



## 2012 Annual Report

Ending homelessness **Rebuilding lives** 

## Together

#### Dear Friend,

It's a privilege to unveil the new name and new look of our beloved organization.

Twenty years after two fledging grassroots organizations in upper Northwest DC merged to become **Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place**, we have shortened our name to **Friendship Place**. This, after all, is what our program participants have been calling us for years; it was time to make it official.

We think Friendship Place is the perfect name. It reflects how our community comes together — congregations, businesses, board members, staff, volunteers, school kids, donors, and program participants — to end homelessness and rebuild lives. It's serious work, but doing it together imbues the pursuit with joy and connection. You can see this spirit in the beautiful photos on these pages.

Fortuitously, Friendship Place founder Jean Duff selected the word "together" for the One-Word Project. It's an apt theme for 2012. We forged a host of exciting new partnerships with other organizations. We generated a record 4,147 participants in our Help the Homeless campaign. We engaged more volunteers than ever and brought several new program participants onto our Speakers' Bureau. (If you're part of a group that would like to learn about homelessness from someone who's lived it, give us a call!) We initiated a new leadership group of program participants — comprising past and present officers of our Consumer Council — which is advising our executive director and providing updates to the board. And we boasted financial, in-kind and pro bono support from an unprecedented 2,090 sources, including you.

Of course, our biggest new partnership of 2012 was with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. We're proud that Friendship Place was selected to be part of a comprehensive Federal effort to end homelessness among Veterans. You'll find the impressive first-year outcomes of our Veterans First program in this report.

As for our new look, we wanted a visual identity that conveys both the dynamism and the warmth of Friendship Place and that can encompass all the new arenas into which we're expanding. We like that our logo isn't a perfect oval, because we don't expect people to be perfect; we welcome them "come-as-you-are." What's important is that our community continues to learn and grow... together.

Thank you so much for being part of our learning community. It's your support that allows Friendship Place to have a lasting impact on the lives of everyone connected to our mission.

Warmly,

Rosalie Berk

Rosalie Berk Board Co-President

Kate Belinski Board Co-President

The **One-Word Project** was created for us, pro bono, by the photographer Karen Elliott Greisdorf, who asked each subject: "What one word would you use to describe Friendship Place?" The photos on these pages feature program participants, volunteers, board, and staff.



## **Our Impact**

Friendship Place offers the most effective model for addressing adult homelessness, with innovative programs that empower participants to rebuild their lives, find homes, get jobs and reconnect with friends, family and the community, permanently.

### Outreach

Street outreach to 120 homeless men and women in FY 2012. More than 40 contacts were made each week to our most vulnerable neighbors.

## Hospitality

Food, coffee, basic needs, showers and laundry, phone and internet. Our Welcome Center served 438 individuals in FY 2012 — more than 40 visitors a day.

## **Health Care**

Walk-in clinic, free of charge. Primary medical care for 202 individuals, psychiatric care for 87, in FY 2012. 88% of housed participants across all Friendship Place programs were connected to primary health care.

## **Transitional Housing & Shelter**

52 individuals were housed in congregation-sponsored shelters and apartments in FY 2012. 86% of those who exited graduated to permanent housing.

### **Permanent Housing**

Housing with supportive services for highly vulnerable, formerly homeless men and women. 98% of the 215 individuals served in FY 2012 remained stably housed.

### **Employment**

48 men and women with serious barriers to employment were placed into jobs through AimHire, with 47 of them placed into transitional or permanent housing as well. AimHire is the only program in DC that places people into both jobs and housing at the same time, within the same program.

### **Veterans First**

Homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing. 82 families experiencing homelessness were successfully housed. Homelessness was averted for another 89 households at risk of eviction.

## **Advocacy**

Our advocacy at the Federal level contributed to increased funding for programs that are successfully reducing homelessness among Veterans. At the local level, we mobilized our community to speak out against proposed cuts to homeless services. As a result, the DC Council restored the funding in the District budget.

## **Community Engagement**

Workshops, trainings, symposiums, and presentations to the community. Staff, board, and program participants made 96 community presentations about homelessness. 779 people contributed 10,300 volunteer hours to the mission of Friendship Place. Friendship Place's programs are personcentric. We meet each individual where they are right now, and invite them to create their own action plan for moving forward by selecting from our array of services the help they want to meet their unique needs and goals. This effective model empowers participants to create a strong foundation for rebuilding their lives.



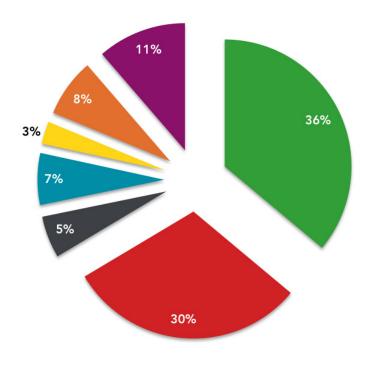
## **Financials**

#### FY 2012 October 1, 2011 - September 30, 2012

Friendship Place also received in-kind goods and services valued at more than \$200,000, including food, basic necessities and furnishings distributed to program participants during street outreach, at our Welcome Center, and in our shelters and housing; as well as pro bono event catering, legal services, photography, video production, and marketing and design consulting.

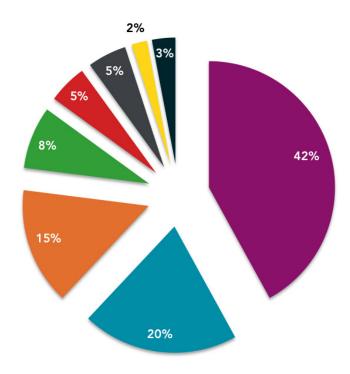
### Revenues

Private	\$1,485,032
Government	\$1,510,514
Total	\$2,995,546



### Expenses: \$2,970,506

- Welcome Center: Outreach, Hospitality, Shelter, Clinic & Housing
- Neighbors First Housing
- Homelessness Prevention,
  Rapid Rehousing & Advocacy for Veterans
- AimHire
- Community Education & Volunteer Engagement
- Management
- Fundraising



### **Private Funding Sources**

- Individuals
- Foundations
- Congregations & Other Nonprofits
- Help the Homeless Program
- Businesses
- Fee for Service
- United Way & Other Workplace
- Other



## Donors

FY 2012

#### **Champions for Change**

These generous members of our community have made 5-year pledges of \$1,000 or more a year to the mission of Friendship Place.

## **Gift of Flourishing** \$10,000 or more a year

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#### **Gift of Rebuilding**

\$5,000-9,999 a year Anonymous

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Every gift of any amount makes a difference. Unfortunately, we don't have room here to list all of our 2,090 donors, but you can find the full list at FriendshipPlace.org.

We strive to keep accurate records of gifts; if you discover an error, please accept our apologies and let us know by contacting Tanya Sweeney: 202.503.2968 or tsweenev@ FriendshipPlace.org. Please note that any gifts made in the final three months of the 2012 calendar year will be recognized in our 2013 annual report.

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# nspire

Jean-Michel serves on the DC Interagency Council on Homelessness and the board of the Coalition of Housing and Homeless Organizations. In 2010, he received the Meyer Foundation Exponent Award for visionary nonprofit leadership. He also blogs about homelessness for The Huffington Post.

Solutions

## Solutions

#### Dear Friend,

At Friendship Place, when we see a need, we find a solution.

In 2009, we asked why our program participants were having such a hard time getting jobs. Four years later, we're running a trend-setting employment program that has placed 142 people in jobs in less than two years. Since we're getting as many as 10 new referrals a week from all over the region, we've expanded AimHire and expect to place twice as many people in 2013 as in 2012.

Quite an accomplishment, given that AimHire is still 100% privately funded!

How do we do it? Creativity...and partnerships. For example, AimHire established an on-the-job training program with the Sheridan Group. And we signed an agreement with Operation Hope; they're giving us space for a satellite office to meet with job-seekers in Wards 7 and 8 and are offering our participants financial literacy. In exchange, AimHire is helping their participants find jobs.

The list of AimHire partnerships goes on and on. Our newest is with Howard University, which is going to provide us with three full-time interns. Our staff is looking forward to their help -- 40% of AimHire's current caseload are ex-offenders, and finding jobs and housing for them takes time and hard work.

We're finding solutions in our new Veterans First program, too. We had such success last year helping Veteran families get out of homelessness quickly — or avoid homelessness in the first place — that the VA awarded the program funding for a major expansion in 2013.

This is the first time in Friendship Place's history that we're working with families. Not just in Veterans First, but in AimHire as well. It's deeply rewarding for us to see the excitement of the children — and the relief of their parents — as we help them move into their new apartments, leaving homelessness behind for a new life of safety, stability and rebuilding.

Rest assured, we will continue creating new solutions. Right now at Friendship Place, we're taking everything we've learned about rapid rehousing from Veterans First and AimHire and launching a new program for folks experiencing homelessness who are more vulnerable and may not be able to work. Direct Housing, as we've named the program, is helping them find housing they can afford on their disability benefits and then giving them the financial and case management support they need to make a successful transition off the streets.

As this report goes to the printer, Friendship Place is about to host a workshop to explore solutions for another segment of the homeless population that is urgently in need of help: LGBT youth, who account for 40 percent of all young people experiencing homelessness.

As long as there is a need, we at Friendship Place will be at the forefront of seeking solutions, all the way until the day our vision is realized: a community and a nation in which every person has a place to call "home."

You are, as always, invited to be part of our endeavor. Any contribution you make — whether your time or your financial support — will lead directly to solutions. You can count on it.

Thank you for your generosity.

With much gratitude,

Jean-Michel Giraud Executive Director



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Mission: To empower men and women experiencing homelessness to rebuild their lives wiith the involvement of the community.

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