board of Directors. Henry has lived in Shrewsbury with her husband Joe Henry and their children Samantha (age 11) and Joseph (age 9) since 2014. Henry will serve as BloomAgain's Treasurer. She has previously worked in finance in NYC. While home raising her children, she has become involved in various community organizations. We are looking forward to adding Ursula's energy and skills to BloomAgain.

### Circle of Giving

One BloomAgain client, who we will call Jennifer, is still in recovery mode from a traumatic two years. She was in a car accident resulting in serious injuries and was also diagnosed with skin cancer in her eye. She completed radiation for the cancer but, to date, is still undergoing surgeries to correct her vision.

Jennifer may still be in bandages, but she was so touched by the help from BloomAgain that she is already giving back! She has nominated BloomAgain to be the recipient of funds raised through an upcoming charity event.

One way BloomAgain was able to help her was by paying for her car to be repaired. When Jennifer told the repair shop owner about the "angels" who were assisting her with the bill, he threw in a free oil change. Seems like the spirit of giving was contagious this winter!

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