

## The Navigator Helping People Find Direction Fall 2008

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#### Dear Mario,

Fall is here and so are many exciting changes and events at Arundel House of Hope. Over the past few months we have been as busy as ever hiring staff, planning events, opening programs, gearing up for Winter Relief, and most importantly helping to make change in the lives of the homeless community of Anne Arundel County! We are so busy in fact that we are quickly outgrowing our Resource and Day Center - with many new clients, new referrals, and new connections with other service providers in the community.

Arundel House of Hope has been privileged to have the support of local business, like Panera Bread, and a few of our devoted member churches in helping provide breakfast and snacks for all of the individuals that frequent the Day Center and we have been working hard to keep our clients as comfortable as possible during the heat of the summer. Now that the weather is changing we are preparing for Winter Relief and other initiatives in full force. With the hiring of a new Director of Support Services and a full case management staff we are better positioned than ever to jump full speed ahead into Winter Relief! In addition we are gearing up for our first ever Fall Family Festival, a fun fundraising opportunity to help support AHOH's homeless programs. Our second Safe Haven program is set to open this fall as well providing an opportunity for five additional chronically homeless and disabled men to start anew. Additionally, Arundel House of Hope just received funding in the amount of \$34,000 to open our first Social Enterprise business to employ and train our clients!!

It is a wonderfully busy time at Arundel House of Hope! Without the support of community members like you we could not keep our efforts alive! Thank you for caring about the homeless in our community and please read on for excited details about all of our changes!!

Sincerely,

Mario Berninzoni

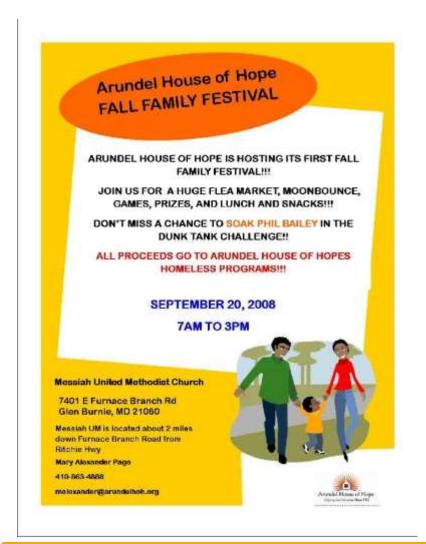
#### **Executive Director**



#### FIRST ANNUAL FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 20th at
Messiah United Methodist Church!
7am to 3pm

Join us for fun, family, games, live music, great food to support Arundel House of Hope!



#### WINTER IS ON ITS WAY!

## GEARING UP FOR WINTER RELIEF! A message from Phil Bailey



Winter Relief is right around the corner. This will be our seventeenth year of service. I was blessed to be an attendee of the very first Winter Relief meeting and I can guarantee that not one of us present thought that this ministry would continue for seventeen years or grow into the Arundel House

of Hope. We were so new and unaware of the needs of people experiencing homelessness that we could not have even imagined the services we now offer or the need for those services.

Our monthly meetings resume on Tuesday, September 16 at the Day Center on Crain Highway. Meetings start at 7pm and are normally scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month. October's meeting will take place on Saturday, October 11 at 7pm. This meeting will be our annual Kick Off meeting and feature a short Worship service. The meeting will be held at St. Christopher's Church in Linthicum.

Starting with the November meeting the 6:30 to 7pm time slot will offer to Site Coordinators and volunteers from their churches new or refresher training for shelter hosting.

#### DAILY BUSINESS!!

# THE RESOURCE AND DAY CENTER CONTINUES TO EXPAND SERVICES TO THE HOMELESS!

AHOH's Resource and Day Center is alive, well, and growing in its ability to help guests address their needs!



The recent addition of **Michelle Younger as the AHOH Director of Support Services** enables us to offer expanded client services and increased Case Management resources.

Michelle comes to us with over twenty years experience dealing with the homeless and disadvantaged in our community. Her most recent position was Homeless Outreach Coordinator and Rehab Counselor with Affiliated Sante, an affiliate of Arundel House of Hope. She brings with her a wealth of experience, an MBA degree, and a passion and desire to help those in need. We are truly thrilled at her addition to our team and know that she will offer guidance and support to both the clients and the case management staff!

The team here at the Day Center is becoming more rounded in our gifts and growing in professional experience. We are still looking for a "few good people" to offer volunteer services. If you can offer a morning or afternoon a week we can offer you some days you won't be able to forget. Saturday, September 6 was a first for the Day Center. Tropical Storm Hanna was on her way to the area and the impending weather was a hazard to our clients. We decided to open the Day Center because of the potential emergency. AHOH staff went to known frequented spots and advised clients that the Center would be opening. The Department of Social Services and the Crisis Hot Line were also advised that we would be open. Twenty people showed up at the Center. Our staff helped to dry them, give them a safe shelter, and provided food throughout the day. Once the weather cleared around 7:30pm we were able to close the center and send staff and clients on their way. Each departing guest was given food and a dry blanket to take with them. As a result we are in the process of developing emergency action plans should the need to open on a weekend arise again. Thank you to our staff and volunteers who took time out of their personal schedules to help this effort!

#### SAFE HAVEN II

### AHOH Opens its second Safe Haven Home for Chronically Homeless and Disabled Men!

Due to the success of Safe Haven I, a trail blazing program which we opened in 2006, Arundel House of Hope has been awarded funding to open a second home for chronically homeless and disabled men! This Safe Haven II is modeled after the first program and will house up to five men and a resident manager. As permanent affordable housing this program is open to those who have been unable to maintain successful housing in traditional settings. For those who are chronically homeless, homeless for more than one year or four or more times in three years, and disabled, through substance abuse, mental illness, or physical ailment, this program is an opportunity to secure stable housing which will allow the individual to focus their energy on dealing with their disability.

Safe Haven II is in the process of final purchase and renovation. We look forward to keeping you posted as the program develops! Please contact Michelle Younger with any questions or donations for the program at <a href="mailto:myounger@arundelhoh.org">myounger@arundelhoh.org</a> or 410-863-4888.

#### \$34,000 to start a SOCIAL ENTERPRISE!

THE CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AHOH FUNDING TO START A MOBILE COFFEE VENTURE!



In August Arundel House of Hope was awarded a grant in the amount of \$30,000 from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development to initiate a social enterprise. This mobile coffee business will provide a supportive employment opportunity including job training and development for up to ten individuals while also providing revenue for AHOH's other programs!

In 2007 Arundel House of Hope was one of six organizations selected out of forty applicants to participate in the University of Baltimore's Social Enterprise training program. This program paired non-profits with the University's business students with the goal of developing an actionable business plan with which to launch a social enterprise. The mobile coffee business will serve gourmet coffee, smoothies, snacks, sandwiches, and cold drinks. With a drive up and order component it will operate every day of the week providing quality products to the Anne Arundel County community and employment for individuals who greatly need it! In addition to the CCHD grant we also received a \$4,000 award from the Anne Arundel Community Foundation to initiate this project. If your church or organization is interested in getting involved or has materials that could assist in the start up of this wonderful opportunity please contact Mary Alexander Page at malexander@arundelhoh.org

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We hope to see you at our Fall Family Festival on September 20th at Messiah United Methodist Church (7401 Furnace Branch Road in Glen Burnie). As always thank you for your support and dedication to helping the homeless in Anne Arundel County!!

Sincerely,

Mario Berninzoni Arundel House of Hope