In 2017, two new residential buildings will be completed. The Sheridan Springs and Meadowlawn facilities are in the process of construction and renovation this winter and will provide 15 beds each for Vera French residents. Denise Beenk, Director of Residential and Outreach Programs, is hopeful that each facility will provide a place of comfort for those in need. Currently, residents reside at the Pink Knoll facility located on Telegraph Road in downtown Davenport. The two new facilities have been constructed and renovated by Russell.

“It will be nice to get into a building where each client has their own room, and we have a space that has been designed with their needs in mind.” -Denise Beenk
**Rick’s Helps with Grief and Loneliness during the Holiday Season**

The holidays can be an especially hard season for those who have experienced loss of a loved one. That is why Rick’s House of Hope will be hosting a **Holiday Open House** on Saturday, December 10th from 12 to 4 p.m. at Rick’s house, 5022 Northwest Blvd, Davenport, IA 52806.

In addition to the open house, Rick’s has also scheduled a **Bringing in the Hope Children’s Day Event** on Thursday, December 29th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This is an event to remember 2016 and look toward the New Year. Children and teens must register to attend.

**Meet Our New Staff**

Meagan Moller is Program Manager for Rick’s House of Hope. Meagan holds a MA from Adler School of Professional Psychology. She is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (IA), a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (IL) and a Registered Art Therapist. Meagan is honored to continue Rick’s mission to provide therapy and support services children and families impacted by grief, loss, or trauma. She is committed to expanding services embracing our youth and offering them positive guidance to lead to healthier, happier lives as individual and community members.

Mary Stewart joined the Vera French Family on September 26th, 2016 as Rick’s House of Hope part-time Volunteer Coordinator. She comes with development, volunteer, and marketing experiences. She holds a Marketing Degree from The University of Illinois in Chicago. She is excited about the future of Rick’s House of Hope.

Katie Yost recently joined the Rick’s House of Hope team in August, 2016. She received a B.A. in Theatre from Hunter College in New York City. She was thrilled to teach in Texas schools the previous six years as a Science and American History teacher. She truly has a passion for children and helping others. Katie is committed to the mission of Rick’s House of Hope.

If you are interested in learning more about Rick’s program opportunities or attending the Holiday Program Events, please contact Katie Yost at yostk@verafrenchmhc.org.