







ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2019













Thank You to All...



By Jane F. Lane, CFH Supporter

Sometimes, things are all good.

The first time I heard about Care For the Homeless (CFH) was in an article in The City. It discussed the opening of their women's shelter on West 52nd Street. Please find the complete version here. The neighborhood offered the simple reciprocal gifts of empathy and compromise to the



shelter residents, coping in their own way with the increasingly perplexing reality of our city.

A reality where women scramble for a home as others nearby wander in palaces in the clouds.

Together, CFH and the local community board (CB #4) forged a coalition of compassion and acceptance. Their sensitive peace treaty seemed like a masterpiece of understanding, respect and cooperation. I immediately wanted to meet these people at CFH.

At a meeting at their offices, CEO, George Nashak and Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Regina Olasin described their strategy of working on the seemingly intransigent problem of homelessness.

As a clinical social worker and a director of a foundation, I look for interventions, actions that effect real, lasting change and not just palliative treatments. Yes, CFH provides roofs, under which is a unique network of health care and social services suitable to the needs and lived experiences of the residents and visitors.

Sometime later, I attended a CFH seminar on the Trauma of Homelessness, a panel presentation on active programs and interventions. During one panel, a long-time CFH client spoke about his lived experience as, to use his words, an "un-domiciled person." He described, with great feeling and gravity, his trauma. At one moment, I shot up straight in my seat. "Every time somebody asks me about what it's like to be homeless, I'm re-traumatized," he said.

As a clinician, I know people re-experience trauma. They think about it; their bodies remember it. Asking them to describe these impressions requires the utmost skill, patience and respect.

A more revealing and productive question might be, "How do I feel when I see a homeless person?"

Recently on the subway, a man with many parcels, raggedly dressed and unwashed, loudly lectured passengers as he paced restlessly through the car. After he got off, a young woman and I made eye contact. We both smiled the same nervous, slightly embarrassed, awkward smile, as if we'd just witnessed something shameful.

We both looked away, feeling powerless. But we're not powerless. We give, we vote, we volunteer, and we feel empathy for our fellows on the street. We reach down and think, "What's it like for me to experience this?" We see what possibilities the people at CFH offer all of us, and we get to work.

Jennifer's Journey

Jennifer H. lives with her children at the Briarwood Family Residence in Queens, NY.

"I just want to come up in the city," explained Jennifer.

Specifically, she wants to make a name for herself in the food services industry. "I'm interested in food safety. It's my passion and I want to learn as much as I can."

Jennifer recently completed a food handling class and is on track to receive a certificate in Food Protection. However, while these goals are important for her, she has two other reasons motivating her to succeed; Elizabeth, 8, and Aliyah, 3. Although the beginning of their new lives hasn't been the easiest, they all find ways to lift each other's spirits.

"Elizabeth loves school all around, but loves reading the most. She's reading something different all the time," explained Jennifer. "Aliyah likes to be active and loves to talk. She's 3, going on 30."

With the girls thriving in school and their mother on the path to employment, they're moving together towards their ultimate goal. "I've had Elizabeth ask, 'When am I going to get my own room?" said Jennifer. "So, I tell her, 'I'm working on it. You're going to get it.' I try to keep her hopes high as well as my own."

Jennifer knows that better things are waiting for her beyond Briarwood. However, that hasn't stopped her from taking advantage of the services offered there. And one in particular that has had an immeasurable benefit on her well-being.

HS or hidradenitis suppurativa, has affected Jennifer for most of her life. It is an inflammatory skin condition that causes small, painful bumps to appear on the skin. Before Briarwood, Jennifer was not on Medicaid and had to go to the ER to receive treatment. That all changed when she came to the CFH health center.

"I met Vlad [Taub, Nurse Practitioner], he was cool. So, I just kept coming back. He always greets me with open arms." So, despite the fact that HS is still an issue, Jennifer feels that she is finally in a position to take control of her health.

"The people here helped me get on Medicaid," she explained. "Coming here and then being able to go other places for help has been so much better than going to the ER every time I have a problem. It's a huge weight off my shoulders."

"My chances to get out of this situation would be horrible if I didn't have access to the health center here," Jennifer continued. "I'd have to have an awe-some job just to keep up with the medical bills. So, everything that I've been given access to here has been a plus. It's been great for my girls too."

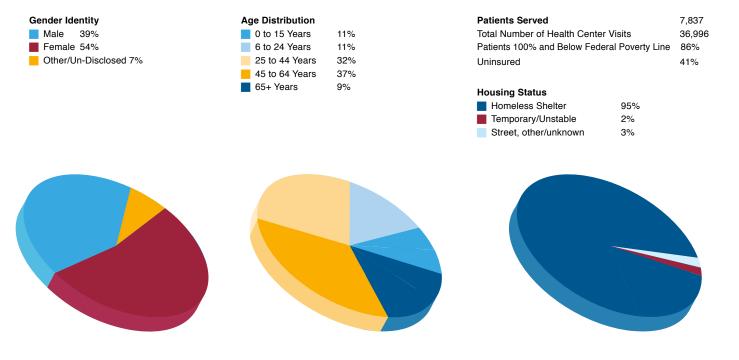


Edited for length. Please find the complete version here.

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Government Supporters

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene/ Public Health Solutions

New York City Department of Homeless Services

New York City Council: Councilman Stephen Levin, CD 33 Councilman Ruben Diaz, CD 18

New York State Department of Health -Indigent Care Transformation Grant

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: HRSA, Bureau of Primary Care, Section 330(h) Health Care for the Homeless

2019 Partners & Supporters:

Care For the Homeless is grateful for your kind support and generosity. All individual and institutional donors who made gifts to CFH from January - December 2019, including In-Kind donations and tribute gifts, will be featured on our website under the "Who We Are" section.

Financials as of December 31, 2019

Revenue and Support	
Grants and Contracts	\$21,080,044
Patient Services Revenues	\$4,827,732
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$871,139
Contributions and Special Events	\$699,006
Total Revenue:	\$27,477,921
Expenses	
Program Services	\$21,954,393
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Supporting Services Management Fundraising **Total Operation Expenses** Depreciation and Amortization

721 393 \$4,000,328 \$370,912

\$26,325,633

\$839.163

\$313,125

\$922 869

Change in Net Assets - Operations Change in Net Assets from Operations Net Assets - end of year

Complete financial statements, audited by Marks Paneth, are available upon request to Care For the Homeless.

Health Center Advocac Center of Excellence







