

# Housing Matters

From the Executive Director

## THE POWER OF SECOND CHANCES

As Earl's Place completed the 15th year of providing housing and hope we were thinking about second chances.

During an interview on NPR, Robert Hilburn the author of 'The Man in Black', quoted Johnny Cash's son, John Carter. He said, "My dad's life was a struggle between darkness and light, and in the end, the light won."

For most of the men here, the battle between darkness and light is one that they also can win.

When some former and current residents talked with Dan Rodricks on the WYPR Midday Show, poignant stories of second chances were told.

Gary Champ shared what an impact Earl's Place had on him and how, now, he gives back through his employment at Earl's Place as a resident manager.

Renard talked about filling out numerous job applications, facing rejections and disappoint until he finally found a job that he loves at a downtown restaurant. He says, having a job that he enjoys is much more important than how much money he is making.

Anthony shared that he had not had contact with his father in 14 years. They began an e-mail conversation and his father and other family members listened to the show. This led to phone conversations and a visit from his father to Earl's Place. It was hands down, one of the best moments ever for all of us.

None of these men would have had the opportunity for these second chances without you. And while I hope for a day when this program is no longer needed, I am also grateful that we can be a place where people who have seen true despair can come out the other side and live in the light.



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Winter 2013/2014

James Carey,  
Case Manager

Sheila Helgerson,  
Executive Director

Eliza McDermott,  
Director of Development

Gary Champ and  
Christopher McSwain,  
Resident Managers

United Ministries is a housing and social justice organization dedicated to assisting homeless men who want to change their lives, and to changing community attitudes toward the homeless.



Want more updates from Earl's Place?

We send out a brief e-newsletter every month or so.

Visit [earlsplace.org](http://earlsplace.org) to sign-up!

# Board Member Spotlight



Casey Schurman  
Board member

As I drove through the streets of Baltimore and saw men standing on corners, I used to think to myself, “Why don’t they just get a job?”

This insensitivity didn’t come from a lack of compassion for others...it came from ignorance. And that ignorance would have continued had it not have been for one woman and one man standing at the altar of my church and speaking to our congregation. That woman, Sheila, is the Director of Earl’s Place and that man, Emerson, was a resident. I couldn’t fathom that just several months before, this man standing in front of me, was standing on the streets; homeless. He was so put together, so well spoken, and was in college. How could this be?

After the service, I passed on my contact information to Sheila. She contacted me almost immediately, suggested that I check out the website, and scheduled a time for me to come and take a tour of Earl’s Place. There is no way that I can really

explain the feeling I had as I walked through the building that 17 men called home. But I knew that, no matter what, I needed to be a part of this amazing organization.

Never in a million years did I expect to be sitting where I am today; on the board of Earl’s Place, helping the men that I may have driven by just months before. But I am, and am so proud of all of our residents and the hard work that they put in every day to lead a clean and sober life. I am inspired by them and want to do whatever I can to help them, and all of our future residents, who, like Emerson, are ready for a new life.

*YOU* can help, too! You can schedule a tour of Earl’s Place (you will be in for a treat!), you can become a monthly donor, you can tell people to visit our website, you can bake cookies for our 5K, and so much more!

I hope to meet you at one of our Talk and Tours or one of our future events. And who knows, maybe one day we’ll be sitting across from one another at an Earl’s Place Board meeting.

United Ministries is actively recruiting social justice focused individuals to serve on the Board of Directors. Board terms are three years, the full board meets every other month on Monday evenings, and terms begin May 2014.

If you would be interested in joining Casey and a great group of people in some very exciting work, please contact Sheila at 410-522-0225 or [umdirector@verizon.net](mailto:umdirector@verizon.net) for more information.



BOARD MEETING

# Resident Spotlight

## Remembering William K.

Unfortunately, rather than a story of hope and renewal this is a remembrance.

Last year I received a call from a former resident's mother. This was not unusual, she would call every now and then to see if I had heard from William.

I had not heard from him in a while and was getting ready to tell her so when she said, "William is in a better place now."

William died on the streets of Fells Point. She found out through a call in August from the Coroner's Office.

No details. No funeral. Nothing but memories to hold on to.

William was a Earl's Place resident from December 2004 to July 2005. He was an alcoholic who had a very difficult time staying sober. He remained

in contact with us, often showing up after a drinking binge and a stay in the hospital.

He was a donor when he had money and often volunteered at the Supper Club soup kitchen.

He was divorced and had a daughter. When he was sober he was a kind and giving son and a good friend.

William was remembered at the Annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Service on December 21, the longest night of the year.

Each year the names of homeless members of our society who have died are remembered; this year 102 other names were also read.

**Hopefully one day there will be no names to be read.**

Safe havens like Earl's Place make a difference for those who are struggling with homelessness and addiction. And, although William was not always successful, **thanks to you**, he found a respite here.

## RUNNERS READY



Resolution Run 2014

This was the scene at the Annual Resolution Run as the crowd of runners and walkers lined up for the annual 5K through Patterson Park.

More than 600 people gathered on a crisp, sunny New Year's Day to run, walk and raise funds for Earl's Place.

Congratulations to Dawn Perrone, Team Grace, and Richard DeSantis from DeSantis Grill, Bar and Pizza, for collecting the largest number of pledges. BMore Sugars for having the overall largest team and to Grace United Church of Christ for having the largest congregation team. More pictures can be found on our website and Facebook pages.

## Friends & Supporters | July—December 2013

Georgia & Peter Angelos	Columbia United Christian Church	Christopher Giordano	H. Ed Lanehart Jeffrey Lauren	Polcak Phaye Poliakoff-Chen
Sherri Alms & Robert Omberg **	Marcia Conlin & James Ruckle	Janet Glover- Kerkvliet**	Elsie Lawson** Ronald & Maria	Jan & Joan Ports Nijole Powell
Bradley Alston Douglas Anders	James Connolly Amy Conway	Ryan Goetz Archie Golden &	Lefrancois Robert Pierson	Laura Prinn James Rashed
Rev. & Mrs. Stephen Anderson	Martha Cook Ralph & Roberta	Penelope Cordish Goucher College Hillel	Kim Cummings: Lexington Market	Carol & Ronald Reckling
Jayne Andrews Casey Anno & David	Cook Gerry's Tire & Auto	Grace UCC Rosie Gray	Jean & Kenneth Lillquist	Melissa Regan William & Helen
Wilhelm ** Anonymous**	Michelle & Kevin Cooke	Kathleen Green Gene Grosh	The Lindholm Family Karen & Paul Lovelace	Reichel Homer and Kathy
Jasmine Arnold Joseph Arsenault &	Barbara Corbin April Cox**	Clarence Gross** Andrea Haggens	John & Lillian Lowensen	Riggins Donald & Elaine
Linda Emerick** Jorge & Paulette	Ira Cox Patrick Dempsey	Cornelius Hairston Julia Hartenstein	Leslie & Dee Luco Sheila Malenski	Roberts Ben Rosen
Austrich Gerri Banachowska	Donna Hunter W. Gary Dorsch	The Hartenstein & Rost Families	Margaret Marshall Stephen Maslen **	Ellen Rosen F. Clarence & Carol B.
Linda Barclay** Eugene & Karen	B. Marvin Dorsey * ** Earl Drew*	Loretta Hawley Carey Hayes	Stephanie Martin Gina Mast	Rowell Suzanne Royer
Bartell Chase Barton &	Leslie & Larry Dunham	Sheila Helgerson & Michael Taurone **	Sarah McAra Eliza McDermott**	Sharon Rubinstein Lori Russell
Meredith Lohr Christina Beliveau	Margaret Dunham Steven Dwyer	Thomas Henninger** John & Virginia	Thomas & Sara McDermott	Edward Rutkowski St. John's UCC **
David Bender Lois & Jim Benson	Victoria Eberwein Donnie Eckart	Himmelheber Daniel Hinton *	Sarah McGivern Angela Megna	St. Mark's UCC St. Matthew UCC
William & Eileen Bevans	Donnie Eckart Dave Egbert**	Sue Hocker Carol & Thomas	Benita Merritt ** Rose Marie Meservey	Eddie Sanders James Sanford**
Jean Blair Margie Bonnett	Craig Ellis Luz & Marc Enriquez	Hoffman ** Alta Horn	Susan Meyers Karen Miller	Leonard Saunders Zita & Joseph
Donna Bowen Juanita Boyd-Cooper	Scott Ensor George Evans	Hayward Howard Starla & John	Wendell Miller Quiana Mondowney**	Saurusaitis Donald Schiller
Ann Bracken Lucy Brady **	Sheila Farrell Frank & Jean Ferrando	Hudachek Hunt's Memorial	Janet Mooney & Curt Schiller	Barbara Schroeder Sarah Schulman
Brenner Animal Hospital	First & St. Stephen's UCC	United Methodist Church Nancy Janzen	Ida Moore Arnetta Jones	Casey Schurman** Char & Earl
Marsha Brett Charles Brown	C. Larry Fisher Sara Fitzgerald	Elizabeth Jedlicka Julius Jefferson	Katie Mychailyszyn Matt Nacrelli	Schurman** David Schwartz**
David & Marianne Brown	Terry Fitzgerald Johnnie Whitehead	Roy Joellenbeck Steven Kaplan	Don & Susan Nicholson	Dianne Sestero Robert Seward
Lynn Browning Gwendolyn Bullock **	Sheila Fotheringill Harold & Rhea Fox	Anna Kasko Amanda Kilian	William Oeser John & Meg Oliver**	Lesa Sexton Stephen Shawe
James & Barbara Burck Burns & Jodi Waters	Gerald & Elizabeth Fuss	Tom Kimmerle Stephanie Kimmons	Beth O'Malley & Randy Young	Len & Shirley Shiloh Jo Siders
The Lombardini Family Greg Cantori	Peter Gallo Gavin Gardi	Lee Kingham Alex Kirby	Arlene Pate Mary Ellen Pattee	William Sigismondi Beverly Simpson
James Carey Michael & Karen	Hannah Gardi & Matthew Stubbs**	Deborah Kleinmann Jennifer Knighton	Edgar Graves Carl & Jennifer Pelton	Alva Smith-Grubb Tiffany Snow
Carrington David Chapin	Robert & Barbara Garner	Bill Kramer Helen Krom	Dawn Perrone Robert & Virginia	Linda Spring** Katharine Stauffer
Judith & Pat Clancy Charlotte Collins	Charles Gaskins Mardella Gillespie	Rachel Kutler Betty LaBua: Ten	Peters Clara Polcak	Bruce Swanson & Robert Olsen
Ryan Collins		Thousand Villages Rudolph & Frieda		Edward Szrom

Luke Telander  
 Thomas & Sue Telander  
 Brislin Thomas  
 Holly Tilford  
 Ted Titcomb  
 Vicky Titcomb  
 Towson Unitarian  
 Universalist Church  
 Brian Tracey  
 Robert Trimble  
 Mary Tsottles  
 James Uminowicz  
 UMW Providence  
 United Methodist Church  
 United Evangelical UCC  
 Grant Valentine  
 David Vanneman  
 Elizabeth Walter  
 Christine Walz  
 Maria Ward  
 Nicole Watson  
 Edwin & Patricia Wenck  
 Luke Wesby\*  
 The Friendly Inn  
 Doug & Jill White\*\*  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Whittaker  
 Elizabeth Wiggins &  
 Steve Breckler\*\*  
 Shirley Willner  
 Anna Johnson-Winegar  
 Ronald & Ellen Witko  
 Tony & Dawn Wolfe  
 Steve & Joan Wright  
 Jean Zachariasiewicz  
 Richard Zapf  
 Zion (Evangelical Lutheran)  
 UCC

\* Visionary  
 (Former resident)

\*\* GEM  
 (monthly donor)

**In Honor of:**

**Eugene & Karen Bartell**  
 Douglas Anders  
 Elizabeth S. Bartell  
 Ruth Ann Engel  
 Sheila Helgerson &  
 Michael Taurone  
 Hubert T. Gurley, M.D.  
 & John W. Hale  
 J. Ellwood & Bernadine  
 Hummer  
 Ruth & Ryan Keyser  
 M. Lee & William Moulds  
 Donald & Elaine Roberts  
 Christine Walz  
 Edwin & Patricia Wenck

**Lucy Brady**  
 Gerald & Elizabeth Fuss

**Cathy Oatman  
 & Cindy Neff**  
 Ronald & Ellen Witko

**Brislin Thomas**  
 Carl Kuppe

**Luke Telander**  
 Thomas & Sue Telander

**Ralph & Nancy Titcomb**  
 Eliza McDermott

**In Memory of:**

**William Conlin**  
 Susan Meyers

**First United UCC**  
 Anonymous

**Kathryn Joellenbeck**  
 Harold & Rhea Fox

**Lena Miller**  
 Beth O'Malley  
 & Randy Young

**Mark Moody**  
 Nancy Janzen

**My Mother**  
 Amanda Kilian

**My Niece**  
 Debbie Aiello

"This is a  
 place to grow  
 up no matter  
 how old you  
 are."

-Current  
 Resident

**The Power of Second  
 Chances Gala Sponsors**

Eugene & Karen Bartell  
 Reed & Maggie Cordish  
 Johns Hopkins Medicine  
 St. Johns UCC  
 Ronald Frank:  
 Lexington National  
 Insurance Corp  
 Quiana Mondowney  
 Flowers & Fancy  
 Brian Frank:  
 Lexington National  
 Insurance Corp

"I was broken when  
 I came in. I had  
 quit drinking, but I  
 had no purpose.  
 Earl's Place put me  
 back together."

-Current Resident

**2014 Resolution Run  
 Sponsors**

Chesapeake Association  
 UCC  
 First & St. Stephens UCC  
 Immanuel UCC  
 Central Atlantic  
 Conference UCC  
 Scott Kreger: RBC  
 Wealth Management  
 David Counts  
 Robert Olsen &  
 Bruce Swanson  
 St. Elizabeth of Hungary  
 Church  
 United Evangelical UCC  
 Canton Club Health and  
 Fitness  
 Gerry's Tire Service  
 Thomas Hoffman,  
 CLU, CHFC, IAR  
 Patterson Park Baptist  
 Church

*We sincerely apologize for  
 any errors or omissions;  
 please contact our office for  
 corrections.*

**Please note the following  
 corrections to the 2012  
 Impact Report:**

**Silver \$1,000-\$2,499**  
 Rev. Eugene and Karen  
 Bartell

**Visionary \$250-\$499**  
 Clarence and Carol Rowell

# MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR STAFF

Eliza McDermott joins United Ministries as the part-time Director of Development. Eliza graduated from St. Olaf College in Minnesota with a degree in Political Science in 2012. After graduation, Eliza moved to Baltimore and had the opportunity to deepen her commitment to social justice while working as the Administrative and Development Assistant at the Public Justice Center. Eliza is passionate about creating a world in which all individuals can live out their full humanity by having access to fair, safe and stable housing. She is happy to join the residents, staff, and supporters of Earl's Place in building such a world.



Christopher McSwain, joined us as the full-time resident manager. He is a graduate of Earl's Place. Like many former residents Chris remained in touch with us and when this opportunity arose he was ready.



He assumed the role of resident manager after our resident manager of almost eight years, Mike Rambo, left for new opportunities and more time with his growing family which now includes a new baby daughter, born in December.

## United Ministries earns Seal of Excellence!

United Ministries, Inc. is a recipient of the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations (Maryland Nonprofits) Seal of Excellence, a voluntary certification program for organizations demonstrating the highest standards of organizational, operational, managerial and fiscal conduct. Below are a few highlights of the Seal (as found on the MANO website):

### **The Seal of Excellence is a symbol for trust.**

Organizations bearing the Seal of Excellence abide by the law and go beyond the minimum requirements set forth by government standards and regulations.

### **The Seal of Excellence is a symbol for excellence in nonprofit management.**

Organizations bearing the Seal of Excellence are guided by a well-defined mission, have evaluation systems in place to measure the effectiveness of their programs, and adhere to sound financial management policies.

### **The Seal of Excellence is a symbol for excellence in**



### **leadership.**

A volunteer Board of Directors that accepts responsibility for overseeing organization's mission, policies, programs, human and financial resources, leads organizations bearing the Seal of Excellence.

### **The Seal of Excellence is a symbol for transparency and disclosure in nonprofits.**

Organizations bearing the Seal of Excellence have information available to the public, provide truthful responsible stewardship of all donations, and provide a voice for their constituents.

We are proud to join the select group of nonprofits who have earned this recognition.



Wondering what to do with your tax return? Invest it!

Dedicate 10% of your tax return to make a New Beginning for a resident of Earl's Place!

Want to make a difference in the lives of our residents? Financial donations allow us to help our residents with the services and items they need most, but there are many other ways you can help out!

## Wish List

### LINENS

Twin bed sheets  
Bath towels  
Washcloths

### FOOD

Coffee  
Sugar  
Cereal  
Fresh fruits & vegetables

### TOILETRIES

Bar soap  
Deodorant  
Shampoo  
Toothpaste  
Lotion

Please contact us for other needs - gently used furniture, clothing, etc. accepted as space/needs permits.

### SUPPLIES

Paper Towels  
13 gallon trash bags  
Light bulbs (60 watts)  
Aluminum foil  
Plastic wrap  
All purpose cleaners  
Dish liquid  
Dishwasher powder  
Toilet paper

### MISCELLANEOUS

Gift cards to Home Depot,  
Staples or local grocery stores

## Earl Johnson Legacy Society

The Legacy Society recognizes individuals who make a gift through a bequest, charitable trust, life insurance or other planned gift.

### LEAVE A LEGACY\*

1. Prepare a will. More than 60% of those who die don't have one.
2. Leave a specific amount, asset or percentage of your will or trust to United Ministries/Earl's Place.
3. Consider various assets for your charitable gift. These include stocks, bonds, CDs, real estate, vehicles, art and jewelry.
4. Name United Ministries as the beneficiary of your pension plan or IRA.
5. Name United Ministries as the beneficiary or owner of a life insurance policy.
6. Remember loved ones through memorial gifts.
7. Encourage family and friends to leave gifts to charitable organizations in their wills.

Your leadership may prompt others to think about how they too can help.

*\*Adapted from [www.leavealegacymd.org](http://www.leavealegacymd.org)*

### LEGACY MEMBERS

Dorothy Burnett      Glen Conrad  
Robert Olsen         Alexandra Spring  
Rev. Bruce Swanson

A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting United Ministries at 1400 E. Lombard Street, Baltimore, MD 21231 or 410-522-0225. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary for the cost of copying and postage.

## Monthly Giving Program

Join the growing group of GEMs!



Become a Giving Every Month (**GEM**) donor by making your pledge of \$10 or more on-line at <http://www.earlsplace.org/Giving.htm>.

The staff and clients of Earl's Place are always honored to speak to your congregation or organization. Call or e-mail us if you're interested!

## EARL'S PLACE ART SHOW

April 29—May 8

Goucher College, The Athenaeum, 4th floor

Opening Reception—The Pinkard Room

Thursday, May 1

6 p.m.

### Talk & Tour

Sunday, May 4 or Sunday, July 13

1–3 p.m.

Join us for conversation and snacks.

Here is what Karrie had to say after a visit to Earl's Place:

*"I had the most wonderful time meeting everyone.  
I was touched by each of your stories."*

UPCOMING  
EVENTS