

# HOMELESS TIMES



*A publication of the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless*

*600-B East Gude Drive, Rockville, MD 20850*

*www.mcch.net*

*(301) 217-0314*

*Summer 2007*

## Freddie Mac Foundation Grant Gives Homes and Hope to Homeless Families



*Maria and her sons, one of the Partnership for Permanent Housing's most recent families.*



*Ralph Boyd, Chairman of the Freddie Mac Foundation, accepts the Distinguished Partner Award at Celebrating Partnerships.*

The Coalition is delighted to announce that the Freddie Mac Foundation has awarded the Partnership for Permanent Housing an \$800,000 grant over the next two years. This is the largest private foundation grant in the Coalition's history and one of the largest awarded by the Foundation. Partnership for Permanent Housing (PPH), an innovative program that was the first of its kind in the County, provides housing subsidies and supportive services to families and individuals exiting homelessness. PPH is one example of the long-term, integrated and comprehensive initiatives that the Freddie Mac Foundation supports in their effort to improve the lives of children and families.

The Freddie Mac Foundation was one of PPH's original partners and has been integral to its growth since 2003. With this grant, the Foundation will fund housing subsidies for twelve families, demonstrating a rare, progressive and substantial commitment to ending homelessness in Montgomery County. In addition, the Foundation is supporting three existing PPH positions – a case manager, senior case manager and housing resource specialist – as well as completely funding three new PPH positions – an administrative assistant and two case managers. With the Freddie Mac Foundation's support, PPH will be able to provide permanent homes and supportive services to at least 144 households (100 families and 44 single adults) in FY2008. We are honored to partner with the Freddie Mac Foundation in assisting some of our most vulnerable neighbors and we are confident that this grant will further our efforts to end homelessness in our community.

## Open House Events Engage the Community

The Coalition hosted its first Open House at the Men's Emergency Shelter on May 31st and a second one at Seneca Heights Apartments on June 11th – both events were a huge success! Local community partners and supporters joined us for a tour of the facilities preceded by a presentation about homelessness in Montgomery County and the Coalition's work. The Open House events serve as an excellent way to connect with the people who make our work possible. We hope to hold similar events in the future so that more of our supporters can see their contributions at work!



*Men's Emergency Shelter*



*Seneca Heights Apartments*

## Board Of Directors\*

Diana Bird, *Housing Opportunities Commission*  
 Allison Bryant, *Montgomery County Planning Board, M-NCPPC*  
 Charles Covell, *Covell Communities, LLC*  
 Charlie Eisenhauer, *Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville*  
 Blair Ewing, *Montgomery College*  
 Paul Goldman, *US Securities and Exchange Commission*  
 Bobbie Hart, *Adams National Bank*  
 Jean Hochron, *US Department of Health & Human Services*  
 Elizabeth Homan, *Montgomery College*  
 Amy Horton-Newell, *American Bar Association*  
 Dan Mahoney, *NOI Hospitality*  
 Yehuda Schmidt, *IBM Global Business Services*  
 Pinkney Spencer, *Community Volunteer*

\*As of June 21, 2007

## Executive Team

Sharan London, *Executive Director*  
 David Levine, *Deputy Director for Operations*  
 Julie Maltzman, *Deputy Director for Programs*

## Housing Solutions

Alice Forcier, *Director of Housing Solutions*  
 Jennifer Blackwell, *Case Manager, Home First*  
 Deirdre Harris, *Case Manager, Homeless Outreach Project*

## Men's Emergency Shelter

Ron Hall, *Program Manager*  
 Joan Harris, *Clinical Director*  
 Ronald Beckham, Albre Bell, Darlene Bimba, Joeseeph Blue, Tyrone Boardley, Walter Clark, Emery Gerran-Davison, Fernando De Greef, Trudy Haqq, John Hill, Charles Hines, Keenan Jones, Andrew Kridler, Kwame Kyeremeh, Sheila Long-Weems, Francisco Lopez, Theodore Lyles, Gerald Marshall, Alberto Martinez, Portolese Mattocks, Anthony Robinson, Victor Rojas, Carroll Shumpert, Edmund Smith, Reginald Smith, Dwayne Stewart, Ace Thompson, Anthony Walker

## Partnership for Permanent Housing

Anne Donohue, *Program Director*  
 Chandra Harris, Esther Ihionu, Karla Lawrence, Carey Schneider

## Safe Havens

Maggie Hobbs, *Program Director*  
 Carolyn Ampaugh, Melonie Campbell, Anne Chapin, Lisa Cook, Maria Cole, Jean Ekpenyong, Pat Ellsbury, Stephanie Everette, Lee Jansky, Tesfaye Mekuria, Jameelah Muhammad, Catherine Nzams, Velda Nzams, Alexander Perry, Juanita Reed, Merchell Reedy, David Roberts, Jim Russ, Rosa Sorrell, Joanne Stubbs, Lisa Tyner, Rebecca Urban, Sandra Wallace, Rose White, Lisa Wood, Michelle Wood

## Seneca Heights Apartments

Alice Forcier, *Director of Housing Solutions*  
 Renée Belisle, *Clinical Director*  
 Maame Addy, Raymond Griffin, Jocelyn Hall, Olivia Moore, Tina Palmer, Nora Parker, Veronica Pease, Elaine Sands, Michael Shields, Allison Suarez-Charles, Stacy Thomas, Benedicte Tshandiru, Clinton Wilson

## Finance & Administration

Valerie Walker, *Controller/Administrative Officer*  
 Sandra Achampong, *Accountant*  
 Brian Alexander, *Bookkeeper*  
 Tom Penna, *Program Assistant*

## Development & Communications

Sarah Mahin, *Director of Development & Communications*  
 Renée Malone, *Development & Communications Associate*  
 Jenny Willard, *Development & Communications Assistant*

## Staff Letter

Written by: Anne Donohue,  
 Program Director, Partnership for Permanent Housing



My name is Anne Donohue and I am the Program Director for the Partnership for Permanent Housing (PPH). I lead a team of three Case Managers and a Housing Resource Specialist in helping to procure and maintain housing for formerly homeless families and single adults. Our clients reside in apartments, town houses and single family homes throughout the County, and households range in size from one to eleven people. Our program is unique in that it encourages independence and self-sufficiency while providing supportive services needed to make a successful transition from homelessness to stable, permanent housing. Over the course of the past seven months, 34 families and 20 single adults have obtained housing through PPH.

Prior to joining the Coalition, I supervised a team of six clinicians providing services to homeless, mentally ill clients in an outpatient mental health facility in Washington, D.C. I also worked on a SAMHSA-sponsored research study evaluating the impact of supportive services on the retention of housing within a select group of previously homeless clients. While obtaining my Master's degree from California State University, I spent two years working at an inpatient psychiatric facility outside of Los Angeles. Many of the hospital's patients were homeless, and my job taught me a great deal about the high rates of recidivism among this population. My experience working within the homeless system in Montgomery County began in 1996, when I spent five years as a Case Manager for the Homeless Outreach Services division of the Mental Health Association.

I am excited to be a part of the Coalition's constantly expanding array of services to Montgomery County's most vulnerable citizens.

## Our Mission

The Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless leads the effort to end homelessness in our community by creating housing options, providing supportive services, and facilitating collaboration, education and advocacy based on the belief that every person is entitled to the dignity of a home.

## Letter from the Coalition Board Chair



Dear Friends,

While many of us will enjoy well-deserved vacations with family and friends this summer, the Coalition is not taking a break from its mission of ending homelessness in Montgomery County. Over the next several months, MCCH will usher in some new and expanded programs that I am pleased to share with you:

- The Creative Housing Initiative Pilot Project (CHIPP) will kickoff in July as one of the Coalition's latest initiatives. The goal of this one-year project is to demonstrate that homeless individuals with multiple, costly needs will utilize fewer public financial resources when placed into permanent supportive housing (subsidized housing with support services). As a part of this study, 16 homeless individuals will be placed into permanent housing and provided with intensive supportive services. Three years' worth of data will be compiled and analyzed; the results of which we anticipate will prove that this type of housing is not only effective but also cost-efficient.
- Home First will be doubled in size to provide permanent supportive housing to 24 chronically homeless adults who have been living on the streets or have been in and out of emergency shelters over the years.
- The Men's Emergency Shelter (MES) will begin providing 24/7 shelter and services to homeless men in January 2008. A new project, Back-to-Work, also commences in January to provide vocational counseling and job training to shelter residents. In addition, the Shelter will receive a major renovation in FY2008 to better serve its residents. Thanks to the support of Montgomery County government and the Home Builders Care Foundation, MES will have new storage, laundry, kitchen, bath and shower facilities, classroom and meeting space, medical exam rooms, and private counseling offices.
- A new building will also be constructed to provide state-of-the-art facilities to Adrienne's Safe Haven, which provides transitional housing to 15 mentally ill, homeless men. In addition, it will house the Coalition's new administrative office.
- Finally, Coalition Homes, our affiliate organization, has purchased 16 more condominiums to own and manage for formerly homeless individuals and will be hiring a Director of Real Estate, its first staff position, this summer.

It is because of your vital support and partnerships with foundations, government agencies and other service providers that some of our most vulnerable neighbors will have a place to call home.

Please continue to join me in this work,

Dan Mahoney  
Board Chair

## Tenant Council Honored for Efforts to Make their Community a Brighter and Better Place to Live



On June 4, 2007, the Seneca Heights Apartments Tenant Council was awarded the HAND Housing Achievement Award for Best Community Life Program of the Year (Maryland). Each year, the Housing Association for Nonprofit Developers (HAND) presents awards to affordable housing projects, programs and organizations. One of these awards, the Best Community Life Program Award, goes to a program that strives to improve the living conditions for residents in their community.

The need for a Tenant Council grew out of residents' concerns not long after the 2004 opening of Seneca Heights. Although they now had housing, residents longed to create a place where they could thrive both as individuals and as a community. With the help of Seneca Heights staff and a consultant, the Tenant Council, its bylaws and an executive team were established. Working together, the Council and staff have created opportunities for education and entertainment that otherwise would not exist at Seneca Heights by organizing weekly movie nights, monthly dinner and gift card raffles, holiday parties and barbecues, a Welcoming Committee to greet new residents, and helping to publish the monthly community newsletter.

Due to the Tenant Council's successful advocacy, a new handicap-accessible van was purchased to enable tenants who lack transportation to go shopping for groceries and other necessities once a week. The Tenant Council also worked to turn some of their neighbors' ideas into reality when they assisted a Coalition board member in building a horseshoe pit in their picnic area. The Tenant Council has helped to foster a community at Seneca Heights where residents learn how to lead, give, and live in ways that staff alone would not have been able to show them. It is because of the Tenant Council's accomplishments that Seneca Heights Apartments is a place they can call home.



### Panda Sightings at Seneca Heights Apartments

In March, the children at Seneca Heights Apartments learned all about pandas and enjoyed fun, hands-on activities with Corkey Hay DeSimone, president of the publishing company Gentle Giraffe Press. The children drew in their panda coloring books and created panda face masks after Corkey read them her book about this endangered species. For over 15 years, Corkey has been designing activity books and educational materials for children about wild animals, and we are so grateful that she shared her knowledge of pandas with the children at Seneca Heights!

### Volunteer Newsletter

The Coalition will begin circulating an electronic newsletter listing volunteer opportunities for people of all ages along with other ways you can help our homeless neighbors throughout the year. We will also highlight a specific program or volunteer in each newsletter edition, providing information to help get you better acquainted with the Coalition and our relationship with the community. It is our hope that we can provide meaningful volunteer opportunities that prove beneficial to each volunteer, our organization and the people we serve. If you are interested in receiving the electronic volunteer newsletter, please send an email to [mcch@mcch.net](mailto:mcch@mcch.net) with your contact information.



## ShelterWalk 'n Roll – A Great Success!



Over 150 supporters joined the Coalition on May 5th for fun family activities, live music and a walk around the lake at The Washingtonian Center and Rio Entertainment Center for ShelterWalk 'n Roll 2007! The event, now in its 11th year, raises awareness about homelessness in Montgomery County and funds for the Coalition's programs. We are grateful to the following sponsors for their generous support of ShelterWalk 'n Roll 2007:

### Benefactor



### Patron



### Partners



Wilcoxon Construction, Inc.

### Donors

Bethesda Jewish Congregation  
The Columbia Bank  
Corporate Fitness Works, Inc.  
Linowes and Blocher, LLP  
Pascal & Weiss, PC  
S Corp Temporary Staffing  
Sam's Club  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville  
Virion Systems Inc.

### In-Kind Sponsors

Comcast Cable  
Gaithersburg Party Rental  
Jack Worthington & Denise D'Amico  
Joe's Crab Shack  
St. John Neumann Catholic Church

RIO Entertainment Center  
Target  
Travilah DrinkMore Water  
The Washingtonian Center

### Non-Level Sponsors

Costco  
St. John Neumann Catholic Church



## Help the Homeless Time is Coming!



children about social issues and encourage community involvement!

Every year, we benefit from Fannie Mae's Help the Homeless program and engage thousands of people throughout the fall in the effort to raise awareness about homelessness and funds for the Coalition's programs. We are looking for new schools, congregations and community groups to work with us during the fall 2007 program. Coalition staff is experienced at designing educational programs to engage youth around the issue of homelessness, including interactive presentations, community service projects, other volunteer opportunities and, of course, mini-walkathons. It's a great way to teach

If your school or group is interested in participating in this year's Help the Homeless program, please contact Sarah Mahin, at 301/217-0314 ext. 18 or [sarah@mcch.net](mailto:sarah@mcch.net).



## The Coalition thanks the following donors for their generous contributions of \$100 or more since the last newsletter.

*The Coalition is only able to include donations of \$100 or more. This reflects the incredible growth in support from people since our inception. All donors are truly appreciated, and each gift makes a real difference in lives of people experiencing homelessness.*

### Individuals

Manuel A. Ajuria, III  
 Carl and Irene Auvil  
 Gary and Carol Berman  
 James Berry and Hali Edison  
 Robin Block  
 Robert and Cynthia Bonsib  
 Margaret Boverman  
 Cathy Bowe  
 Leonard and Frances Burka  
 David Cahoon  
 James Campbell and Nancy Hooff  
 Flavio Carsalade and Catherine Connor  
 Kenneth Coffey  
 Sarah Corbett  
 Robert and Debra Ekman  
 Jonathan Elkind and Suzanne Mintz  
 Steven and Nan Ernst  
 Stephen and Vicki Fisk  
 Teresa and Michael Fulton  
 Laurene Gallo  
 Tom and Lucy Goeke  
 Michael and Sybil Greenhut  
 Shawn Guertin  
 Carl H. Gunderson  
 Martha and Kevin Klasing  
 Roger Langsdorf  
 Ike and Catherine Leggett  
 Elizabeth Mackey  
 Mary Anne Mahin  
 Fred and Mary Marinucci  
 Patrick McClure  
 John and Frances McMahon  
 Maria Teresa Meyer  
 Alan and Marilyn Meyers  
 Elizabeth T. Mooney  
 Ellen and Jim Myerberg  
 Ernest Nussbaum  
 David and Glenna Osnos  
 Daniel Parr and Ellen Weiss  
 Brenda and Paul Pascal  
 Chris Pilkerton  
 Abe and Irene Pollin  
 Debra Potts  
 Edward Redmond  
 Jacquelyn and James Rhone  
 Susan Ronan and Anthony Tocci  
 Bruce and Lori Rosenblum  
 Dennis and Deborah Ross  
 Paula Segal and Eric Schweitzer  
 Frederick Shulman  
 Mary Ellen Signorille  
 Bernard Slosberg  
 Nancy and Robert Soreng  
 Corinne Stevens and Aston Irving  
 Malcolm Stevenson  
 Alice Partee Stewart  
 Robert and Alice Ticehurst  
 Bobbie Walton  
 Richard Wardwell  
 Karen Wassman  
 Cliff and Debbie White

Carl and Teresa Wild  
 Scott and Emily Yinger

### Organizations

America's Charities  
 Booz Allen Hamilton  
 The Columbia Bank  
 Core Service Agency  
 Corporate Fitness Works, Inc  
 Costco  
 DRS Signal Solutions Inc.  
 Freddie Mac  
 Inside Mortgage Finance Publications, Inc  
 Insurance Associates, Inc.  
 Linowes and Blocher, LLP  
 Mid-Atlantic Distributors, Inc.  
 Montgomery Blair High School  
 Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc.  
 P.J. McTavish & Co., Inc.  
 Pascal & Weiss, P.C.  
 S Corp Temporary Staffing  
 Sam's Club  
 Sandy Spring Bank  
 Schwab Charitable Fund  
 United Way of the National Capital Area  
 Verizon TelecomPioneers  
 Virion Systems, Inc.  
 Wilcoxon Construction, Inc.

### Congregations

Archdiocese of Washington  
 Ashton United Methodist Church  
 Congregation Beth El Religious School  
 Church of the Resurrection  
 Damascus United Methodist Church  
 Geneva Presbyterian Church  
 Global Mission Church  
 Mother Seton Parish  
 Our Lady of Grace Church  
 St. Francis Episcopal Church  
 St. John Neumann Catholic Church  
 St. Matthew Presbyterian Church  
 Unitarian Universalist Church of Rockville

### Foundations

Carl M. Freeman Foundation  
 Community Foundation for the  
 National Capital Region  
 Freddie Mac Foundation  
 The Herb Block Foundation  
 Kecker Family Foundation

### In Honor of

William Pearce Brueckmann by  
 Michael and Ann Pupjak.  
 Vicki Fisk by Catherine Cleland.  
 Nancy Greene's speedy recovery by  
 Sharan and Howard London.  
 Dr. Christine J. Hager by Ann Foster.  
 Simone Holzer by Stephen and  
 Vicki Fisk.  
 The homeless staying at the Wheaton  
 Center by Freda Jane Mauldin.

Samira Jackson by E.A. Lawson  
 Jackson & Associates Inc.  
 Lois Jones and Betty June Warner  
 by Philip F. Warner.  
 Miriam Kramer, Rabbi Aaron Levy  
 and Elior Levy Kramer by Solomon  
 and Suzanne Levy.  
 Sharan London by Don and  
 Sheila Moldover.  
 Sharan London's 10 years of service  
 to the Coalition by Wendi and  
 Jeffrey Sager.  
 Dan and Marilyn Milway's Golden  
 Wedding anniversary by Leo  
 and Elizabeth Scanlon.  
 The birth of Miranda Ann Opitz by  
 Stephen and Jennie Lane.  
 Jake Rasmussen by Megan and  
 Tom Griffith.  
 Elaine Sands' speedy recovery by  
 Sharan and Howard London.  
 Herman Sturza by Evelyn Sturza.  
 Ashley Weissenburger by Karin Wulf.

### In Memory of

Susan Gassler by Marguerite  
 Tom-Wigfield.  
 Mildred Goeke by Michael and  
 Sybil Greenhut, and Julie Maltzman.  
 Lillian Goldman by Debbie Abernethy,  
 Don L. Evans, Sharan and  
 Howard London, Jennifer McHugh,  
 and Barry Miller.  
 Alice Helm by Lewis Helm.  
 Sandra L. Heyman by Matthew  
 and Noelle Heyman.  
 Merchell Reedy's son by Sharan  
 and Howard London.  
 Susan Russ by Daniel and  
 Rebecca Delorey, Michael and  
 Sybil Greenhut, Sharan and  
 Howard London, Sarah Mahin,  
 Julie Maltzman, Jim Russ,  
 and Jennifer Willard.  
 Ruth Weisbach by Morton and  
 Bernice Shapiro.



*ShelterWalk 'n Roll 2007*  
 Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc.



*National Coalition for the Homeless speaks on homeless voting rights at the May 2007 member meeting.*

## MCCH's Annual Membership Drive

Please consider joining or renewing your membership with the Coalition as part of our efforts to end homelessness in Montgomery County. Your FY2008 membership dues will support our advocacy efforts, public education, training for homeless service providers, and supplying relevant speakers at our member meetings. If you are interested, please fill out the form below and send back with your payment. We look forward to your support!

### MCCH Membership Record and Invoice

Individual Membership Dues for July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008      \$15.00  
 Organization Membership Dues for July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008      \$50.00

- Yes!** I would like to help the Coalition in serving our community's most vulnerable neighbors by becoming a member. In addition to becoming a member, I would like to make an additional donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Additional donations could buy:

- \$20      A safe place to sleep for one man, for one night at the Men's Emergency Shelter
- \$35      Bed sheets for one of our Home First clients
- \$55      Pots and pans for a new family in the Partnership for Permanent Housing
- \$110     One backpack containing a calculator, notebooks, folders, pens and paper for a child's first day of school at Seneca Heights Apartments

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Individual

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization Name (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number & Fax Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Website

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address

Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on Credit Card

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp. Date

I/We would like to join the following electronic mail groups:

- Beginning to End updates* - updates on implementation of action steps in the Coalition's 10-Year Plan to end homelessness
- Information for local homeless service providers* - programs, classes, and services available for clients and providers as well as articles about regional homeless issues
- General information on homelessness* - current articles, research, data, and national legislative updates on topics related to homelessness
- MCCH news and events* - information about developments at the Coalition and upcoming public education and fundraising events
- Advocacy* - requests for letter writing and support during legislative session and budget process
- Volunteers* - volunteer opportunities with the Coalition
- Membership meetings* - notice of dates and topics for upcoming member meetings and retreats

Please make checks payable to MCCH and mail with this form to:  
 600-B East Gude Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

**Your membership donation is tax-deductible. Thanks for your support!**

Please remember us through your workplace giving campaign. We now participate in:



United Way of the National Capital Area  
Code [8569](#)



Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area  
Code [40234](#)



Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign  
Code [8390](#)

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Rockville, MD  
Permit No. 4276

Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless  
600-B East Gude Drive  
Rockville, MD 20850  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED