



Building a more compassionate community one person at a time

THE BEACON

Fall/Winter 2019

A Semi-Annual Publication of Bethesda House Schenectady, Inc.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 2019 Fall/Winter edition of Bethesda House's *The Beacon*



At Bethesda House, we strive every day to provide quality, far-reaching services to the homeless and economically disadvantaged citizens of Schenectady County. I am honored to work with remarkable staff, volunteers, and community supporters who make a difference in the lives of the guests and residents of Bethesda House.

Our last year was a year of growth, change, and transition. At the beginning of the calendar year, we implemented two new programs. Our Medical Care program, staffed by our Registered Nurse who collaborates daily with agency Social Work and Case Management teams and bi-weekly works on-site with Ellis Medical Center's Residency Doctors. At the same time, Bethesda House became

a Care Management Agency under St. Peter's Health Partners Health Home Program; staff in this program coordinate medical and mental health care for the programs members. Early summer, we implemented our Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner program, which has strengthened the comprehensive services offered at Bethesda House.

Bethesda House, through the creativity and think-outside-the-box philosophy, implemented new approaches to reaching, engaging, and connecting services to the homeless and poor. Our programs are excellent vehicles for your charitable giving. They are impactful, with life-long positive results. Our future holds for us, growth in our services and the continued commitment to end chronic homelessness in our community.

Your contribution produces results. We encourage you to make a generous yearend contribution to Bethesda House. Visit our website for more information about the Agency and how you can donate.

Many Blessings to you and your family this holiday season,

Kimarie A. Sheppard

Case Management / Social Work:
Client Contacts
Case Management for housing,
emergency placement:

5,713

Client Contacts
Social Work – medical and mental
health services:

5,400



DURING BETHESDA HOUSE'S 2018-19 OPERATING YEAR:



Food Panty: Main Location
Number of meals provided:

15,294

Food Panty: Satellite
Number of meals provided:

17,629



Soup Kitchen:
Number of meals provided:

32,264



Clothing Room Guest and staff, Louise O'Leary

As the year comes to a close, it's time to reflect on all that's come to pass, to take inventory of the blessings we've been offered and the lessons we've received. Whether or not you met all your New Year's resolutions, we hope you had a year filled with ample opportunities for growth.

In this newsletter we'd like to get back to basics and highlight exactly how we're able to effectively serve and treat over 6,000 vulnerable, economically disadvantaged individuals every year. It stems from the basic but essential concept that safe housing is a human right, not a privilege, and everyone is in need of safe housing before they can address their health and well-being. This concept is put into practice on a national scale through the *Housing First* initiative.

Bethesda House was one of the first agencies to implement Housing First when we opened our Lighthouse Residence in 2002, just ten years after we initially opened as a drop-in day center. Since then, we've steadily grown into a full-service agency on the cutting edge of effective and lasting solutions to the homelessness crisis in Schenectady County.

Housing First was founded by Dr. Sam Tsemberis, at Pathways to Housing in New York, in the early 1990's as a response to an influx in mentally ill persons living on the streets in between psychiatric hospital stays.¹ It has since evolved to encompass the homeless population as a whole, targeting all those who are at-risk for chronic homelessness. Before *Housing First*, individuals would have to be deemed housing "ready" by clinicians and case managers after passing a series of qualifications determining their mental and physical stability. However, by

Back to Basics: Housing First, Not Housing Only

By Caroline Codd, Staff Writer

making participation in supportive programs a prerequisite to housing, this model takes away a person's agency of choice in regards to their own growth and stability. We are, ultimately, self-responsible and when one voluntarily chooses to engage, services are proven to be more effective and long-lasting.²

It may seem intuitive or even obvious that the solution to homelessness is, well, housing. *But* it's important to make clear that *Housing First* does not mean *Housing Only*. It is not a one size fits all solution to the nuanced challenges of homelessness. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, "Housing First is a philosophy that values flexibility, individualized supports, client choice, and autonomy. It never has been housing only, and it never should be."³

Supportive services are built around each individual admitted into permanent supportive housing, tailored to meet their unique needs and desires in treatment. The solution is two-fold: without stable housing, individuals remain in permanent fight or flight mode and are unable to access the help they need. On the other hand, if one is safely housed, their road to stabilization has only just begun.

At Bethesda House, we have always prioritized a focus on holistic solutions. *Housing First* is the reason we are able to reduce chronic homelessness as it arises in our community. Our commitment to innovation has made *Housing First* a success within our agency. Nationwide, permanent supportive housing has a long-term retention rate of 98 percent. At Bethesda House, our retention rate is 90%.

Housing is the first critical step toward ending homelessness. Once basic safety and survival needs are met, then the real work begins. We're proud to have been doing the work for over 27 years, and forever grateful to our supportive community for standing beside us. We remain committed to new, creative solutions based off a framework proven to work. *Housing First* is the foundation of this House of Mercy, a tried and true testament to the powerful resiliency of the human spirit once it has a safe place to land.

References:

1. <https://housingfirsteurope.eu/guide/what-is-housing-first/history-housing-first/>
2. <http://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/housing-first-fact-sheet.pdf>
3. https://endhomelessness.org/what-housing-first-really-means/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw0IDtBRC6ARIsAIA5gWw17uKmkVp4HuPGNvnEUw1temsKhB5EsAFbta7m91qaFskYgJju7loaAjRVEALw_wcB

Volunteer Recruitment by the Numbers

We love our volunteers!

They are talented, energetic and bring happiness to our guests daily.

Nancy Gibelius is a perfect example. Nancy has been volunteering at Bethesda House for 20 years. She is one of the facilitators for the women's group. Women's group meets once a week for lunch where they share and encourage each other to a more peaceful life. Nancy brings a great sense of humor and compassion to the group. She is always looking out for new volunteers, she has hit the jackpot this time.

Not only is Nancy a wonderful volunteer recruiter, she became a great grandmother of triplets! Nancy's grand daughter, McKenzie and husband Patrick were blessed with triplet girls earlier this month. The girls, Averie, Braelyn and Charlotte have a big brother, Finnely age 2½.

Nancy has already picked up the application forms for volunteering, good work Nancy. We wish Nancy's entire family good health and happiness and we look forward to welcoming the girls and big brother, Finnely, to the volunteer roster of Bethesda House.



BH Staff Volunteering at Proctors Viewing of Waitress



Target Volunteers



RED WAGON Delivery

Look out grocery store chains the PG Wright pantry at Yates village now offers a unique service, red wagon delivery. When our clients find it difficult to carry their groceries home we load up the red wagon and deliver door to door. Recently we received a donation of the red wagon and it is a perfect addition.

Service with a smile and red wagon delivery!



past and present board members

SEFA

SEFA is the State Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA). SEFA is a charitable solicitation of New York State employees. State employees may give to any of the charitable organizations that have been approved for participation in SEFA and may at any time revoke or modify a contribution made through payroll deduction by providing a written request to the employee's payroll office.

Bethesda House attends the SEFA fair held at the Empire State Concourse each year. Our participation, bolsters the number of State Employees who make charitable contributions to our agency. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of the State employees who participate and allocate their donations to us. Thank you!



Melissa R, Staff, at SEFA Fair 2019

A BEACON OF LIGHT

By Caroline Codd, Staff Writer

Bethesda House, in our location and the services we offer daily on-site, is vital to the vulnerable populations we serve, especially those we permanently house in our residential programs.

In a perfect world, we would be able to house individuals for a calculated amount of time until they would be capable of living independently in the community. However, the reality is that many of those who reside with us in our permanent supportive housing are facing irreversible effects of trauma, mental illness, substance abuse and displacement. Their stability resides in the proximity of the services we provide, the set structure in place, and the management of daily living responsibilities.

HAROLD has been a resident of Bethesda House for over ten years and while he is effectively monitored and treated for his paranoid schizophrenia, he still experiences delusions of grandeur even while on medication. He struggles with setting boundaries and is at a high-risk of being taken advantage of while out in the community. Access to his case manager is critical not only for his medication management, but for simple tasks such as personal hygiene and proper nutrition. If Harold were to live independently in the community, his mental illness would threaten his perception of reality and he would create crises that would put him at a much higher risk for self-harm and harm by others.

MIKE is a newer face at Bethesda House; he came to us at the end of July this year. A 74 year old veteran, he was evicted from his home in New Jersey and has been unable to successfully remain in housing even with support from the VA. Mike has not consented to a mental health diagnosis but displays strong symptoms of mental illness, particularly PTSD, which makes him prone to verbal outbursts and therefore a target among those who don't respond well to him. His age and physical health issues also make him vulnerable if he is left alone in the community. Since entering our permanent housing program, Mike has remained consistently motivated to attend sessions at the VA and is working closely with Bethesda House staff to monitor his outbursts and course correct from potentially explosive conversations.

All 31 of our permanent residents have stories close to Mike and Harold's. Their trauma is so severe and their personal development so stunted that they will likely always need supportive housing to remain stable. At Bethesda House, we always strive to surround our

clients with enough support so they have the potential to become stable, independent, and contributing members of society. Our experience with some of the most challenging cases has proven, however, that this isn't always a possibility. Regardless of one's potential for independence, safe housing remains their human right and cannot be a barrier to services and treatment.

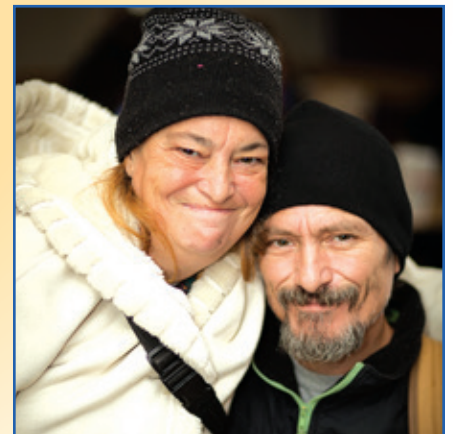
It is our goal to continue to build permanent supportive housing opportunities in Schenectady County. We are currently working to have funding for a capital project, Cara House, a 40-bed facility down the street from our main location. The demand for housing continues to outnumber the supply and we remain dedicated to granting this right to the most vulnerable in our community, always in the hope of building a safe and thriving Schenectady County for all who call it home.



Day guest



Day guest, Carrie



Day Guests, Margaret and Paul



Day guest and volunteer, Flor



Day guest, Josh, and resident, Mattie

Keeping Our Hearts Open in a Closed Off World

By Caroline Codd, Staff Writer



We all live in a stressful world, anxious about the day and what is going to happen tomorrow, am I going to have enough? It is understandable; to work so hard to keep those worries away and having faith that it's going to all work out. Of course, it's understandable but the result is not always what we want, and often times it blinds us to our connections to others in our community. Now, imagine living in the stressful world coping with childhood trauma, lack of opportunity, mental illness, poor social support, or untreated, chronic medical conditions. The world can become too big and the only goal is survival. The homeless population served by Bethesda House exist in that survival mentality. Looking not to open up and trust who they encounter every day, but secure the resources they need to get through the day. Bethesda House provides those things, alleviating stress and anxiety for those individuals, but also working to connect and establish a supportive relationship.

Anxiety is extremely isolating and without the proper support and coping mechanisms, it can cut a person off completely from the communal connections we need to survive. It makes it difficult to find environments where we truly feel safe.

We are a community and that anxiety and stress is a collective experience. The best advice I've ever received was, "when you feel stuck in your own problems, stop thinking about them and extend a helping hand to someone else". Helping others is relief, relief for that individual receiving the help, but equally a relief for the one offering the help. Seeing each other, helping each other, and honoring each other through charity and compassion. These are the acts of kindness we bestow upon strangers that become motivation for waves of change.

At Bethesda House, it is our mission to know the most vulnerable in our community and provide a safe haven for reprieve. We do this through increased our supportive wrap-around services, community outreach, crisis intervention, and accessibility to those in need. We have been so amazed and excited by the impact these services have had on the community, and we our donors and supporters, to thank.

Your connection to our agency and the community we serve is a great gift. We find our peace of mind knowing we have such a strong network of support. May we all stay open, connected, and present in this next season of growth and change.



BETHESDA HOUSE HOLIDAY WISH APPEAL



It's time for Bethesda House's Wish Appeal! Each year we compile a list of gifts for friends and supporters in the community who wish to donate. Bethesda House gratefully acknowledges the generous gifts we receive that help us support the needs of so many. The items on our Wish List reflect our day-to-day needs. Donations are accepted Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 - 4:00 or call Bethesda House (518-374-7873) to make arrangements.

Day to Day

Food

- Non-perishable items

Kitchen

- Spices, coffee, iced/hot tea, lemonade

Clothing

- Gently used items for men/women

Practical Shoes

Fall/Winter Clothing/Dresses

New Underwear and Socks

Hygiene Products

- Regular and hotel size shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, soap, razors and toothbrushes

Linens

- Sheets, towels, washcloths
- Blankets

Seasonal

- Home Depot/Lowes Gift Card

Adopt Our Food Pantry

A \$50 donation gives us \$200 in food products from the Regional Food Bank.
A \$100 donation gives us \$500 in food products from the Regional Food Bank.

Adopt An Apartment

Visit bethesdahouseschenectady.org for details.

Gifts that Keep on Giving

Deferred gifts to Bethesda House can have a lasting effect on our future strength & sustainability. Please give serious consideration to:

- A bequest to Bethesda House
- A donation of a life insurance policy
- A gift of appreciated asset (stock, property)



Bethesda House of Schenectady, Inc.
Friends of Bethesda House/Profile Update/Gift

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____
(Please make checks payable to Bethesda House)

Credit Card: MC Visa AMEX Discover

No: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Sec. Code: _____

Signature: _____

Are you a GE Employee/Retiree? ____ Yes ____ No
(Bethesda House is a GE Match Recipient)

Would you like to learn more about volunteer opportunities at Bethesda House? ____ Yes ____ No

You can also make donations using Square at
www.bethesdahouseschenectady.org

Room to Grow

By Caroline Codd, Staff Writer

In 2002, Bethesda House opened our first permanent supportive housing program which was designed using the Housing First model. Located in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood of Schenectady, our Lighthouse Facility holds seven permanent beds for the chronically homeless single adults and three transitional beds for homeless veterans. It's been a staple in our community for over seventeen years and home to many during the years of operation, including individuals who have been stably housed through the program since its inception.

Bethesda House now encompasses 34 permanent and transitional supportive beds for Schenectady's chronically homeless and impoverished. Every single person in the residential program, is fully connected to the highest quality of services and case management.

Our philosophy is and always has been to find resolutions, addressing social determinants to health, from the ground up. We look for the root of the problem to fully understand its manifestation. This practice allows us to take an integrated approach when admitting new residents. We look at the whole person, carefully crafting a team and program around their immediate critical needs. Once those needs are met and they are stabilized, we begin to plan for the future.

One of the most important ways we help our guests and residents plan for the future is by helping them think long-term. When in the midst of chaos, all energy and attention is on survival and finding comfort as soon as possible by any means. Many of those who come to Bethesda House are stuck in this cycle of chaos and unable to move the needle on their life. They may want to work towards stable homes, relationships, medical

and mental health stabilization, and ability to find work but are unable to see past how they are going to get through the night. We have created a safety net of support at Bethesda House so that when individuals stuck in the cycle of homelessness come through our doors, their needs for survival are met at day one.

Our dedicated staff includes Case Managers, Social Workers, Care Coordinators, program staff, and an in-house Registered Nurse, who work tirelessly to ensure our guests and residents are receiving appropriate resources, making their appointments, and properly managing their physical health. With such a strong, integrated in-house team we are able to form trusting relationships and treat their conditions proactively instead of as emergency responses.

This proactive approach is critical in addressing mental and behavioral health concerns, which we know to be key social determinants of health. Addressing social determinants of health allows those to be served to better focus on the untreated medical and mental health issues that have undermined their success in stabilization. In response to a clear need for mental health services and intervention among the most vulnerable in our community, we have proudly added a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) to our team.

At this time, individuals in the Schenectady homeless community are unable to access psychiatric care and treatment unless they are coming out of a psychiatric hospital encounter. Actual attendance of a follow up appointment after these hospitalizations are typically infrequent due to obstacles of communication, homelessness, and

transportation. By having a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner in-house, we can provide immediate assessment and treatment to guests experiencing mental health issues or symptoms and then refer them to a community provider for long-term treatment.

Bethesda House's Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner is accessible to client walk-ins and residents, which serves to add a layer of consistent interaction. Clients are more frequently monitored and are able to receive effective treatment without having to navigate a complex mental health system. For example, one of our guests was overusing his prescribed anxiety and bipolar medication to self-medicate, which our in-house PNP observed and acted upon. He was quickly stabilized with an adjusted dosage and is closely monitored by our PNP and his case managers. We don't believe this change would have occurred so quickly in another setting.

Just like destabilizing crises in our environment due to natural disasters, displacement, economy swings and other external factors, there are crises in our head we need dedicated, consistent help to overcome. A familiar face within the safe confines of Bethesda House can give our guests and residents the help they might not receive elsewhere. The ability to offer on-site psychiatric care is a major milestone for Bethesda House and those we serve.

Your support over the years has allowed us to look toward the future with hope and adopt a growth mindset in everything we do. We are committed to ending homelessness in Schenectady County from the ground up, always with room to grow.



Friends up to \$100

Aragosa, Carl
Ayala, Qinesha
Brown, Alvin
Brown, Bradley & Theresa
Bucci, Cesare & Blanche
Casolo, Catherine
Cerrone, Rima
Chrsitoffel, John & Mary
Clark, John
Clark, William
Coluzza, John
Coppola, Joanne
Cummings, Edward & Mary
D'Alessandro, Diane
Davies, Elizabeth
Dodson, Carlene
Fernandez, Kathleen
Gold, Suzanne
Gordon, Shelley & Darsinos, John
Grzywaczewski, Annemarie
Harrington, Penny
Hemmendinger, David & Kort, Gail
Holman, Darlene K.
Homeninck, Christopher
Hostig, Kimberly
Hunt, Marsha
Isabella, Thomas
Jones, Nancy E.
Jordan, James & Ann
Kaminsky, Lynn
Kane, Father James
Kava, Janine & Carney, Robert
Kazmierczak, Christine
Kennedy, Emeline
Kline, Robert W
Koniowka, Lisa
Lavery, Karen
Lore, Frank & Irving, Margeret
Macivor Brunner, Shari
Madonna, Alberta M
Mann, Richard & Joanne

Mason, Robert & Patricia
Mayette, Brenda
McPhail, Kimberly
Morlock, Walter & Edith
Mueller, Phillip
Network For Good
Noyes, Carol
O'Connell, Kathleen
Palmer, Anna
Panico, Robert
Pitts, Jeffrey
Quirk, Anna Mary
Reformed Church Women Of Helderberg
Rickson, Whitney
Ritton, Teresa
Robbins, Patricia
Ross, Amy
Sims, Wendy
Snyder, Clifford
Spingam, David
Stephanou, Hadia
Sunghyun Parks
Szatrowski, Gail
Tambrello, Alexandria Ashkar
Thibault, Paula
Tonkin, Mark & Mary
U.S. Water Ski Show Team
Upstate Wood Flooring
Vaccaro, Nancy
VanPatten, Richard & Rosemarie
Verrigni, Melissa
Waddell, Douglas & Donna
Waldbillig, Norma
Weiss, Thomas
Williams, William & Kathy
Winkler, Carolyn
Worley, James
Zollar School

Sponsor Up to \$499

Aragosa Family Inc
Bechtel Plant Machinery, Inc.
Birbal, Annand
Blake, Barbara
Bouton, Susan
Brady, Paul
Bramkamp, Viola J.
Bubb, Ian G
Bucher, Gregory
Chabot, Rachael
Chouffi, Audrey
Christman, Anne
Chrsitoffel, Pamela H.
Coker, Margaret
Cox, Paulyn
Crawmer, Gerald
Curro, Stephen
Denisoff, Gail
Evangelical Lutheran Church of The Good Sheppard
Felice, Linda C
Fogg, Kevin & Jennifer
Gibelius, Nancy
Glinmyer, Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth
Golub, Neil
Guido, Annette
Haack, Carol
Hallenstein, Alex & Betty
Hamblin, Carol & Robert Miller
Hartman, Gerald & Donna
Hicks, Analine
Hillis, Lee & Sandra
Homenick, Richard & MaryJo
Isabella, Mary F
Kapushinski, Ronald & Deborah
Kostik, Andrea
Kountz, Jan
Lahon, Darryl
Leshner, Christopher & Stef
Long, Rev. Robert
M & T Charitable Foundation
Marshall, Alan & Mary

Mausert, Richard & Kathleen
Meiser, Robert & Mildred
Minakawa, Leina
Morrow, Brenda
NAMI - Schenectady
Neville, Roy E. & Mary C.
Noble Gas Solutions
O'Leary, Louise
O'Neil, Jill
Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church
Parsons, Pastor Richard
Peroutky, Alberta
PeroxyChem
Pomeroy, Anne
Roach, Karen
Roberts, Savyon & Timothy
Rockmacher, Abigail
Roeser, Randall & Patricia
Rooney, Kathleen
Samaha, Darin
Sapone, John & Karen
Schenectady Friends Meeting
Schultz, Ellen
Sciocchetti, Michael & Linda
Seacord, John & Cynthia
Sheppard, John
Sise, Richard
Sisters of St. Joseph
Stecher, Christian & Ruth
Stroble, Terry
Teresco, M J
Thatcher, Crystal
The First Reformed Church Of Glenville
Tonko, Paul D
Vivier, Barbara
Ward, Rachael
Waselauskas, Paula
Williams, Robert & Alana
Wolf Hollow
Wood, Andrew & Anne
Wyley, Wayne
Zimmerman, Ronald F

Patron Up to \$999

CARES, Inc.
Coppola, Sharran A
Dell, Alex & Christina
Eastern Parkway United Methodist Church
Emmanuel Friedens Church
Lynnwood Reformed Church
MacNeal, Ellen
McCormick, Kevin
Mohawk Honda
Niskayuna Senior High School
Payne, Danny
Sheppard, Kimarie
SRG Architects
Terwilliger, Cathy

Citizen Up to \$3,999

Dunkerley, Gary & Kathleen
First Reformed Church Of Schenectady
Nelson, Dolores and Paul
P1 Industries
Porter, Don & Lois
Raushi, Thaddeus and Sylvia
Samocha, Yoni
Singh, Harbans
Union College - Kenney Center
Williams, Susan M

Advocate up to \$10,000

Blackwood, Ralph & Nancy Nicholas
Christoffel, Thomas & Family
Khan, Genghis & Nahla
The Coins Foundation
Werner, Richard & Eunice

Bethesda House is grateful to the individual's congregations, businesses, and private foundations who donated from \$1 to \$10,000. Your generosity allows us to continue helping others by providing for basic needs in an environment that encourages and supports positive change.

We thank you and look forward to another successful year. Every donor is important to us. Our goal is to list each person or organization as the donor wishes. If your name does not appear, as you would like it to, please contact the agency's Administration Assistant at either adminasst@bethesdahouseschenectady.org or (518) 374-7873, ext. 116 so we may correct our records.

A very special **Thank you** to donors contributing through United Way, we are grateful that you chose to direct your donor dollars to Bethesda House of Schenectady, Inc. **Thank you** to donors who participate in the GE Match.

Thank you to donors who participate in Amazon Smiles, Clynk and other Hannaford fundraising initiatives.

Your gifts of spirit and generosity are deeply appreciated.

In-Kind Donors:

Brugger's Bagels
Burnt Hills United Methodists Church
Capital Roots
Congregation of Agudat Achim
Eastern Parkway Methodist Church
Friendship Baptist Church
Harvest Church Clifton Park
Immanuel Lutheran
Ladies of Charity Schenectady Vicarate
Lane Press of Albany
Manhattan Bagel
Niskayuna Boy Scout Troop 34 – Scouting for Food
Our Redeemer Lutheran
Panera
PLUSH Hair Salon

Price Chopper
Rivers Casino & Resort
Sharran A. Coppola
St. George Episcopal Church
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
St. George's of Clifton Park
St. Kateri Tekakwitha
St. Joseph's Catholic Church Scotia-Glenville
Temple Gates of Heaven
The Ladies Philotochos Society of St. George Greek Orthodox Church
Union College
Unitarian Universalist Society
Burnt Hills – Ballston Lake Women's Club
United States Postal Service

Honorarium/Memorial Name:

Mary Christoffel
Robert Christoffel
Rocco Sapone

Bethesda House

Is an interfaith ministry to the homeless, disabled and economically disadvantaged citizens of Schenectady County, building a just, hospitable and inclusive community one person at a time by affirming the dignity and addressing the needs of each guest entering this House of Mercy.

Board of Directors

Cathy Terwilliger
President

Margaret Coker
Vice President

Karen Roach
Secretary

Carli Aragosa

Dr. Gary Dunkerley

Reverend Richard Parsons

Abigail Rockmacher

Kathleen A. Rooney

John Sapone

Rachael Ward

Bethesda House Administration

Kimarie Sheppard
Executive Director

Leina Minakawa
Director of Social Work

Louise O'Leary
Director of Program & Case
Management Services

Danny Payne
Director of Residential Services



Design and printing by Lane Press of Albany

Photography by Jessica Gravelin

FUNDRAISING

What an exciting year for our fundraising events!

Bring It On Home For Bethesda House was on August 13, 2019 at Daley's on Yates! It was a night of filled with fun, delectable delights, and live music by Twenty Ninety-Six. A great time was had by all who attended.



Mark your calendars for August 2020 for our 4th Annual Summer Event!

October 17, 2019, was no ordinary day for Bethesda House; we held our *9th Annual Fall Fundraiser: TRIVIA*, at the Lighthouse Water's Edge. It was an evening of fun and laughter; guests dug down into their memories for answers to a variety of questions presented by JD, knightslive@rocketmail.com.

Special Thank You to : Reverend Jason White who gave the opening devotion. **Thank you to our Event Sponsors:** SRG Architects, COINS, Alex & Christina Dell (Law Firm of Alex Dell), Marty's True Value, Kevin McCormick, Paul & Delores Nelson, Dr. Yoni Samocha, Sue Williams, and Wolf Hollow. **Thank you to our Table Sponsors:** The Christoffel Family, Mohawk Honda, Richard & Eunice Werner, and The Terwilligers.

Thank you to our Honorary Committee: Susan Bouton, Paul Brady, Greg Cucher, Rachael Chabot, Margaret Coker, Sharran Coppola, Stephen Curro, Gail Denisoff, Linda Felice, Kevin & Jennifer Fogg, Neil Golub, Annette Guido, Alex & Betty Hallenstien, Carol Hamblin & Robert Miller, Mary Isabella, Andrea Kostik, Rev. Robert Long, Ellen MacNeal, Richard & Kathleen Mausert, Leina Minakawa, Jill O'Neil, Rev. Richard Parsons, Danny Payne, Alberta Peroutky, Karen Roach, Randy & Patricia Roeser, Kathleen Rooney, Darin Samaha, John & Karen Sapone, Ellen Schultz, Kimarie Sheppard, Richard Sise, Terry Stroble, M J Teresco, Crystal Thatcher, Paul D. Tonko, Barbara Vivier, Paula Waselauskas, Ronald Zimmerman.

Mark your calendars for October 2020 for our 10th Annual Fall Event!

