

NEWS & NOTES

A newsletter to keep you informed about our work.

From the Executive Director

Happy Holidays! It has been another busy year for Arundel House of Hope. We have made some great accomplishments this past year most notably, in partnership with Anne Arundel County Health Department, opening our new Community Recovery Center to support our recovering clients. In addition, we set a record by serving the most people we have ever served in our Winter Relief emergency program. Winter Relief 2012-2013 consisted of 15,000 bed nights in our 75 plus houses of worship. Five veterans from our Patriot House, a transitional housing program for U.S. Veterans, were able to transition from a life of homelessness to one of permanence by moving from their temporary shelter to permanent housing. And, thanks to our volunteer physicians and nurses, we provided over 800 medical appointments this year in our free Medical Clinic to those who lack health insurance.

Arundel House of Hope continues to help those in need. We have become a major partner and participant in the new county-wide project, 100,000 Homes, which helps locate and assess the most vulnerable individuals and families who are homeless in our community with the goal of helping them obtain permanent housing. The staff and volunteers of Arundel House of Hope went out into the community to help identify these individuals and families in an effort to begin the process of getting them off the street. This new initiative, started recently on November 18, has already resulted in getting permanent housing for 7 people and we hope to help many more.

Please consider giving a year-end charitable gift to support our efforts. You can visit us online at http://arundelhoh.org/how-to-help/donate. Please also consider giving your time as a volunteer or donating something from our WISH list located at the end of this newsletter and I hope to see everyone at our Homeless Memorial Service on December 21st, the longest night of the year.

As another year ends, and a new one begins, please consider those who are living on the streets. You can make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate. Here's wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas and peaceful New Year!

Mario Berninzoni Executive Director



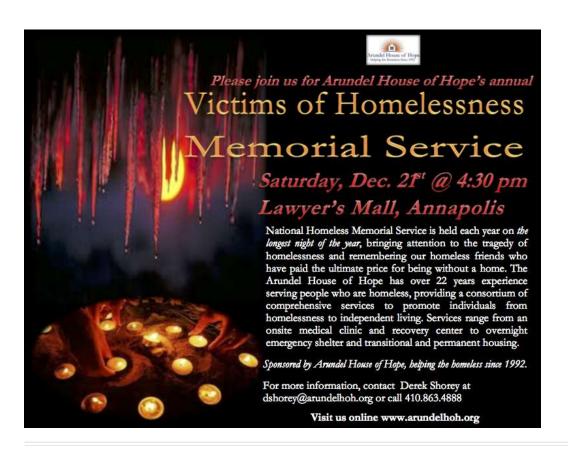
The Fouse Center

Happy Holidays from The Fouse Center, the Arundel House of Hope's transitional shelter for men. We welcome this holiday season with a full house of 10 men working towards a productive, sober future. Currently we have 2 men in college and 4 men working with our partner, The Anne Arundel Literacy Council. These 4 men are sharpening their reading and writing skills in hopes of taking their GED tests in 2014. We recently welcomed Elaine Hill, an intern from Loyola's pastoral counseling program, for an internship; she will be working with the men and women in the WISH programs in the coming year. She has brought much hope to those men and women by working with them in therapeutic



sessions. The men in the program are looking forward to taking a field trip to the Lawyers Mall in Annapolis on Saturday, December 21st at 4:30pm to be present at *The Victims of Homelessness Memorial Service*. This service will pay tribute to the men and women who perished in their struggles on the streets. We hope you can join us as we remember those who have gone before us.

Brianne Adams, CSC-AD and the Fouse Center Staff



The Community Recovery Center

The Community Recovery Center (CRC) in conjunction with Anne Arundel County Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) completed the 2013 *Life in Recovery Survey*. The survey was conducted to provide the community with greater insight into, and perspective of, one's recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. As such, the survey revealed existing opportunities for, and barriers to, successful recovery. Survey participants were asked to complete a questionnaire on his/her demographics and pathway(s) to recovery. Within the local recovery community a total of 111 people were randomly selected to participate in the survey, including 67 men and 43 women. Results of the survey revealed that the participants have been addicted to different substances,

including alcohol, during addiction, use different pathways to recovery, and have been in recovery for lengths of time varying from 6 months to 30 years. Some barriers that individuals listed for recovery include one's absence of a bank account, no access to opportunities for job training and no ability to further his/her education. Participants reported experiencing lower recidivism, higher employment rates, and a greater sense of community involvement through volunteerism and civic involvement while in recovery.

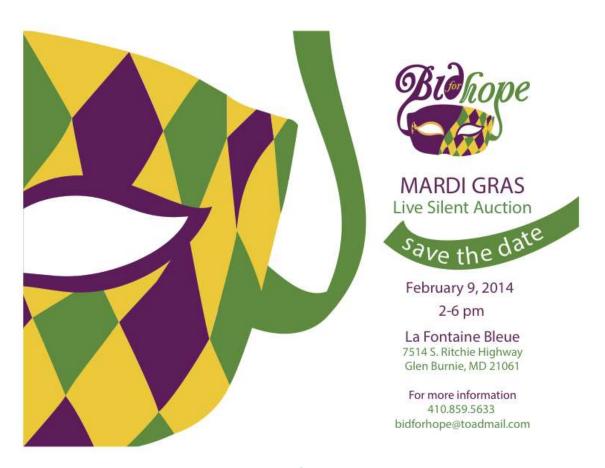
Terri Alexander, CRC Program Manager

Square Foot Gardening

With the holidays and the cold weather fast approaching, we look back on a "fruitful" Spring and Summer of Square Foot Gardening. Individuals from 8 houses successfully planted and maintained a total of 16 gardens of various sizes and shapes. Residents of all houses worked together to build boxes, haul and deliver a special soil mix and build and install critter cages around the gardens. A donation of plants, vegetables, flowers and herbs completed the gardens. As the summer grew warmer, residents watered, weeded and tended their gardens. For some it was his/her first attempt at gardening and for others it was return to his/her "roots". All were rewarded with a sense of pride and



accomplishment as they harvested beans, tomatoes, peppers, herbs, greens and even a small watermelon! We were even able to can jars of pickles! We look forward to another productive season in the new year and welcome anyone who would like to join us in tending to these gardens. Please contact Marsha Urban if interested.





Get your Bid For Hope Tickets Now!

We're currently in the planning stages of our Annual Winter event, Bid for Hope 2014. This has historically been one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, and we could always use more help. To learn more about how you can volunteer, please email Pete Notari at peter.notari@broadstripe.net. If you, or someone you know, would like to be a sponsor for this event, please email Katie Peiffer at kepeiffer@gmail.com

Arundel House of Hope Wish List

Please consider donating.....

Food Items

Coffee, Sugar, Creamer, Nonperishable Food, Snack items, Giant or Grocery Gift cards

Household Supplies

Paper towels, Toilet Paper, Household Cleaning Supplies, Laundry Detergent, Office Supplies, Target, Costco or Wal-Mart Gift cards

Clothing and Linens

New Underwear & Socks for men and women, Blankets, Pillows, Twin Sheets, Work Boots

Equipment & Vehicles

Lawn mowers, Weed Eaters, Shovels, Rakes, Copier, Automated Electronic Defibrillator and Pick-up Truck (to assist clients in moving)

Please email for more details or any questions.

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