THE MISSION OF CFH IS TO END HOMELESSNESS ON THE EASTSIDE BY HELPING MEN MAKE THE TRANSITION FROM LIFE ON THE STREET TO STABLE, INDEPENDENT LIVING.

Dear Friends,

I want to thank all of you for partnering with CFH to help provide the necessary programs and support that empowers hundreds of individuals in our community to leave homelessness and achieve permanent stable housing.

We continue to have strong support from the Eastside cities, King County, United Way, congregations, volunteers, foundations, and individual donors. In 2017, several hundred individuals were able to obtain permanent stable housing through accessing shelter and case management support at CFH. Because of you and the generous support you provide, CFH has enabled hundreds of people to achieve transformational goals and access stable housing. Together, we have made our community better for everybody.

In 2017, over 70 percent of the men who accessed the year-round program shelter graduated into permanent housing, and 96 percent of the men in CFH housing stayed housed for two years or longer with the support of the case management team. With such phenomenal partnership and support from the Eastside community, CFH was able to serve over 83,000 meals over the course of the year. These meals not only provide needed nutrition and energy, but were often the start of transformational conversations that gave respect, dignity, and hope to men who were overwhelmed by the experience of homelessness. With your partnership and support, CFH was able to support over 1,200 different individuals in 2017. Thank You for making this possible! Another exciting program, that CFH has partnered with United Way of King County to provide for the second year, is "Streets to Home". These funds provide move-in money for men, women, and families who are on the street and as a result, in 2017 the CFH outreach and navigation team was able to assist 107 men, women, and families in leaving the streets and moving into safe, stable housing.

Your support has provided CFH with the means to provide street outreach, shelter and day center services, case management and housing navigation services, and 80 units of CFH-run subsidized housing for men exiting homelessness. We are very excited about our move to the Lincoln Center in 2017. For the first time ever, the CFH winter shelter, day center, case management services, and administrative services are all under the same roof! Thank you to the City of Bellevue, BOMA, and other key donors and volunteers for helping to build out the Lincoln Center space to provide a fully functioning kitchen, laundry, showers, bathrooms, and eating and sleeping spaces for 100 men experiencing homelessness. We are partnering more effectively with local service providers to better serve those using these services due to having a well-functioning center. We are looking to the future where there will be a permanent day center, shelter, and housing project built in Bellevue, but in the meantime, we are working to make the Lincoln Center a place where men experiencing homelessness can easily access needed services and quickly achieve goals and stable housing. You have accomplished great things this past year, thank you!

Blessings,

Executive Director
Meet Preston B.

Preston grew up in Rwanda, the youngest of four brothers. Despite the trauma of losing his parents during the Rwandan genocide, he was able to complete his course of studies and earn his degree from Kigali Independent University, a top-ranked private institution. In an effort to help him escape conditions in his home country and find a better life, one of his siblings paid the cost of airfare to the U.S. and all fees necessary to obtain a visa. His plan was to live with a family member who would act as a sponsor and help him assimilate into his new community. Unfortunately, the family member stole his immigration documents and left him outside on the streets of Bellevue.

In December of 2016, the police encountered Preston; he was afraid, disoriented, and at a complete loss with respect to where to turn for help. The officers took him to CFH’s Eastside Winter Shelter (EWS) where he found a warm, safe, place to sleep, welcoming CFH staff members, and healthy, nutritious meals.

Shortly after arriving at the EWS, Preston gained acceptance into CFH’s Year Round Shelter (YRS). With CFH case management assistance, he was able to get his immigration documents restored and became legally able to work in the United States. He found employment as a part-time teacher at an Eastside daycare center. While the work was fulfilling, the rate of pay was far below the level needed to afford market rate housing in Bellevue. Fortunately, a spot opened-up for him in CFH’s rent-subsidized housing where he continued to receive help from CFH’s case managers.

In anticipation of finding an opportunity that would afford him greater independence and financial security, Preston decided to pursue a certificate program in Database Business Intelligence. He recently completed his Capstone Project, during which he created a technology and database improvement plan for a fictitious business. While completing coursework for the program and continuing to work part-time, he also chose to take additional English classes to ensure he was able to communicate proficiently in English.

In an effort to help him escape conditions in his home country and find a better life, one of his siblings paid the cost of airfare to the U.S. and all fees necessary to obtain a visa.
CFH PROGRAMS

Congregations for the Homeless provides critical programs that work in concert to provide a path from life on the street to stable, independent living.

A CFH Case Manager introduces people living on the street to resources and services available to support them. This Case Manager is often the first point of contact to build relationships with individuals experiencing homelessness, and to lead them to our Winter Shelter or Day Center.

The Day Center provides a place for men to enjoy a warm meal and to access services such as showers, laundry, and computers. Here, CFH staff develop relationships further to help men start the path back to housing and stability.

The Eastside Winter Shelter is a life-saving, low-barrier, overnight shelter that opens in November and runs through the following Spring. Here, men can have a warm meal and a safe place to sleep; CFH staff make the connections to needed resources and services. Men who visit the Winter Shelter, and who are ready to commit to moving out of homelessness, often enter into the Year-Round Shelter program.

CFH provides permanent housing with time-limited subsidies to our shelter residents who qualify. We offer both apartments and shared-housing in managed houses, with rents set at 30% of a man’s gross income. Subsidized housing provides men with stability, a personal locked room or apartment, and a safe place within which to work toward independence.

STREET OUTREACH

DAY CENTER

The Year-Round Shelter, which is housed in 12 Eastside Congregations on a monthly rotating basis, is for men who are addressing the barriers that brought them to homelessness and are working toward employment, housing, and stability. The men in this program are provided with a safe, warm place to sleep, three meals a day, storage for their belongings, Case Management support, medical and dental services, job assistance, training to prepare for housing, connection to community, and much more.

YEAR-ROUND SHELTER

CASE MANAGEMENT

CFH Outreach Navigator, Samuel Baird, introducing members of our community to available resources.

Case Management is at the heart of CFH programming and is key to helping men make the transition from homelessness to independence. Our professional Case Managers provide:

- One-on-one support
- Direction in establishing viable goals
- Advocacy in obtaining necessary resources
- Connection to medical, dental, and mental health services
- Support obtaining access to drug and alcohol treatment services
- Job search assistance
- Budgeting and financial literacy education
- Life skills training
- Preparation for stable housing
- Housing navigation services
Celebrating Marc W.

Born in Seattle and raised in Los Angeles, client Marc W. has gone through many ups and downs in his life. He currently participates in the housing program here at Congregations for the Homeless and has been guided by CFH on his path back to stability for more than three years.

Marc's family left Seattle when he was a child and he found his way back in 1986 to work for Boeing as a contractor. An unexpected layoff thrust him into homelessness and was the beginning of his journey to CFH.

Marc started off at a shelter in Renton where he slept and was able to enjoy hot meals. He knew that he couldn't stay there forever and looked to other agencies for assistance in moving out of his current situation and into stability. He got in contact with CFH’s Year Round Shelter supervisor and was eventually entered into our Year-Round program. Once there, through the efforts of a dedicated CFH Case Manager, he was able to attain a room in CFH's housing program.

Marc states that he is grateful to CFH for its hard work and dedication on his behalf, and he commends CFH staff for being both accommodating and very caring. He’s looking forward to the next chapter in his life with optimism, a chapter hopefully characterized by independence and success, and the ability to fully apply the life skills he acquired through his association with CFH.

CFH was there for me when I was at the lowest point of my life and, as a result, I will always be grateful for its assistance in getting me back on my feet... All the guys who work at the Winter Shelter have been great to interact with... I just wanted you to know that, to the best of my financial ability, I am still committed to supporting the Day Center, and CFH’s work with those experiencing homelessness on the Eastside.”

– Jonathan E.

CFH volunteers are extraordinary people, who give generously of their valuable time and beautiful hearts to make our shelter programs possible. They give in a variety of ways…

• Volunteers prepare and serve restoring meals in our Year Round Shelter program.
• A group of volunteers travel with the Year Round shelter creating meaningful relationships in the process. Others form close relationships with men in our housing program, establishing bonds that help the men avoid slipping back into worlds of isolation and loneliness.
• Our core group of liaisons, primary contacts within each host congregation, make the magic happen through coordination of volunteers from their respective congregations, ensuring that the men are provided with nutritious food and essential supplies, and providing an opportunity for the men to regain a sense of community.
• Our incredible team of food volunteers makes sure our men are fed at the winter shelter, providing food or facilitating drop off they help make it feel like home.

IN 2017, OUR GENEROUS VOLUNTEERS DONATED OVER 17,000 HOURS & SERVED OVER 83,000 MEALS!
THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Financial support for the United Way of King County.

Norcliffe Foundation: $20,000+

City of Issaquah: $30,000+

United Way of King County: $80,000+

City of Kirkland: $40,000+

City of Issaquah: $30,000+

and December 31, 2017

Organizations who gave

and December 31, 2017

Norcliffe Foundation

City of Issaquah

United Way of King County

to our generous donors

2017 united way grants

individuals who gave

and December 31, 2017

Foundation

2017

united way grants

administration

fundraising

7%

7%

6%

15%

Peg and Rick Young

Foundation

Pearson & Charlotte Roberts

James and Lindsey McHerron

Sterling & Nancy Baumeister

Paul & Mary Jo Fahey

Linda Hansen

Dave Holberg & Claudia Brown

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Iliana Hogalda

James Hogue

Stephen Huard

Michael Kattmänner

Hugh & Tracy Lobbister
From homelessness to housing, one man at a time