



MONUMENTAL NEWS



Dear Friends of Marian House,

Twenty five years ago—on April 12, 1982—Sr. Marilyn Graf, RSM, Marian House’s founding executive director, welcomed the first resident to our first and still our main home. “The Big House,” as some of our women call it. An early resident did a crayon drawing of it for me. She labeled it “The home of wild, wacky, and wonderful women.” The same description fits Marian House today— with just one change. Now we own and/or operate seven homes, and we sponsor 16 others through HUD’s Shelter + Care program.

Anniversaries urge us to return with gratitude and joy to our roots, but they don’t just point us to the past. They tell us to turn to the future, to face it with hope, to plan for it, and actually create it! And at Marian House, we surely are doing all those things. With Lea Gilmore and the Morgan State University Choir, we will be joyfully celebrating our past and our present at a gala reception and concert on Saturday evening April 28th. We will be singing ourselves into our future.

At a recent gathering of present and past leaders of the Marian House community, our third executive director, Sr. Loretta Rosendale, SSND was asked to toast Marian House’s women. Her eloquent words told all of us why we simply must wake up tomorrow and work harder and more hopefully than ever to make the program even better. We only need to look to our women. Every one of them comes to us poor and homeless. They come without jobs and without people willing to support them. They come without the means to overcome early and ongoing traumas or more recent addictions. But they set to work courageously, and they succeed!

I was executive director of Marian House from September 1987 until June 2003, and I am serving temporarily in that capacity again. In all this time, I don’t believe that I have quite caught the courage or achieved the real success of hundreds of Marian House’s wild, wacky and—above all—wonderful women. But their example urges me on. I hope and pray that you will be moved like I am to support our 25th Anniversary Concert and so to support them and the women who will follow them. They are leaders worth following. Against odds that most of us have never had to face, they are making themselves, their many children, and all of Baltimore better.

Sincerely,

Sister Augusta Reilly, RSM

Construction Update on Serenity Place

The street is filled with trucks, cranes, and debris, but we accept it with good cheer, because we know the inconvenience is necessary for achieving our goals. By next fall women in need of low-income housing will be moving in to a wonderful place where they can live the kind of stable, productive lives for which they have been prepared. In all there will be 19 apartments.

While construction is being completed, plans are being made for the management and the staffing for the services we provide.



In This Issue

- Sister Augusta’s Letter
- Construction Update
- Latest Photos
- Success Stories
- Concert Information
- New Board Members
- Recent Happenings
- Breakfast for Waverly
- Scholarship Recipient Letter



We Celebrate Success!

Deborah B. has a job at Johns Hopkins University as of February 19th.

Sharnese started work at Fit to Win Sportswear as a full-time administrative assistant on January 24th.

Lilly received a promotion after completing Project Second Start (eight week training program at BCCC in computer and customer service training).

Charlene started work at Marshall's on January 17. She is in training for a sportswear coordinator position.

Sharon completed the geriatric nursing assistant training at BCCC and is now working. The Department of Rehabilitative Services

(DORS) is providing her funds for phlebotomy classes, and she is in training as a medicine aide.

Rochelle and **Shenida** have graduated from Moveable Feast and have both passed the ServSafe Food Safety Manager Certification Exam.

Deborah H. is working at Maria Health Care Center as a housekeeper.

Cynthia is working as an interviewer at the Franciscan Center.

Audrey is taking classes at BCCC. She is interested in human services.

Edna is beginning college at BCCC, studying respiratory therapy.

New Faces on the Marian House Board

With the addition of Shelter + Care, Aftercare and now Serenity Place, the Board of Directors has grown along with the organization. We are happy to announce the addition of five new board members.

Rita Chapman joins the Board as one of our biggest success stories. She was a resident in 2000, and was able to move to independence, earning a B.A. in psychology from the University of Baltimore in 2005. She is now a vocational rehabilitation specialist with the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Rehabilitation Services.

Dolly Dyer serves as the director of development at Maryvale Preparatory School. She is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) and member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals

Tere A. Geckle is an account manager with Sogeti USA, a global IT consulting firm. Her clients include Constellation Energy, Sylvan Learning Centers, Johns Hopkins Health System and Thomson Prometric.

Dr. Regina McPhillips has over forty years experience in health care delivery and financing. Her background in nursing is combined with a doctorate in Public Health. Her latest position was as a Special Assistant to the Administrator of the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (formerly Health Care Financing Administration.)

Robert W. Seurkamp is Executive Director of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board. His areas of expertise include human resource management, higher education, labor relations and strategic planning.

25th Anniversary Concert April 28, 2007



Marian House is celebrating 25 years as an outstanding transitional housing program for women in Baltimore.

On April 28 we are presenting an Anniversary Concert featuring the powerful voice of gospel, blues and jazz vocalist **Lea Gilmore** and the internationally renowned **Morgan State University Choir**.

It has been said that "*Lea Gilmore's rich and passionate voice is a gift from her soul to our ears.*" The Morgan State University Choir is known for its consistently excellent performances with major orchestras, and was named "*the Best College Choir in the U.S.*" by Reader's Digest.

Join us on April 28 at 6:30 pm for a reception and 8:00 pm concert in the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Auditorium at Mercy High School, 1300 E. Northern Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21239. Ample Parking. Tickets are \$75 each and can be ordered below, on-line at www.marianhouse.org, or call 410-467-4246.

Be a part of the blessing with a ticket purchase or a special gift

__ I would like __ tickets for the April 28th Concert @ \$75	\$ _____.	Name _____
__ I would like to make a donation of	\$ _____.	Address _____
__ I would like to give a special gift in honor of Marian House's 25th Anniversary year of	\$ _____.	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
		Method of Payment:
		Check (Made out to Marian House) _____
		MasterCard ___ Visa ___ Amex ___
		Account Number _____
		Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Marian House • 949 Gorsuch Ave • Baltimore, MD 21218
DEVELOPMENT: Phone: 410-467-4246 • Fax: 410-467-4363
GENERAL OFFICES: Phone: 410-467-4121 • Fax: 410-467-6709

Your contribution is tax deductible as allowed by law. Our current financial statement is available upon request. Contact Marian House. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office Of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage. For each \$75 ticket, the fair market value is \$25 with a tax deductible portion of \$50.



Marian House

Women moving from dependence to independence

949 Gorsuch Avenue • Baltimore, MD 21218-3602

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

BALTIMORE MD
PERMIT NO. 7631

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Recent Happenings

- Nurses from the St. Joseph Hospital's Community Outreach arrived at Marian House "armed" with needles, and gave free flu shots to our women and staff. Thanks to their generosity, we were much healthier this winter.
- Following the staff/resident meeting on Tuesday, March 6, Professor Michael Pinard, a law instructor and director of the Re-Entry of Ex-Offenders clinic at the University of Maryland School of Law, visited Marian House. Along with his teaching assistant, Professor Pinard explored the topics of expungement and collateral consequences with the women. His visit was arranged by our board chair, The Hon. Susan K. Gauvey.
- Thanks to a donation of a very large television from Karen Abrams, our women relaxed in comfort as they watched the NCAA Basketball tournament in HD.
- Honeywell Technology Solutions has chosen Marian House to receive the fruits of a fundraising event now going on. They will be providing birthday gifts for our women for months to come.
- Our Mission Partners program welcomes Gunpowder Friends Meeting to our list of participants. Since January 1 we have received donations from Ascension and Epiphany Lutheran Churches, Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Community, St. Pius X Church and St. Stephen's Church Ladies of Charity.

These are just a few examples of how organizations and individuals help us achieve our mission of moving women from dependence to independence.

Breakfast for Waverly

Marian House and City Councilwoman Mary Pat Clarke co-hosted a breakfast for 40 Waverly community leaders on Presidents' Day, February 19. Joseph Stewart and the Waverly Quality of Life Committee were the force behind the event.

Held in our beautiful "Great Room," its purpose was to gather pastors and leaders of local non-profits, to have them speak to one another about the services which they are offering and to begin a conversation on the kind of community we want to build for our children. Guests included Rev. John Sharpe and Mitch Posner of GEDCO, Senior Pastor Dena S. Jobes of the Haven of Rest Sanctuary of Praise and Rev. Jesse Parker of St. John the Evangelist Church as well as representatives from Goodwill, The Franciscan Center, and several other non-profit organizations.

Mary Pat Clarke described the event as Waverly's "First Annual Keep the Faith Breakfast." Marian House staff and residents were proud of their part in launching the project.

Letter

Dear Marian House Staff,

I was chosen to receive a scholarship from Marian House this year, and I am writing to express my sincerest thanks. It is an honor to be recognized for my hard work, and receiving this scholarship motivates me to continue to strive for excellence.

I am in my second year at Morgan State University, majoring in accounting. This scholarship will help me to realize my dreams.

Yours truly,

Donna (former resident)

For more information about our Mission Partners program, other ways you can help, or to purchase a ticket to our 25th Anniversary Concert visit www.marianhouse.org, or call 410-467-4246.