

# December 2017



## Your monthly news & updates

### Greetings from the Executive Director

Happy Holidays! I know this time of year is a busy one for all of you and it's no exception for Arundel House of Hope. As another year comes to a close, we would like to share some of the accomplishments we have had, some updates with all of our programs, as well as some upcoming events we look forward to spending with you. As you spend time with your family and friends this year, decorate the tree, light the menorah, bake Christmas cookies, and sing along to your favorite holiday music, please be mindful of those who are not as fortunate. May you open your minds and hearts to those who are experiencing homelessness this season. Join me as I say a prayer for those who have passed on and lost their battle to a life of poverty. Join me as I light a candle for those who continue to struggle and fight for a better way of life. Join me, my staff and our numerous volunteers as we continue to give back daily. On behalf of myself and our clients, we THANK YOU for your generous support and wish you and your family a very Happy Holiday and Happy New Year!

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## Family Project Update



Arundel House of Hope is proud to announce we have recent graduates from our newest program, our Family Program. At the time we met Charles and Sarah, in 2015, they were living in Sarah's House and in desperate need of a new home and a new way of life. They completed the application process, went through the interview process and were housed in a home right near Charles' school. As Sarah wrote in a letter AHOH recently received, "A major part of the program entailed preparing me to be ready to afford market rent, manage money properly and most importantly, maintaining good mental and physical health for not only me, but also for my son. I was ready, hopeful and overly appreciative of this awesome opportunity. The hardest part was getting ready financially. Controlling my spending and staying within my budget had been a struggle for me". She is now in a program to become a first time homebuyer and on a path to a better way of life.

Charles, Sarah's teenage son, appreciates all AHOH has done for him and his mother. He writes: "I want to thank you for putting us in that wonderful house because it really helped to give me hope that things would get better. And thank you for having me participate in the after school program because it helped to point me in the right direction. And thank you for helping a boy learn to become a man"

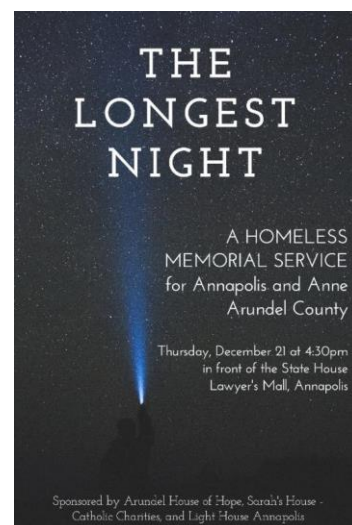
Congrats to Sarah and Charles and may we celebrate more families in the coming year.

*\*Names have been changed to protect the families privacy*

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## Homeless Vigil

Come join us on Thursday, December 21, 2017, the longest night of the year, at 4:30, as we remember those who have passed on as a result of homelessness. The names of those who have died will be read, we will share prayer, silence, music, a eulogy, and a charge of commitment to working with people who are homeless in our midst. Hot beverages to warm our souls and keychain lights to shine a light in the darkness of the longest night are handed around.



# Winter Relief Update

It is hard to believe that we are about 1/3 of the way through the season. We have had a great start with amazing hosting sites. Our sites have exemplified what it means to extend grace and mercy to our 514 friends. We have been at capacity with a wait list most days at our Glen Burnie Sites. Annapolis Site 3 has been holding steady with an average of 18 guests.

Kudos to this season's Segment Coordinators who have really stepped in to provide support to all of our Site Coordinators. Having such a dedicated team has really helped the program run smoothly this year. The Segment Coordinators are assigned to specific sites, which has enabled them to better know the guests and to provide week to week continuity.

The shower trailer has been operational with few issues this season. Many thanks to all who attended the shower trailer training and are making it a success this year.

The Winter Relief Program continue to make a real difference in the lives of our less fortunate neighbors.

*Update Courtesy of Pam Biddlecomb*

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## Bid for Hope 2018



Bid for Hope 2018 is fast approaching! It will be held Sunday, February 11, 2018 at La Fontaine Bleue from 2-6pm. Please join us for our 12th annual Silent and Live auction which features live entertainment, a lunch buffet and numerous raffles and live and silent auction items. If you would like a ticket, would like to donate an item for our auctions or be a sponsor for this event, please contact us. Click here for more information [Click here](#)

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