RESILIENCE

GROWTH

BELONGING

EMPOWERMENT

SELF-DETERMINATION

Annual Report
2021

Bethany Hill Place
Dear Friends,

By this time last year, we had already experienced the pandemic’s lockdowns and social isolation. We expected the worst was behind us and things would soon return to normal. Instead, we must look for ways to thrive in this unexpectedly long season contending with the COVID virus. As we continue to adjust our own definition of normal, we are thankful for and admire the resilience and tenacity of the community at Bethany Hill Place. Our residents have adapted to technology and made the most of the building’s free WIFI, finding new ways to move forward with learning, working, and living. These struggles would have been so much harder, but for the solidarity and support we received from all of you during this time of extraordinary stress and loss.

Before confronting this pandemic, Bethany Hill Place residents faced discouraging obstacles in their lives resulting from long-standing inequities. Discriminatory housing and education policies and practices contribute to under-employment and homelessness. While our focus on housing and education is right, that focus must also be guided by an understanding of the root causes of systemic racial inequity. As our CSJ Sponsors envisioned, we seek to work with residents as equals and commit to restore dignity and agency to their lives. As an organization, we have made strides this year to learn and develop greater awareness of pervasive injustice and make positive changes. There is a lot to be done; we are dedicated to the work which lies ahead and have a diverse community to hold us accountable.

This report is a tribute to two residents featured on the next pages - Jess and Tim - for their perseverance and successes despite significant challenges facing each of them. It makes us proud that in showing what Tim and Jess have accomplished, we reveal our model’s ability to meet people wherever they are in their lives across a significant generational span.

Thank you for playing an important role in the success and growth of our community. Together, we are helping people create their own success stories.

Leslie A. Bishop
Board Chair
Trish Appert
Executive Director
Jess’ family was living in a motel before arriving at Bethany Hill Place three years ago. She recalls being surprised by the kindness of her new neighbors, the activities and events, thinking to herself ‘what is this place?!’. Getting involved with the youth programming came naturally and evolved into her taking on more leadership and a paid YouthWorks internship in programs like Summer Club and Emerging Leaders. She loves the special activities Summer Club offers children, and enjoys helping the new kids warm up, make friends and feel at home.

A year and a half ago, Jess took a Driver’s Permit class at Bethany Hill Place, and Bethany Hill helped pay for the permit fee and for transportation to the testing site. When Jess wanted to get a job, staff helped her find and apply for one and acted as her reference. Jess recently graduated from Framingham High and will be attending college in the fall. She intends to get her driver’s license so she can commute to classes. Jess dreams of becoming a Registered Nurse specializing in post-partum care. Staff guided her through the process of researching schools and navigating admission and aid applications. Having been accepted to two schools, getting a clear picture of the cost and the financial aid each offered was critical. She’s chosen to attend Mass Bay Community College and is relieved to have made an informed decision that, together with a Bethany Hill Place scholarship, won’t saddle her with debt after college. Jess will be able to live at home, attend school and work a part-time job that will allow her to get a car to commute to classes.
Tim moved here 4 years ago after being urged to apply by a family friend and former resident. Tim grew up in MetroWest, and became a carpenter after discovering his love of working with wood through a special program as a teenager. Before coming to Bethany Hill Place, he lived in a sober house for 18 months, where he steadily got back on his feet with construction work and mentored others in recovery through the trade. Tim has been sober for 14 years. Earlier in his life, he had moved to Florida to help his daughter and granddaughters get settled. After a tragic car accident that cost the life of his friend, he spent 9 years in a Florida prison. While in prison, Tim suffered two serious heart attacks, and had surgery for a pace maker/defibrillator implant.

Here at Bethany Hill Place, he likes to see the families with kids having a safe place to play and be outside. Bethany Hill Place staff were helpful when he fell on hard times, offering him supermarket gift cards to get by. Even with disability payments and food stamps he was always $10 shy of what he needed to pay the bills each month. Thanks to a special donation, we’ve been able to pay for Tim’s transportation to medical appointments, but his biggest relief came with technology. When we installed free wireless internet last summer, he cut a big expense from his budget and no longer worries about affording the internet service that sends information from his heart monitor to his doctors every day. Tim also received a laptop and with individualized help from us learned how to use Zoom for telehealth appointments, which has made life easier. Tim credits being at Bethany Hill Place with getting his health back on track.
Donors

Your support helps ensure Bethany Hill Place remains a safe and supportive place for families living in poverty. We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals, corporations, and foundations who generously made contributions from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

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We are grateful to donors who chose to contribute in memory of or in honor of a friend, family, colleague, or loved one. Tribute donations recognized the following individuals in FY2021.

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Paul Bacigalupo
Jane Boulet
Cathy Clifford, CSJ
Peggy Cross and her new granddaughter
Marilyn Hagerty
Sister Denise Kelly
Winnie Kelly
Marie Therese Martin, CSJ
Joan McNamara
Courtney McSparron
Mary Mitchell
Dr. Jim O’Connell
Residents of Bethany Hill Place
Staff of Bethany Hill Place

In memory of:
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Paul and Bernadette Bacigalupo
John and Jane Clifford
Claire T. Doherty
Sister Anne Gavin
Catherine & Thomas Hagerty
Mary Hale
Robin Johnson
Bill and Angela McNamara
Sister Mary Jo Quirk, CSJ
Sister Roberta Marie
Marion Schmidt

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. We regret any errors or omissions; please notify Jane Boulet, Director of Development, at (508) 270-8002 to correct the listing of your name.

Volunteers

The work of our small staff is leveraged by a committed corps of volunteers who help bring our mission to life. We are grateful to these individuals who provide educational, community-building, and administrative support.

Lizbeth Acevedo
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INCOME
Corporations & Foundations 283,200
Individual Contributions 348,474
Interest Income 245,062
CSJ in-kind Contributions (rent) 75,000
Rental Income 762,558
Other income 68,390
Fund Balance (569,522)
Total Income $ 1,213,163

EXPENSES
Personnel 334,964
Debt Service & Fees 22,872
Property Related Expenses 124,584
Administrative Expenses 76,961
Professional Fees 175,521
Rent & Occupancy 150,000
Direct Program Expenses 74,054
Utilities 107,690
Depreciation 146,517
Total Expenses $ 1,213,163
Net gain(loss) $ -
SAVE THE DATE

Spring Gala

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

89 Bethany Road
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www.bethanyhillplace.org

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Bethany Hill Place is a Sponsored Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston