



April 2015

## NEWS & NOTES

A monthly newsletter to keep you informed.

### A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear AHOH supporters,

Spring has finally arrived after another very cold winter. Seeing firsthand the struggles our clients encounter during these winter months constantly reminds me how fortunate many of us are that we have a warm place to call home. Our Winter Relief Emergency Shelter program provided the most bed nights that we have ever had during one season this year - over 15,000 bed-nights. Unfortunately, the community need outweighed our capacity and we still had to turn away people even on the coldest of nights.

In an effort to address another important need in our community, we have initiated a new program, our Family Housing Program. We have discovered that there are 928 children in Anne Arundel County schools that are homeless. This program is designed to place families that are homeless in scattered housing locations across the County, provide them with extensive support services that will include on-site tutoring and educational opportunities for the children attending Anne Arundel County public schools, as well as provide training and educational opportunities for the parents of those children. As such, this program will provide each family with the tools and resources to help them become independent and self-sufficient. The goal of this program is to end the cycle of homelessness that we find is pervasive in many of the families we see and reduce the risk of the children becoming homeless within two years. The families eligible for this program will need to work hard and be motivated to change their lives for the better. I hope you will support this lofty goal by supporting our efforts, volunteering your time, making a donation, or helping us find suitable locations for these motivated families to live, grow, and become independent.

Sincerely,  
Mario Berninzoni  
Executive Director

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### Winter Relief Celebration Dinner

Winter Relief 2014-15 is coming to a close. THANK YOU to all who volunteered this Winter season - we appreciate it as do our clients. We invite you all to our end of Winter Relief Celebration dinner on Tuesday, April 21st from 6-8pm at Our Lady of the Fields Catholic Church, 1070 Cecil Avenue, Millersville, MD 21108. Please contact Karen Biagotti at 410-863-4888 or [kbiagotti@arundelhoh.org](mailto:kbiagotti@arundelhoh.org) for more information and to RSVP to this event.

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## The Great Give 2015

Mark your calendars for the 3rd annual Great Give 24 hour online fundraising event which will take place May 5th at 6pm til May 6th at 6pm. For more information about this event, visit <https://greatgiveaac.org>. Stay tuned for more details about how YOU can make a difference in the lives of our clients. For our personal donation page, please visit <https://greatgiveaac.org/#npo/arundel-house-of-hope>



May 5th, 2015 6pm-6am

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## Homeless Resource Day 2015

Arundel House of Hope was proud to be one of the service providers on hand at Homeless Resource Day 2015. In addition to being available as a medical resource with our medical clinic staff and volunteers present, we also had staff from our CRC (community recovery center) available as well as staff who were able to discuss housing availability and options with the numerous guests who attended the event. The Doughy Dog was parked at the event all day and was well received by volunteers and guests alike.



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## April is Volunteer Appreciation Month!

In light of Volunteer Appreciation Month, we'd like to take this opportunity to highlight Steven Shannon, M.D. Dr Shannon is board certified in pain management, in physical medicine and rehabilitation, as well as in electro-diagnostic medicine (EMG studies). He is also certified in medical acupuncture for pain management.

Dr. Shannon is entering into his fourth year of providing quality care to patients at the House of Hope Medical Clinic. He has consistently dedicated two days per month and nearly 300 hours of service all while working in a private practice, Dr. Shannon is compassionate, kind and caring. The House of Hope Medical Clinic salutes Dr. Shannon for his time and efforts, and we look forward to a lasting partnership.



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## Welcome!

We want to welcome two new board members to the AHOH Board of Directors, Josh Zimmerman and Akeembra Lawrence. Josh is a financial auditor/CPA at Handwerker, Cardegna, Funkhouser & Luman, P.A. in Towson and Akeembra is a Senior Manager with Board Leadership Programs Business Volunteers Maryland in Baltimore. We are excited to have them join us in our mission to help those experiencing homelessness in our county.