Hope Happens
Recent News From Arundel House of Hope

It is with great excitement that I am distributing this updated Arundel House of Hope newsletter! 2009 has treated our organization well and it is time to share our latest success stories and upcoming events with you.

From the inception of our second Safe Haven Program, to preparation for the grand opening of The Doughy Dog, Arundel House of Hope is expanding to continue serving the homeless of Anne Arundel County. This newsletter will highlight recent activities, upcoming programs and events, and introduce you to several new volunteers and employees. Additionally, the newsletter will offer opportunities for you to help Arundel House of Hope further meet our mission of providing housing and support services to the men and women experiencing homelessness in our community.

The generous support of dedicated volunteers, member churches and organizations, and our valued donors, is the reason we continue to grow and evolve. Thank you for your continued support and for taking the time to read through this newsletter. I welcome your thoughts and comments and can be reached at mberninzoni@arundelhoh.org

Sincerely, Mario Berninzoni, Executive Director
April 2009 marked the opening of Arundel House of Hope's newest housing program, The Safe Haven II. Located in Severna Park, this new residence is now home to four disabled and chronically homeless men. Safe Haven II provides a secure and nurturing environment in which residents can live independently. The program was modeled after Arundel House of Hope's previous, successful independent housing programs; Safe Haven I, established in 2005, and The W.I.S.H. House, established in 2008.

Thanks to the support of state and county grants, along with generous donations from our member churches, organizations, and individuals, we are able to expand our services and continue helping those who need it most.

On Saturday, July 25, volunteers and staff members fitted over fifty guests with new athletic shoes and socks at Arundel House of Hope's Resource and Day Center, in Glen Burnie. Arundel House of Hope would like to thank our many volunteers, donors, member churches, and organizations that participated in the shoe-drive, along with Chesapeake Foot and Ankle Center, in Pasadena, who served as our collection headquarters.

The new shoes and socks were the final product of the Soles4Souls program, an effort to recycle "gently used" shoes and impact as many lives as possible with the gift of new shoes. Thanks to the numerous donations made on our behalf, Chesapeake Foot and Ankle Center shipped over 5,000 "gently used" shoes to the Soles4Souls program. In turn, Soles4Souls provided Arundel House of Hope with enough new shoes to fit all guests who showed up that morning in need of quality new shoes and socks.

"While a new pair of shoes may not seem like a big thing to many, our guests were thrilled to walk off in new shoes" explained Marsha Urban, Case Manager - Day Center & Community Housing. "Many have come back in to thank us and show us how good they look!"
Arundel House of Hope will participate in the Soles4Souls program as long as the need exists. Although the 2009 shoe-drive has come to an end, you can continue to support this initiative year-round by donating your "gently used" shoes to Chesapeake Foot and Ankle Center on our behalf.

Are you in the mood for a gourmet hot dog or a freshly fried, mini-doughnut and coffee? If so, you're in luck! The Doughy Dog, Arundel House of Hope’s Social Enterprise, has just opened for business.

Located in the parking lot of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church on Quarterfield Road, the operation will be ready to serve you weekdays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Additionally, The Doughy Dog will be offering catering services in the evenings and on weekends, at a reasonable cost. Please keep us in mind for your next party, group meeting or special event.

As a social enterprise, The Doughy Dog is not your typical food and beverage stand. Instead, it is a business entity designed to provide a supportive work environment for 10 clients, teaching life management skills and offering job specific training. Funded by The Presbytery of Baltimore, Catholic Campaign for Human Development, The Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County, and donations made to Arundel House of Hope, this is the first ever social enterprise in Anne Arundel County. Arundel House of Hope will continue to share the success and progress of our clients, as they take on their new jobs in the food service industry.

For additional information about The Doughy Dog, contact Brianne Adams at 410-863-4888 ext.18 or 410-562-3979 or email badams@arundelhoh.org

Come One, Come All, and Come Hungry!

When: Friday - Sunday, September 11th, 12th, and 13th

Where: Sandy Point State Park

As most of you know, the Maryland Seafood Festival was cancelled last year. The Festival had aged and needed new life. This year, the Festival is back and we believe it will be better than ever. Arundel House of Hope will once again be a vendor with a booth operated by volunteers and staff. We will be selling local favorites including; Imperial Crab Platters, Catfish Sandwiches and Platters, Jumbo Soft Shell Crab Sandwiches and Platters, and Maryland-style Fried Tomatoes. If you are wise enough to save room for dessert, treat yourself to a handmade Otterbein cookie ice-
cream sandwich.

All proceeds from our food and beverage sales will benefit the programs and services offered to the homeless of Anne Arundel County by Arundel House of Hope. Fundraising in these economic times is more necessary than ever. We hope you will visit and patronize our stand. We promise our food and service will not disappoint you!

To volunteer with Arundel House of Hope’s food and beverage stand, contact Phil Bailey at 410-863-4888 or email pbailey@arundelhoh.org. For more information about The Maryland Seafood Festival visit www.mdseafoodfestival.com

October 19 starts the 18th year of our Winter Relief ministry. 18 years of being the face of God to people who are homeless in our community. For those who are served through Winter Relief, we are not only their shelter from the cold, we are their family.

The 2009-2010 season will be 25 weeks long with 49 churches acting as Shelter Sites. This year’s Winter Relief season will be an additional week longer than last year, with 6 more of the weeks offering dual sites.

We want to welcome Ark & Dove Presbyterian, Arundel Christian, Chesapeake Christian Fellowship, Fresh Start Church, and Lake Shore Baptist as new Shelter Sites for the 2009-2010 season.

Although we continue to expand, we also continue to search for additional member churches to add to our list of Shelter Sites. We are in need of 3 more Shelter Sites to complete the 2009-2010 Winter Relief schedule. If your congregation is able to help by serving as a Shelter Site, please contact us.

To learn more about Winter Relief ministry and to welcome the 2009-2010 season, the Annual Winter Relief Kick-off Event will be held on October 10, at St. Christopher Episcopal Church, at 7 p.m. Please mark your calendars and join your partners in ministry as we celebrate this new year of service to the homeless of Anne Arundel County. For additional information, or to volunteer your time and services to Winter Relief, please contact Phil Bailey at 410-863-4888 ext. 13 or pbailey@arundelhoh.org

This past month, Arundel House of Hope has welcomed four new faces to its team of talented staff....
Arlene Scott is the newest Resident Manager at W.I.S.H. Women in Safe Haven house in Brooklyn Park. Arlene’s responsibilities include ensuring the safety and cleanliness of the home, and serving as the liaison between residents and Arundel House of Hope staff. Additionally, Arlene will be helping with the intake of new clients at the Resource and Day Center. Arlene is currently enrolled at Anne Arundel Community College, pursuing an Associates Degree in Music and Theater. She is a true success story of Arundel House of Hope, going from a resident at W.I.S.H. for over a year, to now a student and employee.

Another great success story coming from Arundel House of Hope is that of Oliver Sellman. Oliver has just been named new Resident Manager of Safe Haven II. Last year, Oliver was homeless and living in Winter Relief Shelter during the fall and winter season. Through hard work and perseverance, Oliver has taken this new step in his life; living in Safe Haven II since April, and now managing the home. In addition to his house responsibilities, Oliver will be working at The Doughy Dog, preparing and serving gourmet coffee, doughnuts, breakfast sandwiches, and hot dogs.

Sarah Karantonis has joined Arundel House of Hope as Director of Development. Sarah's job description includes fundraising, community outreach, volunteer recruitment, marketing, and public relations initiatives. Sarah brings over five years of experience, working as Development Director for the Arthritis Foundation, and four years working in the field of Public Relations, representing local non-for-profit organizations.

Jason Strecker, formerly a volunteer with Arundel House of Hope, has been hired on a part-time basis to assist with the daily, on-going needs of the Resource and Day Center. Jason will be welcoming new clients, answering telephone calls, and assisting staff members and clients as needed.
The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) awarded a $10,000 grant to support job opportunities and training workshops for staff newly employed at Arundel House of Hope’s social enterprise, The Doughy Dog.

At a luncheon held on August 18, Sarah Karantonis, Development Director, and Doughy Dog staff member, Debbie Morgan, accepted the gift on behalf of Arundel House of Hope. Arundel House of Hope was one of five local non-profit organizations to receive a 2009 local CCHD grant.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is a national social justice program of the United States Catholic Bishops. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty in America through the funding and support of projects that work to change conditions that cause poverty. The Local CCHD Committee supports Arundel House of Hope’s new direction and shares its hope for success in providing resources and opportunities for the homeless.

Arundel House of Hope is excited to announce a new class-style program being offered to its clients. “Hope Reigns”, an hour-long, job-coaching service, has been formed to help clients with the necessary requirements of finding, applying for, interviewing, and maintaining jobs.

Run by Case Manager, Asia Wood, clients meet in the Day and Resource Center every Wednesday from 10 a.m. -11 a.m. “It feels good knowing that we are helping people get back on the road to employment,” explained Asia. "From resume writing to conducting mock-interviews, every piece builds confidence. For everyone, it is one-step closer to a better life.”

Hope Reigns is currently seeking guest speakers and volunteers to assist with job mentoring. If you have something to offer, please contact Asia Wood at 410- 863-4888 ext. 16 or awood@arundelhoh.org
Arundel House of Hope has recently been awarded funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to establish a housing program for up to six homeless Veterans in Northern Anne Arundel County.

According to the Alliance to End Homelessness, Maryland is the 8th highest-ranking state in the country, with an estimated 4,000 homeless Veterans. The goal of this new program is to assist Veterans to move back into permanent housing and end their homelessness. We hope to have construction completed by early 2010 and have residents move in shortly thereafter. This housing program will be the first and only in Anne Arundel County designed specifically to assist chronically homeless and disabled Veterans.

We are excited about this initiative and will continue to keep you updated as plans unfold.

Print this coupon to receive One Dozen FREE Mini-Doughnuts with the purchase of any size Coffee or Hot Tea at regular price.

Limit one coupon per customer. Offer expires September 30, 2009. (Located at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church parking lot, 7606 Quarterfield Road, Glen Burnie)

Are you wondering how you can help us better serve the homeless of Anne Arundel County? Please contact Arundel House of Hope, we would love to hear from you. Volunteers are always needed and donations are always welcomed. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Mario Berninzoni
Arundel House of Hope

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