



# The Advocate Current

Advocates for Homeless Families, Inc. | 216 Abrecht Place | Frederick, MD 21701 | 301-662-2003 | www.afhf88.org

Serving Frederick County for 28 Years

## MEET OUR PARTICIPANTS

Each year, Advocates houses and supports up to 20 homeless families with minor children in 14 single-unit, scattered-site properties. The individual stories of these families are a testament to the determination of homeless parents to build a better life for themselves and their children.



▲ Rachel and her effervescent daughter

**RACHEL**, a life-long Frederick County resident, has endured a lot of abuse and hardships throughout her 31 years. Rachel became a new mother 4 years ago and quickly experienced the struggles of being a single working mother. Rachel and her daughter were evicted from their apartment in April 2015 and became homeless. After months of struggling to survive, Rachel and her daughter were able to move into Advocates' Transitional Housing Program in April 2016. Now she has been able to focus on her education and attending FCC fulltime while also working three part-time jobs. Rachel will receive her Associates Degree in Social Work in December 2016.



▲ Nilda and her three boys now have their own apartment

**NILDA** moved to Frederick over 20 years ago from Puerto Rico. A few years ago, Nilda left an abusive marriage and found herself alone with 3 young boys and limited financial resources. She was unable to support herself and her 3 boys on her own, and they quickly became homeless; the family stayed in emergency shelters and struggled to survive. Finally, Nilda and her boys moved into Advocates Transitional Housing Program and made tremendous progress. Nilda is now proud to say that she has her own apartment. Nilda continues to work on her goals as an active participant in our homeless prevention program, Families Forward. She regularly meets with her Family Advocate one-on-one and consistently attends Advocates weekly life skills workshops on Thursday evenings. We applaud Nilda and determination.

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Advocates for Homeless Families is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

## STATISTICS

JANUARY - OCTOBER 2016

### TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

- 41 adults and children graduated to permanent housing
- 8,661 sheltered bed nights provided
- 60 adults and children housed to date
- 16 adults working full or part-time
- 10 adults in vocational training programs

### HOMELESS PREVENTION SERVICES

- 25 at-risk adults and children served
- 8 women working full- or part-time



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- MEREDITH MCADAM | *President*
- DARLENE AULLS | *Immediate Past President*
- MELISSA MATEA | *Vice-President*
- JAN SAMET O'LEARY | *Secretary*
- VACANT | *Treasurer*

- SHERRY BURGEE
- DOUG STONE
- KATIE O. SCHWARTZ
- MANDIE OTTO
- KENDALL CAMUTI
- STEWART SMITH

### STAFF

- KEN ALLREAD | *Executive Director*
- CONNELLY STEWART | *Family Advocate*
- CHARLOTTE STRINE | *Family Advocate*
- ALLISON CALHOUN | *Staff Accountant*
- DAN HERBERT | *Property Manager*
- KAREN GEOFFREY | *Administrative Assistant*
- BERNIE YELLIN | *Administrative Assistant*

### MISSION STATEMENT

Advocates for Homeless Families' mission is to empower motivated Frederick County families to overcome homelessness. Families achieve success through a two-year structured program of housing, education and support services.

## WISH LIST ITEMS

The homeless families in our program are always in need of the following goods:

- Liquid laundry detergent
- Body Wash
- Women's deodorant
- Paper towels
- Dish detergent
- All purpose cleaners
- Kitchen trash bags

Donations can be dropped off at our office between 9:30am and 4:00pm. We ask that you call first, so we can make sure a staff member is available to receive the goods.

**f**ollow Us On Facebook! Please take a moment to follow us on Facebook to learn more about the families we support, our community partners, and upcoming events. See Advocates for Homeless Families, Frederick, MD, and friend us.



# Help Us MEET THE MATCH!

Thanks to a generous grant from the **AUSHERMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION** your financial donation to Advocates will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the foundation. Donations and the grant itself will be used to help pay for the utility and maintenance expenses for the apartments and townhouses housing homeless families. Ninety-three percent (93%) of all donations directly support our programs and family supports.

## HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELP

Every donation we receive is greatly appreciated and put to good use. No amount is too great, or too small.

- \$20** Will provide a 10-trip bus pass for a family without a car
- \$50** Will fill a linen closet with fresh bedding, towels, and blankets for a family
- \$75** Will pay for a month's worth of non-perishable grocery items and diapers
- \$100** Will pay for two (2) hours counseling services for a domestic violence survivor
- \$150** Will outfit a kitchen
- \$250** Will provide work and school clothing for adults and children
- \$350** Will pay for two (2) months of utilities for a family
- \$500** Will outfit a housing unit with furniture

If you prefer to donate online, please take a look at our funding request at **GoFundMe**. All donations will be devoted to the rehabilitation of an 1840s townhouse in Frederick to safely homeless families.



## THANKS TO...

### COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF FREDERICK COUNTY'S FREDERICK KEYS CARE FUND

for a generous grant to pay for homeless children's after-school, athletic, and Boys & Girls Club activities. At Advocates, we believe that all children have the right to fun and play, regardless of their circumstances.

## 2ND ANNUAL BRAIN GAMES *A Success and a Blast!*



*- 2016 Brain Games Trophy Winners -*



Thanks to **Pour House Trivia** the second annual trivia contest – the Brain Games – was a huge success and great fun! At the October 16, 2016 event, twelve teams competed in four increasingly challenging rounds for first, second, and third prize trophies. Everyone who participated had a chance to win a gift card door prize. What a great crowd of players. Thanks also to our corporate sponsors **Bach & Associates, Inc., Presidential Bank Mortgage, and Domino's Pizza**. We're already looking forward to the Third Annual Brain Games. Follow us on Facebook or check out our website at [www.afhf88.org](http://www.afhf88.org) for news about upcoming events.

## MEET OUR PARTICIPANTS

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*Danyell and her beautiful little girl*

**DANYELL**, and her six year-old daughter Micah, have happily settled into Advocates' transitional housing. After being laid off from her job last November, she used her savings looking for another job, and found herself and her daughter living from place to place, including a storage unit and a motel. She had overcome tremendous odds in the past after losing her mother and grandmother at a young age, caring for her mentally ill sister, and entering the foster care system. She found a well-paying job at age 20, and did very well until the recent job loss. She now has an internship through Workforce Services, plans to go to college, establish credit, save money, and eventually become a home owner. Danyell always maintained a positive and hopeful outlook.

