

## September 2018 Newsletter

Greetings Winter Relief Partners,

Winter Relief is fast approaching! All Site Coordinators should be contacted by your Segment Coordinators by the end of September – if for some reason you do not get contacted, please let me know and I will follow up with them. Many of our Coordinators are just getting back from vacations and busy summer schedules, so we thank you for your patience with us!

### Reminders of Upcoming Meetings:

September 11: Winter Relief Kick-Off Meeting, 7:00pm at Trinity UMC, 1300 West Street, Annapolis

We ask that ALL Site Coordinators attend the Kick-Off Meeting to obtain their *2018-19 Information Packet* and receive important information. Please send a representative from your site if you are unable to attend. Refreshments will be served.

September 20: New Site Coordinator/Volunteer Training, 7:00pm (at Arundel House of Hope, Glen Burnie)

Please note that the New Site Coordinator/Volunteer Training is an overview of our program and is designed for those who are new Coordinators or Volunteers who would like to know the ins and outs of the Winter Relief Program. ***This is the same program offered last year, back this season by popular demand.***

October 27: Homeless Resource Day, 9:30am-3:00pm , Glen Burnie High School

Homeless Resource Day is an annual county event to help those without permanent housing access the numerous services they need to become more self-sufficient and seek permanent housing. Service that might take a homeless individual months or longer to obtain are provided for free in one location (i.e. birth certificate, SS care, state ID and other official documents necessary to apply for housing assistance or sign a rental agreement. If you would like to volunteer to guide a homeless guest through the services during the

Homeless Resource Day Event, please sign up [<here>](#).

November 13, December 11, January 8, February 12, March 12: Site Coordinator Meetings at Arundel House of Hope Community Recovery Center

December 21 (Winter Solstice): Save the Date for **The Longest Night Memorial Service**, 4:30pm; Sponsored by Arundel House of Hope and the AA County Coalition to End Homelessness  
Location: Lawyer's Mall; Annapolis - We read the names and share in the memory of those individuals who died while homeless in Anne Arundel County in 2018 shining a light of hope and remembrance into the longest night of the year. Sunset at 4:47pm. We request hosting sites make provisions to transport our guests to this service in memory of their friends.

## **Who are we?**

There are many services available to our Winter Relief guests at Arundel House of Hope – Winter Relief is one of **many** programs offered by AHOH to the underprivileged throughout our community. I have attached our **Covenant Agreement** and ask that your site prayerfully consider the difference this agreement can make in the lives of our homeless community. Here is a brief synopsis of what we offer:

- Our Day & Resource Center provides daytime shelter, hospitality services, sanitary services, and professional services.
- Our Community Recovery Center provides the opportunity for clients to participate in recovery and enrichment programs, as well as obtaining access to computers and laundry facilities.
- Our Medical Clinic provides assistance with hardship paperwork, finding medical insurance, and limited prescription assistance
- Our housing programs provides transitional and permanent housing to homeless and disabled individuals through our Safe Haven and Wish House Programs, and our Patriot House Program which assists homeless Veterans as they transition back to independent living. Our Bailey Family Ministry Program provides a transitional housing program for families that give adults and children the skills needed for self-sufficiency that can be used and passed on to future generations.
- Case Managers are provided as a service to our clients in all of our programs.

Please send agreements back to our Executive Director, Mario Berninzoni via mail, email or fax (addresses and numbers included in the Covenant Agreement).

This summer we quickly transitioned from an Emergency Cold Weather Shelter to a furniture moving & storage facility, helping supply over 15 (yes that number is correct!!!!) of our 2017-18 Winter Relief guests with furniture and household items needed to start the next chapter of their lives in their apartments. Many thanks to everyone for their donations of furniture, (from dining room tables to bed sets), kitchen utensils, towels, etc. We have now closed down that mission in preparation for the start of Winter Relief. As always, clients can come to us to get referrals for furniture assistance from other organizations.

## **Needs:**

We have a few needs that we are placing on our wish list for Winter Relief – all of these donations are greatly appreciated!

- Socks (tube and wool)
- Men's underwear - BOXERS please!
- Zippered pillow covers
- Blue Jeans and T-shirts
- Travel-size deodorant
- Disposable razors
- Warm twin size blankets

We are also seeking volunteers to assist at the Intake Center in Annapolis between 12:30-4:30pm on Wednesdays starting October 22nd. If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be interested, please let me know.

**2018-19 Schedule:**

We still have a few holes in our hosting schedule for Site 1 (November 26-December 3, December 10-18, and April 1-8). Please let me know if you can accommodate any of these spots, or if you know of any potential sites that I can contact. The latest draft of the schedule is attached to this email. We will open our season on October 15th for Sites 1 and 2 in Glen Burnie; and November 5th for Site 3 in Annapolis. We have a few changes this season which will share at our Kick-Off meeting - the most significant is the HUD requirement that we go through the county **Dept of Social Services Coordinated Entry Wait List** for empty bed spots throughout the season.

Our shower trailer is still out of commission, but we are hoping to have it up and running soon. For backup purposes, I am requesting that you look at the attached schedule and confirm if you need to have guests shower at a county Middle School. I will make those arrangements for our hosting sites. If you need to use a Middle School facility, please let me know which county Middle School you would like to use and I will request usage. Showers at schools are always scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday evenings. I arrange for showers through our county liaison, but sites **MUST** call the school a week in advance to confirm that they are ready for you and that you have the contact information for the custodial staff who will be letting you into the building. If you have any issues when you call the school, just let me know and I will talk with our liaison who will take care of us!

Please remember that I can come out to your site during one of your organizational meetings if you feel that would benefit your volunteers and/or leadership teams. We also encourage you to invite your Segment Coordinator to one of your meetings – a great way to get acquainted with your WR point of contact, and to get any questions answered.

Thanking you in advance for an amazing season full of blessings!

**Attachments:** Covenant Agreement & 2018-19 WR Hosting Schedule