

## The Latest Initiative at New Hope Housing—Homeless Prevention

Much has been written about the “ten year plans” developed by local jurisdictions to prevent and end homelessness. A major focus of the ten year plans is on homelessness prevention. Once a family or individual has lost housing, there often follows a cascade of other challenges. It is difficult to maintain a job or look for a job, or help children stay in school, or keep up with health needs if you are moving from place to place, sharing space, and especially if living unsheltered. And in the current economic times, too many households find themselves facing tough decisions about maintaining housing and meeting other financial demands.

Last fall, Fairfax County funded a senior community case manager at New Hope Housing to assist families and individuals at imminent risk of losing housing. Working with New Hope Housing staff and other community resources through the HOST initiative—Housing Opportunities Support Team—the community case manager serves individuals and families facing short term challenges who could retain their housing if provided immediate financial assistance and ongoing case management support. Together the case manager and family/single adult develop a plan to build greater stability by addressing income/employment needs, strengthening financial literacy, maintaining or finding new affordable housing, and more.

We are seeing that many people who have been stable for

long periods are now facing uncertainty. Job losses or reduced hours and/or lowered wages have put great strain on households trying to meet day to day living needs. And the unexpected illness, auto breakdown or other emergency expense then becomes nearly impossible to manage. The households we are seeing have not yet cycled down to the point of losing their housing, or turning to substances to ease their pain; they tend to have more stable employment and housing histories than those who come to us for shelter who have used up all their financial and emotional resources and family supports.

What is clear is that there are more people at risk of homelessness as a result of the changes in jobs and the economy. What is also clear from our experience doing prevention work is that it is much more cost effective to help people with financial assistance, employment assistance, and case management before they become homeless than working to regain housing after it is lost.

The Fairfax County Office to Prevent & End Homelessness has documented prevention assistance provided to 299 households (745 persons) in the first four months of the HOST initiative. At New Hope Housing, we have served on average 35 households each month. This is a program that is truly having an impact and hopefully helping us, as a community, make real progress toward our goal to end and prevent homelessness in our community.

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See Prevention Services—  
Making a Difference for People  
in Our Community  
on page 6



It's time to rethink homelessness.

**Our Vision:** A home and a bright future for every man, woman and child in our community.

**Our Mission:** New Hope Housing provides homeless families and individual shelter and the tools to build a better life.

## Administration

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## Board of Directors

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**Kevin Mondloch, Director of Community Services**  
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**Larry Padberg, Director of Development**

## New Board Members

The New Hope Housing Board of Directors welcomed five new members in June:

**Geoff Harkness**—brings extensive business and consulting expertise to the Board; he currently is a partner at Duty First Consulting, LLC, an information technology and management consulting firm. He also brings experience working with several nonprofit groups including the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, West Virginia University Alumni, and Best Buddies Virginia.

**Steve Hartell**—with past Congressional staff experience and work in corporate government relations, Steve brings deep understanding of governmental processes and building strong relationships for marketing and program development. Currently Director of Government Relations for Cisco Systems, Steve also has given his expertise as an active volunteer and leader for many nonprofit groups and special events.

**Larry Hoffman**—has over 30 years audit, accounting, tax and consulting experience in public accounting and the private sector; after experience in large, international firms, he founded his own accounting firm, and then joined Raffa, PC. He has extensive experience with nonprofit organizations as a board member and volunteer. Larry also is a private pilot, a member of the Board of Mercy Medical Airlift, an Angel Flight affiliate, and has completed numerous missions for Angel Flight.

**Lexalynn Hooper**—currently a budget officer with the Association of the United States Army, Lexalynn brings program development, conference management, training, marketing and group facilitation skills to the work of the Board. She has provided leadership in a wide range of service organizations, and has had especially close involvement in service and training programs for the Department of Defense and supporting military personnel and their families.

**Marilou Serafin**—brings lifelong involvement in community service and nonprofit work in northern Virginia and the greater Washington area, including leadership positions with Life with Cancer at Inova Fairfax Hospital, Salvation Army, Junior League of Northern Virginia, Dominion Guild, McLean Symphony, Hospice of Northern Virginia, Christ Child Society, and others. A self-employed consultant, Marilou is a highly regarded civic leader in the northern Virginia community.

In welcoming new members, the Board also gratefully recognized the contributions of five members leaving the Board after completing six years of service: **Dick Alderson, Jimmi Barnwell, Curtis Baylor, Mary Jo George, and Stephanie Lynch**. Each of these Board members has provided many hours of service, wise counsel, and active support for the work of New Hope Housing. Many thanks to all for their dedication and for sharing in the mission and the values of New Hope Housing!

# Thanks to All Our Volunteers and In-Kind Donors!

Our deepest thanks to **Marsha Wooten** and **Old Navy** of **Springfield** employees and **Happy Home Child Learning Center** for providing winter coats for the children at Mondloch House. Many other groups and individuals brought coats, hats, gloves, and scarves to the shelters during this very cold and snowy winter (remember?) We are thankful for each person who donated.

Thanksgiving meals were provided for residents by **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity**, **Fort Belvoir Command**, **Sara Lee Taylor**, and **Bobby McKinnon and family**, and Thanksgiving food baskets were donated by **Elks Lodge 758**, **Good Shepherd Catholic Church**, **AMYX, Inc.**, **St. James Episcopal Church**, and many others who dropped off turkeys and food at the shelters. Our thanks to all!

Christmas at New Hope Housing begins every year with the Pohick Christmas Party, hosted by **Pohick Episcopal Church** with help from **Shiloh Baptist Church** and **Ohev Yisrael Congregation**, and ends with **Temple Rodef Shalom** providing dinner on Christmas day at all the shelters. In between are parties, gift cards, Santa's Workshop, "adoption" gifts, and visits from Santa Claus provided by over 100 individuals, faith communities, businesses, and community organizations – we cannot thank you enough!!

A huge thank you to the **VIC-HOP and Falls Church Winter Shelter volunteers** who helped keep the emergency shelters operating every night, from December 1 through March 31. Over 170 individuals were provided a safe, clean, and warm place to stay on those cold winter nights due to your readiness to help. Thank you! And very special thanks to volunteers, and staff, who really gave extended help during the February snow storms!

Special thanks to volunteers from **Calvary Church of the Nazarene** for waiting tables and helping in the kitchen for the Out of Poverty Graduation for New Hope Housing residents. Thanks to volunteers from **National Community Church** for serving at New Hope's annual Black History Dinner.

The Gala Committee worked for months—thanks to co-chairs **Susan Homar** and **Deidre Miller**, and committee members **Mary Urda**, **Kendall Gordon**, and **Nadine Harduarsingh**. Thanks to the volunteers who helped the night of the Gala—**Charles Lepple**, **Susan Carron**, **Jason Tonks**, **Laura Martin**, and **Charlie Skopec**.

**Students from the University of Vermont** spent their spring break working at the shelters—thanks to these hard-working students, and to **Aldersgate United Methodist Church** for housing them!

Thanks to those who provided Easter baskets—**Girl Scout Troop 1808**, **Epiphany Byzantine Catholic Church**,



Mike and Jamie Lambert of Bonnie Plants donated bedding plants and garden materials—several times—that have helped residents plant gardens at Mondloch House, Gartlan House and Max's Place. Thank you!!

**Fairlington United Methodist Church**, and those of you who dropped off baskets anonymously at the shelter!

Thanks to the faith communities and individuals who participated in the **CROP WALK**, benefiting world and local hunger relief programs, including New Hope Housing.

Thanks to **Lani Mark** of "Private Quarters" for hosting a party to benefit New Hope Housing with donations of pillows, blankets, and luxury linens.

Thanks to the many groups that provided special meals at the shelters, including **Dove Fellowship**, **The Sunday Brunch Group**, **Outside the Walls Ministry**, **Genesis Church**, **Temple B'nai Shalom**, students from **Quander Road School**, **Christ Church**, **Olivet Episcopal Church**, **Girl Scout Troop 586**, **Freddie Mac employees**, **His Church International**, **Unity Christian Fellowship International**, **Calvary Church of the Nazarene**, the **Nick Giordano family**, and **Temple Rodef Shalom**. What a tremendous help you are!

Thanks to the individuals and faith communities that mentor our Partnership for Permanent Housing families. Thanks to the students and adults who help with children's activities at the family shelter, and to our friends at **The Reading Connection** for reading weekly with children at the shelter. Thanks to those who tutor—special thanks to **Jim Lund**, who has tutored and helped residents with basic computer skills at the Kennedy Shelter for 22 years.

We greatly appreciate each and every person who provides support to our residents and programs!

# Special Events

## Winter Soiree

The winter and spring months included several major events for New Hope Housing friends and supporters. In February, the fifth annual Winter Soiree, sponsored by our good friends from the **Alexandria Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**, gathered 182 people to enjoy the evening together, learn about New Hope Housing, and hear the comments and reflections on the world of politics and the media from long-time ABC News correspondent **Sam Donaldson**. Special thanks for the great support for Winter Soiree 2010 to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, our generous sponsors, and Mr. Donaldson. The Winter Soiree 2010 provided \$38,000 to support our programs and services!



Photo credit: Steve Hunt, Mount Vernon Voice

Special guest speaker Sam Donaldson and his wife, Jan (far left), with New Hope Housing Executive Director Pam Michell (center) and Board member Donna Shafer (far right).

## Gala 2010

The Gala 2010 theme was “Saturday Night Fever” and over 200 friends of New Hope Housing “caught the fever” with a great night of dancing, dining, and auction bidding. Special thanks to our Gold Partner sponsors **Modern Technology Solutions, Inc., Science Applications International Corp., Phil & Peg Soucy, Clayton Davis, and Waterford Receptions**.



Our special thanks to the Gala Committee: Susan Homar (co-chair and our Volunteer of the Year), Kendall Gordon, Deidre Miller (co-chair), Chris Bramante, Nadine Harduarsingh, Dana Murray, and Mary Urda (missing from photo).

We were honored to present our 2010 Good Neighbor Award to **The Reading Connection**. Since 1997 volunteers from The Reading Connection have been providing their Read Aloud program for children at the Mondloch House Family Shelter, as well as reading workshops for parents and books for many of the children in transitional housing.



Guests exuberantly danced to “YMCA” at the Saturday Night Fever Gala!

“Saturday Night Fever” was the hot idea of a great group of gala volunteers led by co-chairs **Deidre Miller** and **Susan Homar**. Thanks to the generosity of our many sponsors, auction donors, gala volunteers and all who attended, Gala 2010 raised over \$78,000 in support of New Hope Housing! Many thanks to all!



Volunteers Eileen Ferraro, Marge McConnell and Suzanne Shafer accept the Good Neighbor Award on behalf of The Reading Connection at the Volunteer Recognition Program.



Phil and Tressa Kauffman won the prize for the best "Saturday Night Fever" attire at the Gala!

## Volunteer Recognition Program

In late May we honored some of our most dedicated volunteers. We are fortunate to have the help of several hundred volunteers each year, working individually or in groups, providing direct one-on-one assistance to residents, leading special activities for children and families, supporting the work of the Education & Employment Resource Center, providing overnight staffing for the VIC-HOP winter shelter program, and doing many, many more tasks that support residents and expand the work of New Hope Housing staff. This year special recognition was given to:

**His Church International, Calvary Church of the Nazarene, Christ Church, Temple B'nai Shalom, and St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church**—faith communities that have provided special help during the past year.

**Hybla Valley Elementary School**—a partner school in the Help the Homeless Walkathon program for at least the past seven years, the students and teachers also have conducted food drives and other events to help support our work.

**Gwen King, Marlene Payne, Tom Miller**—individual honorees recognized for special service.

**Austin Self**—recipient of the Allie McConnell Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award; Austin has volunteered with New Hope Housing since he was 11—he's now a student at Virginia Tech and volunteered this past year during school breaks.

**Becky Williams**—recipient of the Jim Lund Years of Service Award; Becky has helped organize the Help the Homeless mini-walk at Burgundy Farms Country Day School for many years, as well as helping in other ways; we appreciate her consistent help over many years!

**Susan Homar**—recipient of the Kyle Randall Volunteer of the Year Award; Susan not only served as co-chair of the Gala, she has helped with numerous events at Pohick Episcopal Church for New Hope Housing residents, and is always ready to serve.

## Volunteer Needs

Some of our current volunteer needs include:

- Help mentor residents with budgeting, debt reduction, etc.
- Filing assistance in our Human Resources office.
- Scan photos of "the good old days" at New Hope Housing, at your home as you have time (need to have a scanner).
- Help in planning our spring gala.
- Help our outreach to community groups for Walkathon mini-walks this fall.

Other volunteer opportunities also occur regularly. To explore possibilities and for more information, contact Chris Bramante, [cbramante@newhopehousing.org](mailto:cbramante@newhopehousing.org) or 703-799-2293, ext. 22.

## Prevention Services— Making a Difference for People in Our Community

**After living with family in West Virginia,** “Charlie” returned to northern Virginia, got a job, and was living with friends to save money to move to his own place. When his friends asked him to leave, Charlie lived out of his car for over a month, still working, still trying to save. Referred to our community case manager, she linked him to day “drop in” services while he was living in his car. And she helped him apply for emergency support—within 8 days from their first meeting, Charlie had applied for and received help with a deposit and first month’s rent, found an apartment, and had moved in! Just as important, our case manager is continuing to help Charlie build a budget and plan on how to manage his income—from mostly seasonal work—so he is prepared for the winter months and beyond.

**The “Walsh” family—mom, dad and teen daughter** with disabilities and medical needs—were living with relatives while dad was working and mom was looking for a job. After awhile, the family members gave them a deadline for moving out. When they sought entry into a family shelter, they were referred to our prevention team who helped them find affordable housing; and then Mr. Walsh was laid off from his construction job. Our case manager helped them obtain short term emergency assistance so they do not lose their housing, and to apply for disability benefits for their daughter. With the guidance of our case manager and our employment specialist, both adults are preparing to earn their GEDs and continuing to seek jobs while also building workplace skills. And they have been helped in finding medical services for their daughter. While still facing challenges, the family was prevented from entering homelessness and now have ongoing support as they seek new jobs and a return to stability.

These are just two real situations that show how financial assistance and ongoing support can help individuals and families maintain housing and prevent homelessness. As we continue to help those who have become homeless with shelter and support to rebuild their lives, our new work in homelessness prevention will become a key part of significantly reducing homelessness and building a stronger community for all.

## FY 2010 Outstanding Staff!!

Congratulations and many thanks to the New Hope Housing staff who were recognized over the past year for their outstanding work.

### Employees of the Quarter:

#### Reed Livers

Agency Asset Manager

#### Michael Robinson

Resident Manager, Kennedy Shelter

#### Kevin Mondloch

Housing Specialist, all programs

#### Anthony “A.J.” Johnson,

Cook, Mondloch House

### Employee of the Year:

#### Ollie Dawson

Shelter Specialist, Kennedy Shelter

## Did you know...

Each year on a designated night in January, an unduplicated count is made of all the persons who are homeless in our metropolitan area. The 2010 study found a 3% decrease in the number of homeless persons across the entire Washington metro area compared to January 2009, with substantial variations across jurisdictions. In northern Virginia, there was an 11% decrease in persons who are homeless in Fairfax County/Falls Church, a 4% increase in Arlington County, and almost no change in the City of Alexandria. Still, we had 2,434 persons in these communities who were homeless, including 746 children in families.

### A short overview of the point-in-time findings—

	Jan. 2008	Jan. 2009	Jan. 2010
<b>Single Adults</b>			
Fairfax/Falls Church	744	663	652
Arlington	284	322	347
Alexandria	221	223	208
<b>Adults in Families</b>			
Fairfax/Falls Church	414	438	342
Arlington	46	71	76
Alexandria	46	55	63
<b>Children in Families</b>			
Fairfax/Falls Church	677	629	550
Arlington	81	118	108
Alexandria	81	82	88
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,593</b>	<b>2,601</b>	<b>2,434</b>

## Help the Homeless Walkathon

In early March, New Hope Housing received \$123,950 from the 2009 Fannie Mae Walkathon!! That is a great help in building support for all of our programs and services. Many thanks to everyone who helped: Walkathon partners who designated part of their gifts for New Hope Housing; our many friends who sent contributions to support our mini-walk program; the 2,408 children and adults who participated in a mini-walk for us; the 105 people who signed up and walked for New Hope Housing at the walk on the National Mall in November; and to all who made donations online for us. Your help made it possible for us to earn \$45,790 in incentive grants and a general fund contribution from the Walkathon program. Thank you!

**Keep the walking shoes handy—Walkathon 2010 will be kicking off very soon!**



### Dreamhouse

This wonderful artwork was drawn by Elijah, a 12-year-old boy who resides with his mom and sister in New Hope Housing's transitional housing program. The Housing Association of Nonprofit Developers (HAND) sponsored a children's art contest to promote the importance of providing clean, safe and affordable housing for area families. Elijah's drawing, "My Tree House of Dreams," was the winner; it was used as the cover artwork for the HAND annual meeting and awards luncheon's program. Congratulations to Elijah!



Max's Place residents are proud of the vegetable garden they've nourished this summer. Vegetable starters, bedding plants and garden materials were provided by Mike, Jamie, and Shane Lambert of Bonnie Plants!



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Alexandria, VA 22309

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## **In-Kind Donation Needs**

**Yard maintenance supplies: weed eaters, hedge clippers, rakes**

**Washers, dryers, and refrigerators in working condition for transitional housing units**

**Furniture: beds and dressers; dining room table with chairs  
Infant car seats**

**Baby/toddler supplies (diapers, baby wipes, lotion, etc.)**

Items can be dropped off at Mondloch House, or pick up can be arranged for large items.

**Contact Chris Bramante,  
cbramante@newhopehousing.org  
or 703-799-2293, ext. 22.**

## **Giving through United Way or Combined Federal Campaign?**

**Please remember New Hope Housing  
United Way #8179 CFC #13831**

## **Become a New Hope Housing**



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