

## Zoe's Cupcake cafe helps Angela Logan

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There is a saying that one good deed deserves another. When Zoe's Cupcake Café held its grand opening only two months ago, the owners and employees had no idea that within a short amount of time, the café would not only be benefitting local teen mothers and their children, but also helping a Teaneck family facing foreclosure.



The family photo includes Angela Logan, her sons Nicholas and Will and her fiancé Melvin George II. They are standing in front of their partially renovated home in Teaneck, their home the Mortgage Apple Cake was baked to save.

Zoe's Cupcake Café, 740 Chestnut St., is a bakery offering fresh baked cupcakes, brownies, cookies and other treats. But what makes this bakery different from others is that it is run by a non-profit group called Zoe's Place Inc. and uses the proceeds to benefit local pregnant and teen mothers and their children. Funding for the café's startup was provided by a \$100,000 grant received by Women United in Philanthropy (WUIP) last October, and the café opened its doors a couple of months ago with a warm welcome from the Teaneck community.

It was only a couple of weeks ago when Executive Director of Zoe's Place Inc., Jane Fiedler, read about Teaneck resident Angela Logan who had recently decided to start baking cakes for a profit to avoid foreclosure on her family's home where she has lived for 20 years. Fiedler noted that not only was this woman a fellow resident, but she also lived only a few blocks away from her home. Fiedler immediately called up Miriam Bloom, director of operations for Zoe's Place Inc., and asked her to take a visit to Logan's home.

"We wanted to offer Angela a place to bake her cakes, so since our bakers leave around 1:30 p.m., we thought that we could offer her our ovens after that," Fiedler says. "It just seemed like the right thing to do."

Logan explains, "The ladies from Zoe's came to my door. I tell my children how impressed I am with the effort they made to make themselves available to me and to seek out an opportunity for their cause. That the way to do business - how you get things done!"

As it turns out, however, the Hilton Hotel of Hasbrouck Heights already offered Logan the use of their oven to bake her "Mortgage Apple Cakes". Logan had generated media attention and was put in touch with the "Bake Me A Wish" organization through Bogota residents Lisa and Alex Giassa, owners of LCG Communications, who had seen her story in a local newspaper and wanted to help. The orders for her cake were filling up quickly but there was still a need for local distribution of her hundreds of pre-ordered cakes, and that's where Zoe's Cupcake Café was able to help.

Fiedler says, "Anyone who orders one of Angela's cakes is welcome to pick it up locally, right here in our café. They are delivered daily to us and Angela has even decided to donate a cake per day to Zoe's that we can sell by the slice."

In an even greater example of "paying it forward", Logan has also decided to donate a portion of every cake sold through Zoe's right back to the café. So, the generous offer that Fiedler and Bloom presented to Logan has actually come full circle, benefitting both Logan and the café itself.

Logan adds, "I was impressed with Zoe's mission to help others. I respect what they are trying to achieve and wanted to give back in general and help their cause."

"It has really been heartwarming to see how many people in our community have come out to support Angela. And it's so nice to be in a position to be able to offer help to someone else. Maybe this was all meant to be!" Fiedler notes.

Bloom adds, "We were just both in the right place, at the right time to be able to help each other out."

Perhaps it is Teaneck's spirit of community that has fostered this type of philanthropy. "My gratitude for my community overflows. I am so proud of my community and thankful to everyone who bought a cake to help me save my home and to those who wanted to," Logan said.

To add to the beauty of community, when Josh Kaye, president of BakeMeAWish.com, tasted Logan's cake, he was so impressed that he offered her own line of cakes with the Web site.

Logan's Mortgage Apple Cake is available through [www.BakeMeAWish.com](http://www.BakeMeAWish.com) and 5 percent of the proceeds will be donated to a national charity yet to be named.

For more information, call Zoe's Cupcake Café at 201-357-8828 or visit [www.zoescupcakecafe.com](http://www.zoescupcakecafe.com).