



THE VILLAGE VIEW

nstreetvillage.org | Summer 2023

Sharon's Place Opens in June



“Sharon’s Place is a perfect addition to the array of wrap-around support we provide women experiencing homelessness or housing instability,” said Kenyatta T. Brunson, president and chief executive officer, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new program. “Too often working women struggle to manage the myriad of stresses they face every day. This new program gives them the space and support to breathe and stabilize their lives.”

Councilmember Brooke Pinto attended the ceremony and said: “I really believe in the people of this city, and I think this program is such an excellent example of what we can do when we empower folks to do what it is that they do best, and support them when they are trying to get on their feet, get access to a new job, get stabilized, which is the way we are all going to move forward.”

“We applaud N Street Village’s efforts to continue meeting the needs of women experiencing homelessness across the city,” said Jose Lucio, Chief of Contracting and Procurement at The Community

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N Street Village has launched Sharon’s Place, a new two-year transitional housing program for women experiencing housing instability who are working or actively job-hunting. This is the only residential employment program for women in Washington, D.C.

Residents will receive case management support for mental health and recovery issues, support preparing for and finding jobs, financial literacy guidance, and referrals for job training and GED assistance.

“Our goal is to give participants the tools to maintain housing and employment beyond the two-year program,” said Sangita Joshi, director of Case Management, who will lead this new program. “We will offer financial guidance and support to help women work toward securing permanent housing.”

The program will house up to 20 women. Applicants will be interviewed to assess their suitability for the program and after a brief in-take process will receive a move-in date.



DEAR FRIENDS,

July marks the start of our new fiscal year, and I'm excited for what lies ahead for our community.

Recently, the Board of Directors approved our FY24 budget, which means we are poised for the work that lies before us.

I am deeply grateful to our donors for your ongoing commitment to investing in N Street Village's mission to serve the most vulnerable in our city. Your continued support allows us to adapt to provide needed services for women and transgender individuals who come to our doors.

In June, we celebrated the launch of Sharon's Place, a new two-year transitional housing program for women experiencing housing instability and are employed or looking to grow professionally by seeking employment with a living wage that will allow them to live independently, and more importantly, sustain their housing.

It was a thrill to see so many join us to cut the ribbon on the only residential employment program



for women in Washington, D.C. In true Village fashion, this program is leading the way to meet the specific needs of women.

In September, I'm looking forward to representing the Village at the National Women's Shelter Network's (NWSN) inaugural conference in Miami. Shelters and providers from across the country that serve women and children will gather to participate in workshops, panel presentations, and social activities. I'm eager to not only share my experience on two panel discussions, but also to learn best practices from my fellow service providers.

Your unwavering support allows us to continue developing new initiatives and partnerships. Together we can give, engage, and collaborate to ensure homelessness for women is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

In gratitude and in service,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Kenyatta".

Kenyatta T. Brunson

President and CEO, N Street Village

Heidi Gauthier Named Employee of the Quarter



Every quarter, N Street Village recognizes an employee for their hard work and dedication to serving the organization. This quarter we recognize Heidi Gauthier, Director of Development. Heidi joined the Village in 2010 and has served in a variety of roles over the years.

"Heidi has successfully led the Development team through several transitions with both focus and humor," said Kenyatta T. Brunson, CEO of N Street Village, in her nomination.. "She is a valued member of the Village community."

Visit our website to read a Q&A with Heidi and discover what she would take with her to a deserted island: nstreetvillage.org/employees-of-the-quarter.

Your Ongoing Support Gives Women a Safe Place to Call Home

Be one of the many building blocks of N Street Village!

When you become a Community Builder you provide long-term stability for the Village and help us sustain our programs and services.

Visit www.nstreetvillage.org/community-builder to make your monthly commitment and receive updates on your impact.



Community Partners Make the Difference

Dedicated donors and volunteers ensure women in the District receive vital resources and services in a safe community environment. Thank you!



APRIL: Jeff Olivet, Executive Director at U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, and his colleague Kathy Hudson, toured our Flagship location, learning

about our work supporting women experiencing homelessness in D.C. We are grateful to the USICH for its efforts to prevent and end homelessness nationwide.

D.C. Board of Elections joined us to host a voter registration drive. Participants could also apply to be an Election Worker for the 2024 elections. About 20 women registered to vote.

Zeta Phi Beta sorority performed a step routine before leading Bingo Night at the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA. The group provided drinks, snacks, and a super fun night.



MAY: Volunteers and donors gave their time and donations to replant the Flagship garden for residents to enjoy!

Artist and gallery owner **Martha Spak** hosted an evening of art and conversation, featuring the work of leading women artists. A percentage of sales benefited the Village's programs and services.

Our Wellness Center hosted a Doonya Dance party with volunteer **Jeannie Baumann** leading clients in a Bollywood-inspired dance workout. The music and fun moves had everyone dancing, even the staff!

Social justice organization **Avodah** hosted a fun evening filled with get-to-know-you Bingo, a craft activity, and an ice-cream sundae bar for N Street Village clients and staff in celebration of our 20-year-long partnership.

The Knot Worldwide hosted a Clothing Bazaar with more than 35 clients selecting from a wide array of clothes and shoes.



JUNE: NSV was the only exhibitor representing a housing and supportive services provider at this year's **DC Workforce Investment Council Summit** at Gallaudet University. Bethany Women's Center Program Manager **Sharece Netter** shared information and resources about BWC.

Bethany Women's Center's **Positive Creations self-esteem group** completed an art project called Joyful Journey. Over five sessions, the group created art pieces and a positive affirmations mural. "I believe that with every day you show up for yourself, change will happen," said **Traci Barnes**, who facilitated the class. "Thank you all for always showing up for yourselves, believing in yourselves, and knowing that anything is possible as long as we continue to work on getting a positive mindset."



Acclaimed author and literary activist **Marita Golden** led a session on "Writing as Healing." Marita read excerpts from her book "The Strong Black Woman" and talked about the therapeutic benefits of writing and the power of saying no. "We have the right to be joyful," she said. The event ended with a raffle for her book.



High-school students from **Zumbro Lutheran of Rochester, Minn.**, served lunch at Bethany Women's Center and weeded the Flagship garden during their mission trip to the city in June. The students joined us via the **Steinbruck Center**.



Georgetown HOYA Clinic, Unity Health Care, and Black Nurses Rock helped make the N Street Village

Wellness Center Health Fair a huge success. More than 30 women stopped by to receive health tips, giveaways, and a blood pressure screening.





a community of empowerment
and recovery for women

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United Way #8281 | CFC #90946

N Street Village is a community of empowerment and recovery for women experiencing homelessness, housing instability, or low income in Washington, D.C. With comprehensive services addressing both emergency and long-term needs, N Street Village partners with women to achieve stability and make meaningful gains in their housing, income, employment, mental health, physical health, and addiction recovery.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendar for the SHERO Community Walk on Saturday, October 21. Visit: nstreetvillage.org/events/shero-2023 for more information.

New Program Opens, Named for Sharon Hart

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Partnership. “This program will be an excellent means to providing stability and a promising future for many women.”

The program, which is located at the agency’s Flagship location at 1333 N Street N.W., is named after Sharon Hart, (pictured) a dedicated staff member of N Street Village for 30 years, who retired in 2018.



If you know someone who would be a good candidate for Sharon’s Place, please contact Sangita Joshi at sjoshi@nstreetvillage.org or call 202-939-2072.