



Bethany Hill Place
A living and learning community of neighbors

NEWSLETTER

WINTER/SPRING 2025

Professor Harold D. Cox to Deliver Keynote at 2025 Spring Gala on May 1st

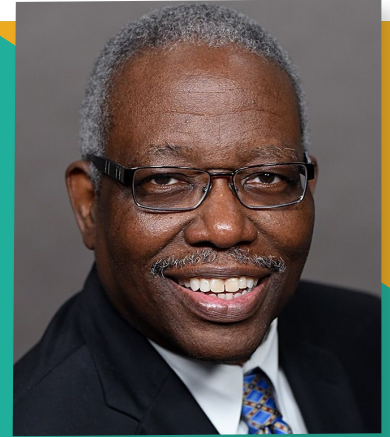
Bethany Hill Place is proud to welcome Professor Harold D. Cox, a distinguished leader in public health and community advocacy, as the keynote speaker for this year's annual Spring Gala. With decades of experience addressing issues such as homelessness, HIV/AIDS, and public health policy, Professor Cox brings a powerful message on the impact of collective action to drive meaningful change.

During his time with us, Professor Cox will share stories and insights that highlight how communities, organizations, and individuals can come together to address homelessness and create lasting solutions. As a long-time champion for housing equity and community-based solutions, his message deeply aligns with Bethany Hill Place's mission to foster stability and opportunity for individuals and families in need.

Professor Cox's career has been defined by leadership, service, and advocacy - values that resonate strongly with the Bethany Hill Place community. From his groundbreaking work as Chief Public Health Officer for the City of Cambridge to his transformative teaching at Boston University, he has empowered countless public health professionals and driven systemic change. His efforts to promote housing equity, regional collaboration, and community well-being are a testament to the power of partnership.

Join us at the gala to hear Professor Cox's inspiring perspective on how collective action and community support can break cycles of homelessness and build brighter futures. Together, we can transform lives—one story, one solution, and one community at a time.

The Bethany Hill Place Spring Gala will once again be held at the Connors



Harold D. Cox, M.S.S.W.
Boston University
School of Public Health
Professor of the Practice
Community Health Sciences

Center in Dover, MA, on May 1st at 6:30 p.m. The evening includes a cocktail reception with savory passed hors d'oeuvres, delightful desserts, and a powerful story of transformation from a Bethany Hill Place resident.

Join us as we celebrate
the inspiring individuals who
will be honored at this year's
Spring Gala:

CHANGEMAKER AWARD HONOREES
Jessica Friel and
Margaret Casey Solomon

RESIDENT SPEAKER
Malik Martin

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Brandale Randolph



Bethany Hill Place

Spring Gala 2025

THURSDAY · MAY 1, 2025
6:30 PM

THE CONNORS CENTER
DOVER, MA

THANK YOU TO OUR PREMIERE SPONSOR

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Supporting Lives with Access to Possibilities

At Bethany Hill Place, every individual we meet has a unique story. Whether facing job loss, a health crisis, or an unexpected life event, all share the same goal: stability and a brighter future. Here, we offer more than just housing. To address the root causes of poverty and create lasting change, we provide a comprehensive array of services – all onsite – that ensure 120 children and adults each year have the opportunity to rebuild their lives with dignity and purpose.

Pathways to Economic Stability

A home is just the first step. To ensure long-term success, we offer individualized coaching and mentoring to adult residents, meeting regularly and helping them set achievable goals in education, employment, and personal growth. From job searches to school applications, financial education, and ESL classes, we equip individuals with the tools needed to secure stability in school, work, and life – and a sustainable future. Our educational scholarships further open doors, empowering residents to gain the skills and knowledge needed for success in today's job market.

Housing Alone Isn't Enough

True stability includes mind and body. We take a holistic approach to well-being by providing residents with resources that support their physical and emotional health. From helping individuals find a primary care physician and access healthcare benefits to providing fresh groceries

and nutritious meals, we ensure families have access to the support they need. Mental health services, nutrition education, and free transportation to medical appointments further empower residents to take control of their health. Our campus also encourages physical well-being with safe areas for walking, biking, and growing produce in our community garden.

Breaking the Generational Cycle of Poverty

Our approach focuses on the family as a whole to make a multi-generational impact. For our younger residents, education and socio-emotional development are the keys to their success. Our afterschool programs provide safe, enriching spaces where kids can learn and grow, while our summer club helps them retain knowledge through fun, educational activities. Teens participate in an after-hours club that nurtures leadership and life skills, empowering them for the future. With mentoring and volunteer support, we nurture the next generation to be empowered agents of change in shaping their futures.

Together, We Make a Difference

At Bethany Hill Place, we celebrate every step forward, no matter how small. Our work is made possible by you, our supporters, along with our community partners and volunteers, whose contributions help transform lives. Together, we are not just providing shelter, but building positive futures, one life at a time.



BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



NAME:
Shauna
Downey,
MD

**HOME-
TOWN:**

Lives in

Framingham with her husband, Brian, and the youngest two of their five children.

OCCUPATION: Science Teacher, Fontbonne, The Early College of Boston

HOW SHAUNA BECAME

INVOLVED WITH BHP: When Shauna transitioned from her role as a pediatrician at Boston's Franciscan Hospital for Children to focus on raising her own kids, she found a new way to give back. Through the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, she was introduced to Bethany Hill Place (BHP), where she quickly became a dedicated volunteer for six years, helping with various fundraising activities, including the annual Spring Gala, as well as social media outreach.

But Shauna didn't stop there. A passionate volunteer, Shauna has been deeply involved with local organizations, including but not limited to, Saint Bridget Parish, Girl Scouts, and the Cub Scouts. Her strong ties

to the Framingham community allowed her to connect BHP with vital resources, drawing upon her wide network of friends, family, and colleagues to benefit the work of the organization and its residents.

With her unique background as both a medical doctor and educator, Shauna joined the Bethany Hill Place Board of Trustees in 2024. She brings a wealth of experience in community health, child and family support, and education, all of which greatly enhance BHP's mission and initiatives.

HOW/WHY IS THE BHP MISSION

IMPORTANT: "When I volunteered at BHP, I sat at a workstation in the computer lab. These were some of the most impactful moments of my time there because I was able to connect directly with residents working on their resumes or other educational or employment goals. While I was able to offer them some technical support and words of encouragement, they offered me so much more - laughter, funny jokes, stories about their lives and true companionship. These were some of the most fulfilling times for me as a volunteer, seeing firsthand how important a true sense of community leads to the success of all those served by BHP."

WHAT THE WORD "HOME"

MEANS TO ME: "Home is a place where a person should feel safest. It is where you can be your true self and you are accepted and loved as that person."



FUN FACTS ABOUT SHAUNA:

Shauna starts each morning with the New York Times crossword puzzle, enjoying the challenge it brings. She also has a deep love for playing card games with her family, once keeping a game of gin rummy going for over a week in hopes of finally beating her son. Ultimately, she lost. Her passion - and obsession - for 80s music remains strong. Outside of games and iconic songs, she loves exploring the beach, always on the lookout for interesting rocks, shells, and even animal skeletons.



Bridging the past and present to build a stronger future! Sister Zita Fleming (right) and Bethany Hill Place board member Amanda Zuretti connected at the **Alumni Board Reunion** in November, where former and current board members caught up and renewed their shared commitment to Bethany Hill Place's mission.

Each year, Team Framingham selects local runners to participate in the Boston Marathon while raising funds for community non-profits. This year, we're honored that six runners have chosen to support Bethany Hill Place as their cause.

Running for a Cause

Team BHP is more than just a running team—it's a group of dedicated individuals committed to making a difference. By lacing up their sneakers, they are not only taking on the challenge of 26.2 miles but are also helping to sustain the programs and services that empower our residents. Here's why a few of our runners, Angela, Daniel, and Jennifer chose to run for Bethany Hill Place:

ANGELA: "I chose to run for Bethany Hill Place because I really liked that not only do you provide your residents with affordable housing they are proud to live in, but you also offer services and programs to help build long-term success."



Daniel stops by Bethany Hill Place with a generous donation from his employer, making a meaningful impact in our community.

DANIEL: "For the cause and how you support our local communities."

JENNIFER: "I have driven by Bethany Hill Place many times but didn't know much about it. I was really moved by (Executive Director) James (Tresner's) presentation at the first Team Framingham meeting. The concept of offering housing, education, and community all together moved me, and I knew then that I wanted to help."

We are beyond grateful for Angela, Dan, Iracely, Jennifer, Marissa, and Mindy's dedication, and we can't wait to cheer them on this Marathon Monday.



Jennifer joins ERA Key Realty staff as they present her with a sponsorship check, celebrating their partnership in uplifting residents at Bethany Hill Place.

Make an
IMPACT

Today with
a Donor
Advised Fund

Looking for an easy way to give back and make a real difference? A Donor Advised Fund (DAF) offers a simple, powerful way to make a meaningful difference - while optimizing tax benefits and keeping you in control of your charitable giving.

With a DAF, you can contribute to a dedicated philanthropic account that supports the causes that matter most to you. Whether you want to

fund a single cause or support a variety of organizations, a DAF allows you to make a lasting impact in the areas that inspire you.

Ready to make a difference? Learn more about Donor Advised Funds and how you can contribute at bethanyhillplace.org/get-involved/donate. Together, we can create lasting change for those who need it most.

THANK YOU

To our incredible volunteers and steadfast supporters, we are profoundly grateful for your commitment and the joy you bring to our community. Thank you for being an essential part of our family—you make all the difference.



Bethany Hill Place

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www.bethanyhillplace.org

Bethany Hill Place is an independent 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent of IRS regulations. Nonprofit Tax ID #04-2493492.

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