Dear Mario,

Spring has begun and a new season is upon Arundel House of Hope! We continue to grow and improve our ministry with every season and this year there are many upcoming events and programs to be excited about! We are thrilled to share these developments with you, our supporters, without whom we could not exist!

As Winter Relief wraps up its fifteenth season we appreciate the many blessings received over the past winter season including the success of the Winter Relief Program, the profitability of the Bid for Hope silent and live auction, the excitement of new program awards, and most importantly the success of our clients! With good news and feelings we begin planning for the spring, summer, and fall months ahead.

Throughout the coming months we will be hosting and participating in fundraising events, which are critical to our survival and growth as an organization. We are always
looking for support and volunteers so please read ahead for details! We are also looking forward to the launch of our first Permanent Housing Program for Women!!! This is the first program of its kind in our county-something to be very proud of!

On April 17th at our annual meeting, we added three new Board Members to our Board of Directors, Rie Atkinson, Katie Peiffer, Kevin Wood, and Rev. Lura Kaval. I am looking forward to working with all our Board Members. Please stay tuned for more exciting announcements and thank you for your continued support of Arundel House of Hope!!

- Mario Berninzoni, Executive Director

Winter Wonderful!

April 1,

2007 marked the commencement of the fifteenth year of Arundel House of Hope’s Winter Relief Program. By all accounts it was a very successful season. We were fortunate to have such strong support from the network of churches and volunteers! Winter Relief reached record breaking numbers this year, housing up to 60 men and women nightly!!! In total we were able to bring shelter and nourishment to over 200 individuals this season. Even so, the program has become so well known and popular that we were forced to turn individuals away almost every night due to lack of capacity to serve them.

We are so blessed to have such community and county support and look forward to sharing our Winter ministry with you again next season. In the meantime we continue to look at ways to expand the program to serve more individuals and share with them the love and support of God and our community.

If you would like to participate in Winter Relief or would like more information please contact Phil Bailey at:

pbailey@arundelhoh.org
Preparing for our FUTURE!

On Thursday March 29th, Arundel House of Hope held its five-year strategic planning session at Our Lady of the Fields Catholic Church in Millersville from 1:00pm to 7:30pm. The meeting was incredibly productive and included Staff, Board Members, and Volunteers. All those involved appeared remarkably unified in their desire for growth, expansion of services, and continued ministry through service to our clients. Executive Director Mario Berninzoni was "very happy" with the way the session progressed and is increasingly confident that Arundel House of Hope is well positioned to grow into 2012!!

The planning session included updates on Arundel House of Hope's Annual Budget, showing growth from $10,000 in 1999 to $610,000 in 2007, as well as client growth from 82 in 1999 to 426 in 2007!!!! The growth experienced has been staggering and Arundel House of Hope enters fiscal 2008 with excitement and many aspirations. This session examined the organizational strengths and weaknesses and the expansion of services. Major priority areas for growth include:

1) Permanent Affordable Housing Opportunities for the homeless.

Substance Abuse Services

3) Mental Health Services

4) Create a transitional Summer Program

5) Employment & Training Opportunities & Social Enterprise Program
6) Expand Winter Relief Program

7) Service for single women

8) Program for Ex-offenders

9) Expand Day Center hours & days

10) Representative Payee Program

We look forward to continuing with this tremendous growth and opportunity to serve the county's poor and homeless. If you would like to assist in any way please contact Mario Berninzoni at:

mberinzoni@arundelhoh.org

SUCCESS!!

Dwight Owens came to Arundel House of Hope's Fouse Center in the beginning of 2005 with very little to his name. He had recently left a 28 day recovery program in which he began addressing the substance abuse that plagued his life. Dwight entered the Fouse Center determined to make positive change in his life and spent the next six months working towards that goal.

In August of 2005 Dwight completed the Fouse Center Program and moved on to Arundel House of Hope's Community Housing Program. After obtaining a great job with a pharmaceutical company, Dwight began working longer hours and saving his pay. Over the next year he built up a reputation with his company as a hard and dedicated worker and continued to save his earnings. The fruit of his labor came to fruition in March of 2007 when Dwight, with his own funds, was able to purchase his very own home!!

This is the first home he has bought and the first time one of
Arundel House of Hope's clients has been able to purchase a residence! We are extremely proud of Dwight and all of his hard work. Please join us in congratulating him! If you would like to donate and furniture or other household supplies please contact Mario Berninzoni at:

mberninzoni@arundelhoh.org

Permanent Housing for Women!

Over the past fifteen years Arundel House of Hope has grown to encompass numerous program offerings helping hundreds of men and women experiencing homelessness in Anne Arundel County. As we continue to grow single homeless women have arisen as a population that we wish to do more for. As a result Arundel House of Hope applied and was approved for a grant through the Department of Housing and Urban Development to open the first permanent housing program exclusively for single homeless women in the county!

We are currently in the process of selecting a location and home for up to four women and the program is set to launch in July of 2007. This program will provide onsite support for the women residents, similar to the Safe Haven program, but will be a combination of both the Safe Haven and the Community Permanent Housing that our male clients may be admitted to. In addition, the Women's Permanent Housing Program will provide support services including case management, substance abuse and mental health assistance, job and life skills training, and access to health services.

We are very excited about this new offering and view it as a way to expand our ministry to women experiencing homelessness in our area. If you would like to volunteer with this program please contact Mario Berninzoni at:

mberninzoni@arundelhoh.org

Stay tuned for more information and a possible program
naming contest!!

**Appreciating our Fathers!**

Arundel House of Hope understands the importance of family. The family of churches that we work with empowers us to serve our clients, just as our individual families empower us in our everyday lives. To show appreciation for our clients and how hard they and their families have worked to improve their conditions, Arundel House of Hope will be hosting a Father's Day Barbeque at the Fouse Center, Saturday June 16th. Staff, Volunteers, and Clients are invited to bring their families and share their appreciation for their families and the family that is Arundel House of Hope!!

Please contact Phil Bailey to RSVP for the event at pbailey@arundelhoh.org. Food, beverages, and Family Fun will be provided!!

**Seafood for All!**

Come prepared to work AND have a great time! Last year Arundel House of Hope participated in the 40th annual Maryland Seafood Festival. There we gained exposure in the community, raised money for programs, and celebrated our members and the wonderful fellowship that exists between Arundel House of Hope and the churches that support us.

As summer approaches we are gearing up to do it again! Food choices will include the scrumptious catfish sandwich and the crab imperial from last year as well as new and delicious offerings for 2007.

We would love your support to help make this event a great success. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Mary Alexander at malexander@arundelhoh.org.

In addition any supplies are much appreciated!! We are in need of the following:

- Working Freezers & Refrigerators for food prep and storage
- Large Plastic Utensils
Many of you attended the first Annual Bid For Hope Silent and Live Auction on February 11, 2007 at LaFountain Bleu in Glen Burnie. The event was organized and run by three volunteer churches and was a great success!! Over 200 tickets were sold and over 100 items were donated for the cause! In total over $22,000 was raised for Arundel House of Hope's programs!!! We would like to send out a special thank you to the volunteers and donors whose significant effort made this event possible.

The Bid for Hope will be held again early next year. If you would like donate a silent auction item, volunteer, or need more information, please contact Pete Notari pnotari@notariassociates.com or Mary Alexander at malexander@arundelhoh.org.

Many exciting fundraisers are being planned for the summer months! Mark your calendar now and keep an eye out for updates on the following:

**APRIL 28th**
Roast Chicken Sale at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Proceeds to benefit Arundel House of Hope!!
400 Benfield Road
Severna Park, MD 21146
(410) 647-1658

**July 7th**
Pit Beef Sale and Yard Sale at Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
Proceeds to benefit Arundel House of Hope!!
August 18th
Annapolis Area Musicians are uniting to host a benefit concert for Arundel House of Hope!!! More details to follow shortly!!
Hosted by the Music Room @ Pesce Grande
2019 West St
Annapolis, MD 21401

So far 2007 has been a wonderful and exciting year for Arundel House of Hope. We look forward to your continued support which will allow us to further meet our organizational mission of providing housing and support services to men and women experiencing homelessness in our county!

Sincerely,

Mario Berninzoni
Arundel House of Hope