Thank you for Caring!

DURING 2018:

- 123 MEN AND WOMEN OBTAINED EMPLOYMENT
- 267 PERSONS MOVED TO PERMANENT HOUSING
- SERVED 652 PERSONS
Coalition for the Homeless Donor and Community Networking Reception Thursday, February 21, 2019, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Pepco Edison Place Gallery in Washington, DC. If you would are interested in attending, please call Sheila Baker at 202-347-8870 ext 1314, or e-mail at sbaker@dccfh.org.

Message from the Executive Director
Michael L. Ferrell

Welcome to the fall issue of the Coalition Connection newsletter!

A COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS EMPLOYEE BECOMES HOMELESS

“I LEARNED A LOT, LOST A LOT BUT I DID NOT LOSE MY LIFE”.

Lloyd Hayes has been working at Mickey Land House for 13 years helping men who are homeless regain their independence and become self-sufficient.

On September 19, 2018, while Lloyd his doctor’s he received a text message around 3:30 p.m. from a former Marine buddy that read: “Your building is on Fire”. Lloyd’s blood pressure shot up. He was ordered by his doctor not to leave until his blood pressure stabilized.

When he arrived in the vicinity of the Arthur Capper Senior Apartment Building, in Southwest, DC there was a huge plume of black smoke and fire was coming out the roof. Lloyd and the neighbors just watched as the building burned.

It has been several months since the Arthur Capper Senior Apartment building caught fire. On December 3rd, Lloyd picked up his keys to his new apartment in Washington, D.C. When Lloyd thinks about what he lost in the fire, his mind goes straight to the many pictures of his childhood. One particular picture was of his mother standing in front of her new 1937 Ford car that later became Lloyd’s first car.

Although there is sadness, Lloyd said this is a new beginning. He offers very simple advice, do not take anything for granted and make sure you have fire insurance. Lloyd stated that he has learned a lot, lost a lot but grateful that he did not lose his life.

A FORMER CLIENT BRINGS INSPIRATION AND HOPE

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STEVIE PATTON, OWNER, S&J ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Stevie Patton, a former client at Webster House transitional housing program, returns once a month to talk with the men currently in the program. Stevie says he helps the men stay motivated and they inspire him.

Stevie knows that being homeless is not easy. He was released from prison on June 29, 2010, and went directly into a shelter. Only three weeks back into the community, he got a job as a laborer with Laco Electric Incorporated. The company sent Stevie to school at Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC). He worked full-time and attended school at night for four years.

Stevie was accepted into the Coalition’s Webster House transitional housing program on September 13, 2010. Stevie was ready to become self-sufficient and independent. On January 28, 2011 he moved into permanent housing at a Single Room Occupancy.

Today, Stevie is a licensed Journeyman electrician and owner of S&J Electrical Contractors. He currently has contracts with BWI, and is renovating the MARC Train Ticket Building and with LHayes & Associates, a property management company. Stevie has never looked back. He tells everyone who is struggling with life to stay focused. Stevie found the woman of his dreams, and on June 30, 2018, married his fiancé Tamara. Stevie says life is sweet and he got a second chance to make a difference in the lives of others and the community.

SAVE THE DATE!

THE COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS 10TH ANNUAL JOB FAIR

EMPLOYMENT IS KEY TO FIGHTING HOMELESSNESS

After months of the Coalition for the Homeless employment staff preparing for the 10th Annual Linda Fields Training and Educational Opportunity Job Fair Thursday, September 21, 2018, had finally arrived!

Approximately 120 job seekers attended and over 23 employers, community resources and training providers throughout the Washington, DC area were onsite. The job fair is intended to serve homeless individuals, low-income, and veterans, but everyone is welcome. The job fair is an integral part of the Coalition’s mission to help people living in the District of Columbia become self-sufficient and independent. The Coalition’s goal is to not only to connect job seekers with employers, but also to provide information on job training.

Four Seasons Hotel, Walmart, Department of Commerce Federal Credit Union, and Giant Foods were among the local employers that participated in this community event at the ARC Boys and Girls Club, in Southeast Washington, D.C.

The job fair allows people to fill out several applications at one location, set up interviews for the coming weeks, and get instructions on how to apply for employment online. Many attendees commented that they were hopeful the “person to person” contact at the fair would help when they filled out applications or sent their resumes to people they spoke with.

Thank you to the employers, vendors, attendees and Coalition staff for your participation. The Coalition looks forward to our 11th annual job fair in September 2019.

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Our relationship with the Coalition for the Homeless has its origins in an unexpected event. It was winter 2014 and we were in the thick of building out the Nailsaloon on 14th Street in Washington, D.C. Our space was being kept warm for construction crews that would often arrive early in the morning to find homeless men and women sleeping inside. Unsure of how to best handle this, we sought the guidance of experts, and were pleased to discover the Coalition just down the street from our construction site.

The team at the Coalition gave us great recommendations on how to best help the people we found inside our space and we were immediately impressed. We then booked a meeting with Sheila Baker, Development Manager, who welcomed us to the Coalition’s offices with open arms. We always knew we wanted to be a socially conscious business, and the reception we got inspired us right away to donate a part of our profits to the Coalition for the Homeless, taking up homelessness as one of the two causes we regularly support.

We are certainly aware that a city growing at the speed of Washington can create challenges for the homeless and the displaced, so we are honored to call ourselves part of the Coalition family. We even have a link to the Coalition on our website to encourage our clients to join us in getting involved. But the Coalition is more than just a place we support. We have, over the years, called the Coalition for guidance on a few homelessness-related issues and received helpful advice. This makes us feel supported back.

In short, it’s a partnership that makes us proud. It’s also one that Team Nailsaloon loves for all the reasons mentioned here, but also because of our favorite annual outing: the Stepping Out for the Homeless event. The Nailsaloon closes early so our staff can attend. We have supported the Coalition as a company four years in a row... and counting!

Thanks Coalition for the Homeless for all that you do!
GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL AT THE COALITION’S STEPPING OUT FOR THE HOMELESS MASQUERADE PARTY!

Thank you for supporting our 6th Annual Stepping Out for the Homeless fundraising event on Friday, October 26, 2018. It was great to see people smiling, laughing, dancing and having a fabulous time. Over 170 guests packed the St. Francis Hall for a night of dinner, dancing and mingling. We were touched to see so many of our community supporters all dressed up with a variety of beautiful masks! We hope we exceeded your expectations. The Coalition is very grateful to every single person who was a part of this event. Thank you to the individuals who were unable to attend, but showed your support by making a donation.
about the coalition for the homeless
Our mission is to help transition homeless at risk individuals and families to self-sufficiency through housing programs and supportive services.

HELP SAVE A LIFE — KNOW ABOUT THE HYPOTHERMIA ALERT

Shelter HOTLINE 202-399-7093

Between November 1 and March 31, when the temperature or Wind Chill is 32 or below, the District of Columbia issues a Hypothermia Alert. On Hypothermia Alert Day, the District is obligated by law to make shelter available. On those days, your call to the Shelter Hotline should result in the dispatch of a van to take the person from the street to an emergency shelter (or to a hospital if needed). The van is equipped with items such as water, blankets, gloves and jackets.

Hypothermia is a medical emergency that occurs when your body loses heat faster than it can produce heat, causing a dangerously low body temperature. Normal body temperature is around 98.6 F. Hypothermia occurs as your body temperature passes below 95 F. When your body temperature drops, your heart, nervous system and other organs can't work correctly. To get help for a homeless person in extremely cold weather, listed below are all the ways to contact the hotline.

202-399-7093 ext 211 (or 311) | 1-800-535-7252