



Hello, Friends,

Welcome to our first 2022 newsletter, Coalition Connection. My name is Maria Piazzola. I am the new Marketing and Communications Manager at the Coalition for the Homeless. We will share relevant articles, stories, and upcoming events about the Coalition each quarter. We will also send emails regarding unique opportunities, so you won't miss anything. Some of you know us well, and some are just getting to know us. In either case, thank you for your support. We are planning some intentional changes to better connect with the community. If you prefer not to receive the newsletter, you can unsubscribe at any time via the link at the bottom of the email.

I am excited to use my communications skills and background to conceptualize new projects which will bolster the work that Coalition for the Homeless is doing and reach different audiences more engagingly. I am looking forward to meeting donors and volunteers.

With the ever-changing COVID environment, there have been many challenges, and the Coalition has been keeping up with the diverse needs of our community. From modifying our programs to bringing back our annual [Stepping Out for the Homeless Gala](#) on October 27, 2023, the Coalition is ready for post-pandemic growth and opportunities!

## Good News!

In April 2022, Mayor Bowser reported to The Washington Post that the number of homeless residents in D.C. is the lowest in 17 years. Good news like this is inspiring to hear, and it gives us hope that our efforts to help the homeless are improving. Click [HERE to read the article.](#)



## Success Story: Douglas Robertson

Douglas Robertson contacted the Coalition when he had nowhere else to go. He had a drug addiction and was homeless. He wanted to change but needed help. Once he got acquainted with the program at Blair Shelter, we helped him enroll in a Home Health Aide program sponsored by the Department of Human Services. It took several months, but Mr. Robertson found his footing. He graduated and received a certificate of completion.

Mr. Robertson is still going strong and works full-time as a home health aide. The Coalition for the Homeless also hired him as a Resident Manager at Sherman Avenue Single Room Occupancy. When Mr. Robertson came to our program, his life had fallen apart. Mr. Robertson is now thriving and independent. When asked what advice he would give to others struggling, he replied, "Ask for help and stay focused."



## Our 2021 Impact



318

Individuals Served



133

People Moved to Permanent Housing



21

Individuals Secured Employment

*The Coalition had to reduce the number of people we served in 2021 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19*

# THE STORIES BEHIND SOME OF OUR DONATIONS



## **Edmund Burke School Fundraising Club, Washington, DC, Making an Impact Inside and Outside the Classroom**

The fundraising club had a series of bake sales and raised \$448.25. In their letter to the Coalition, they wrote: "We know how important it is to help the struggling people of our community get back on their feet. All the members in our club felt passionately about doing what we could to help this cause and support individuals in our community".

### **Monthly Donor Testimonial**

I am proud to have supported Coalition for the Homeless (CFH) through monthly giving over the past four years. Until recently, I walked past homeless encampments in Washington, DC, every day while commuting to and from work. It pained me to see the challenging living conditions of the many homeless individuals and families there, especially during the harsh DC winters. Thankfully, CFH provides short- to medium-term shelter, job training, and other assistance to these homeless individuals and families, as well as connect them with social services, to help them become self-sufficient.

**-Lily Vo**



## **MONTHLY GIVING CAMPAIGN LAUNCH**

To propel our efforts, the Coalition is now focusing on spreading the word about Monthly Giving, which is an excellent way for donors to stay connected with the Coalition's mission to transition homeless and at-risk individuals and families to self-sufficiency through housing programs and supportive services.

Today, you can further your valuable support by joining the Monthly Givers Connection. You can quickly sign up online [HERE](#) today! With just \$5.00 a month, you can experience the joy of changing a life. 92 cents of every dollar goes to helping individuals become self-sufficient.

Follow Us:



[dccfh.org](https://dccfh.org)