

## December 2018 Newsletter

December Greetings!

November saw the start of our third site in Annapolis, and being filled to capacity at our Glen Burnie sites. The season is going well, with minimal issues. Our gratitude is extended to those who hosted in November! We hear so many wonderful stories from our 514 friends – know how much they appreciate the efforts of their hosts.

### Hosting Site Reminders:

- Please remember to send daily reports to me (via text, phone, or email). These reports are key to the communication network with our Segment Coordinators.
- The shower trailer has been up and running for 5 weeks now! We will probably be closing it down when temperatures fall into the 20's.
- Excess luggage – please continue to monitor excess luggage. We received a significant donation of new suitcases for at least two of the sites this week - unfortunately they are carry on size. We will distribute these over the holiday.
- We have been picking up the gear of exited clients after it has been passed a single time to the next hosting site. Please clearly mark this gear with name and DATE so that we can keep up with what needs to be picked up.
- Guest Information Book - at some point during your week, please confirm that you have a guest information sheet for each client at your site. If you are missing any sheets, just let me know in the morning report and we will send out a replacement. If there is an emergency with someone, these sheets are good to send on with the paramedics or police.

### Upcoming Events:

- Upcoming Site Coordinator Meeting: Our next meeting will be held THIS Tuesday, **December 11th** at Arundel House of Hope starting at 7pm. Joyce Heid from Bay Area CPR will join us for the first part of our meeting to train in Hands-Only CPR. We will conclude with a short business meeting.
- Please plan on joining us for the **6th Annual Longest Night Memorial Service**. On the eve of "Longest Night" of the year, **Friday, Dec. 21, at 4:30pm** we gather for a 40-minute somber service to remember the lives of our homeless sisters and brothers who have died in Anne Arundel County in the previous year. Our interfaith service, sponsored by Arundel House of Hope, Sarah's House, and Light House, is held this year at Whitmore Park, just off Calvert St.

We read the names of those who have died, share prayer, silence, music, a eulogy, and a charge of commitment to working with people who are homeless in our midst. Hot beverages to warm our souls and keychain lights to shine a light in the darkness of the longest night are handed around.

**Please encourage your organizations or faith communities to participate** by being present at this moving and meaningful service.

# THE LONGEST NIGHT

Sponsored by Arundel House of Hope, Sarah's House - Catholic Charities, and Light House Annapolis

## A HOMELESS MEMORIAL SERVICE for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County

Friday, December 21 at 4:30pm  
Whitmore Park  
Calvert St.

### HELP Needed!

- We have an immediate need for hosting assistance the week of December 18-26. St. Christopher's has opened their doors to our guests, but we need help! We need evening and overnight hosts, as well as some meals. Please take a look on-line at the below link if you or your congregation can assist. Thanks in advance for any help you can provide!

Sign up to help the week of December 18 - December 26 at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church. Contact me {Pam} at this email or 410-440-1719 for additional information

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0448afa72ca02-stchristophers>

*Thanks for all that you do for this incredible ministry of mercy and grace to our unhoused neighbors. Happy Holidays!*

~Pam

Pam Biddlecomb

Director, Day Center & Winter Relief Program

Arundel House of Hope

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