



A Note from the Executive Director

Seasons Greetings from Arundel House of Hope! As the holiday season approaches, and the year comes to an end, many people reflect on what the past year has meant to him or her. Arundel House of Hope is proud to announce that, over the past year, we have succeeded in furthering our mission of ending homelessness in Anne Arundel County. Our Family Program is flourishing in its second year and we proudly started our 25th season of Winter Relief. Thanks to the generous support of our donors, participating congregations and our neighboring local businesses and friends, AHOH has served over 800 homeless men and women this year in our area who had nowhere else to turn for help.

This holiday season, we ask that you remember Arundel House of Hope in your plans. While preparing for joyous holiday celebrations with your family and friends, its important to be grateful for what you have in your own life, but also to consider those who are not as fortunate. While shopping for gifts this year, we urge you to consider setting aside part of your budget to support the work of Arundel House of Hope with a tax deductible contribution.

Our work has a powerful impact on our clients and our neighboring community as well. Any amount you can share will be greatly appreciated and will go towards our programs and services that directly affect those in need.

This past year has been blessed with success but has been fraught with sorrow as well. We lost a few of our beloved staff members who were sent home to be with the lord. We ask that you be mindful of those who have passed on, their grieving families, and those who continue to struggle. As the coldest months loom ahead, won't you consider Arundel House of Hope? Are you ready to make a difference? We thank you in advance for your contribution and we wish you all a Happy, Safe and Healthy Holiday!

Mario Berninzoni
Executive Director

Winter Relief Update

Winter Relief Reflections

How do you determine the success of the Winter Relief Emergency Shelter?

- The number of clients served?
- The extent of community engagement?
- The difference made in the lives of society's most vulnerable?

Although each of these could be used to measure our success, when the day is done it is the lessons of the heart that are our true indicators.

A guest of Winter Relief recently shared that his life had been like a puzzle he had been trying to put together in the dark. He simply couldn't put any of the pieces of his life's journey together. Pieces that represented who he was, where he had come from, and where he dreamed to go - the joys as well as the trials and tribulations simply didn't make sense and didn't fit together. After being in the program for several months, he began to realize that people not only cared for him, but they cared about him. The congregations that opened their doors in hospitality were his biggest cheering squad. He felt that pieces of his life were starting to fall back into place and for the first time in many years, he felt hope and a sense of wellbeing.

This story is not unique. We celebrate with those who move from Winter Relief to become independent, we support those who need someone to lean on, and we lift those who have fallen to their knees in brokenness. What a blessing to partner together in this ministry of mercy and grace. It is the way that Winter Relief changes the heart of all of us that is its ultimate measure.

(For those who want to use other metrics:

- *Our season is in full swing and we are at full capacity across three sites*
- *Over 70 faith organizations & countless individual volunteers are supporting the program*
 - *We are sheltering, feeding, and reaching out in fellowship to our neighbors in need)*

Bid for Hope 2017

Save the Date! Bid for Hope 2017 is fast approaching and we are in the early planning stages for this festive event. Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 12, 2017 2-6pm at La Fontaine Bleue in Glen Burnie. Please contact Jane Hudgins at

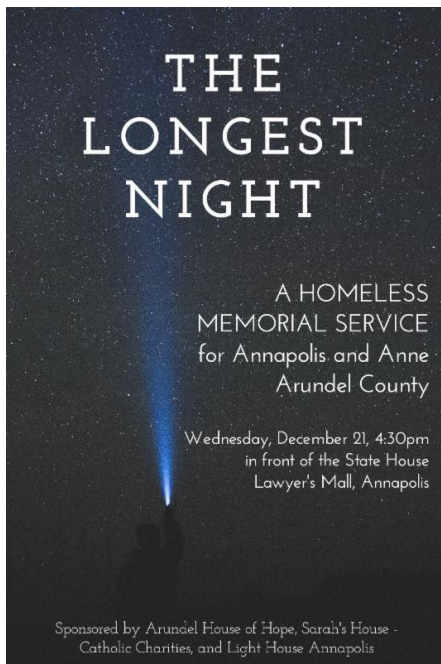
Bid4hope@comcast.net to purchase your tickets today! If you want to donate an item for our live or silent auction or you want to be a sponsor



for this event, please contact Brianne Adams at badams@arundelhoh.org or Katie Eyler at keeyler@yahoo.com. We hope to see you all there!

[Click here for more information](#)

A big **THANK YOU** to Sheehy Nissan for its continued support of Bid for Hope and Arundel House of Hope. Sheehy has been a generous sponsor of our event for the past several years and this year is no exception. We are humbled and blessed to announce its sponsorship of \$5,000 to Bid for Hope 2017. Thank you Sheehy Nissan!



Homeless Vigil

Please join us on Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 4:30pm in Annapolis as we remember 25 people who have passed on due to his/her struggles related to poverty and homelessness. May we be mindful of those who continue to struggle at this time and may we open our hearts and minds and band together to find a permanent end to homelessness.

How to Help - Wish List

Wanna help but don't know how? Visit our website at www.arundelhoh.org and check out our wish list. We welcome any in kind donations for our programs as well as any monetary donations. Thank you in advance![Donate now](#)