

Housing Matters



Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc. has a two-fold mission. We are dedicated to helping men experiencing homelessness rebuild their lives and to changing attitudes toward homelessness through outreach and education.

Ronald is our most recent resident to move to permanent housing. At fifty-nine years old, he had a long history of substance use and unstable housing. Ronald moved into Earl's Place in May of 2019 and immediately began working on his goals: getting a job, housing, and staying sober.

He updated his resume and started applying for jobs. He addressed some physical and mental health needs. He never missed a chance to make us laugh and, in his spare time, he went roller skating.

In August 2020 he obtained employment as an Environmental Services Tech at a local hospital. His annual income went from \$2,580 to \$31,200. Although he is quick to say, he has not used up his two years and that we pushed him out; he is excited to take this next step and have his own place.

In his exit interview with Jim, he said in the beginning walking by bars was hard. He didn't think he could stay sober this long.

Now, thanks to you and the stability Earl's Place offered him, he is celebrating his 60th birthday and his successes in his own apartment.

2021 Board Retreat!



Would you like to join these smiling faces and help advance CCH's mission?

We are looking for people who care about those experiencing homelessness to serve on our Board or a committee. We are especially looking for people with marketing/public relations, communication, and philanthropy skills. If you are interested in more information, contact Sheila at 410-522-0225 or sheila@umhousing.org.



You may have noticed a big improvement in our social media.

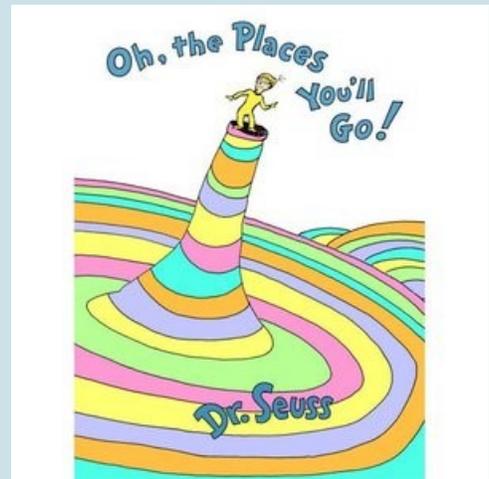
Marina Blandino (bottom row, middle picture above), a former Board member who now lives in Florida, is volunteering her time as our Marketing Coordinator.

Marina is doing all kinds of fabulous things with us including a blog, The Road Home, which you can find on our website.

If you are interested in writing a piece for the blog, please e-mail Marina at marketing@cchbaltimore.org.

You can find an interview with our Earl's Place resident manager here—bit.ly/renardnoble

UPDATES



Earl's Place residents, Anthony, Danney, James, Kenny, Ronald W., and Thomas made the move to permanent housing and received their books.

James lost his job following an injury in 2017. One thing led to another. He began drinking heavily and then lost his housing. He entered a substance use treatment program in 2018 before coming to Earl's Place in 2019. He was scheduled to move in December, but a COVID quarantine delayed his move until this January.

In his exit interview, James said: *Thank you for opening the door for me so I could have a chance to establish myself. You were a positive inspiration toward my situation. Thank you for your assistance and aid. In the near future, I hope to accomplish more positive achievements. Next is my GED.*

Ronald S., one of the original Prospect Place residents, moved to an independent senior housing project.

Together, we are changing lives!

THANK YOU FOR GOING VIRTUAL WITH US!

#COVIDCANTSTOPGOOD continues to be our mantra. And it's true!

We couldn't get together in person for the **Opening Doors Dinner** or the **Resolution Run**, but you took it in stride.

You bid through online auction and you responded to our **Fund a New Beginning** mail campaign. Thanks to you, we raised \$26,185 to provide HOPE, HELP, and a HOME, to the men of Earl's Place.

O
P
E
N
I
N
G
D
O
O
R
S



Thank you to Nathan Barbo, Marcia Conlin, Jerome Gilmore, and The Clearing House for their silent auction donations and Nancy Gardner for her sponsorship.

Thank you also to our Resolution Run sponsors:

Chesapeake Association United Church of Christ (UCC)

First & St. Stephens UCC
Immanuel (Catonsville) UCC
United Evangelical UCC

Hopefully we will be able to gather later this year. We will keep you posted.



My friend Jaime and I ran the Resolution Run today (Jan 2) because the weather was so beautiful.



church basement!

Although it was very different this year, it was still rewarding. We are hopeful that the Resolution Run of 2022 will be back to normal. In the meantime, Jaime and I will keep training for it and spreading the word to all our friends.

- Lisa Vandervest

Thanks to Jamie, Lisa, and everyone who supported the Resolution Run. You provided 51 days of housing and support for the 17 men at Earl's Place!

I was really missing the feeling of community, the energy of the race at Patterson Park, the people on the sidelines cheering us on and most of all the chili and corn bread in the

Remembering Mrs. K.



We were sad to hear of the recent death of our friend, Mrs. Joan Kolobielski.

“Mrs. K.”, as she was known by the men, was a member of Towson Unitarian Universalist Church and became a beloved partner with us during our Thursday night house meetings.

Joan, a retired Harford Community College psychology professor, volunteered her time for many years sharing tips on stress management, healthy eating, and more. The men called her the “Broccoli Lady” as that was one of foods she often shared with them. In addition to food, she loved Sudoku and did her best to get us to love it, too. She brought flowers from her garden and Sheila has a willow tree in her backyard from a cutting she brought in. Our former resident manager, Mike, said, “I think of her every time I see peanut-filled pretzel balls. She was beautiful.”

Joan once shared, “Some of my happiest memories of my retirement involve Earl’s Place. Overcoming my fear of coming there and getting to know everyone was great.” We are so glad Joan took a chance on us. She lives on in our memories.



Earl’s Place
1400 E. Lombard Street
Baltimore, MD 21231
410-522-0225

Prospect Place
8720 Philadelphia Road
Baltimore, MD 21237
410-682-9660

For more information,
visit us online at
cchbaltimore.org
sheila@cchbaltimore.org