



THE VILLAGE VIEW

nstreetvillage.org | Winter 2023

Join Us for our 50th Anniversary Gala & Silent Auction, March 2



2023

Gala & Auction

MARCH 2 | MARRIOTT MARQUIS
RECEPTION & AUCTION | 5:30 PM
DINNER & PROGRAM | 7:00 PM



The 2023 N Street Village Gala & Auction will celebrate 50 years of hope and healing, in an atmosphere of dignity and respect for thousands of women across the city. We will honor the incredible work of Hillary and Tom Baltimore and everyone who, for 50 years, has laid a solid foundation for our community and created our culture of radical hospitality.

We invite you to help celebrate five decades of service and hear our strategic vision to end homelessness for women across the city.

This annual event draws nearly 900 guests representing both the public and private sectors. Despite the pandemic, we raised a record \$1,800,000 last year, thanks to the many supporters like you who responded to the vital need for holistic services for women experiencing housing instability or homelessness.

Join us on Thursday, March 2 at the Marriott Marquis, 901 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The reception and auction begin at 5:30 p.m., and the dinner and program begin at 7 p.m.

To purchase sponsorships and tickets, visit, <https://bit.ly/NSVGala>.

DEAR FRIENDS,



“Housing should be treated as a human right. Many Americans ask, ‘Is it possible to end homelessness?’ The answer is, yes, the United States can end homelessness by fixing systems—not by blaming the people being

failed by them.” – U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) Executive Director Jeff Olivet

I’m proud of the fact that N Street Village has always treated the women who come to our door as individuals, with respect and dignity. We allow them to be the experts of their lives as we assist them in navigating the housing arena. In December, the Biden-Harris administration released *All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*, which launched the ambitious goal of reducing homelessness 25% nationwide by 2025.

I am pleased to see this renewed focus on ending homelessness at the federal level. As you know for 50 years, N Street Village has been working locally to end homelessness for women and transgender individuals. We begin this new year with the same commitment and focus to ensure women have a safe place to focus on what is important to them, to re-calibrate and re-energize themselves to start over.

It’s important to recognize that women experience homelessness differently from men. In my experience working in this field for almost two decades I have identified five reasons that cause homelessness for women. I call them the 5Ds: Divorce, Disability, Death of a family member, Domestic Violence, and extreme Debt. Each one of these factors carries its own trauma—

and then when a woman becomes homeless this adds to the vicious cycle of trying to transition out of difficult life obstacles.

After years of systematic racism and redlining of neighborhoods, we have seen more and more Black women enter into homelessness; 53% of individuals who are homeless are Black or Persons of Color, but we only make up 13% of the entire population. As Jeff Olivet stated, we should not penalize those who require our services just because the systems are broken. We know that housing ends homelessness, so we provide housing; but we must also provide services that support the mind, body, and spirit, services that help individuals overcome the deep trauma experienced by many who come to our doors.

I hope you will join us on March 2 as we celebrate the amazing work N Street Village has achieved these past 50 years. I will share our strategic vision to continue this important work to end homelessness for women across the District.

Our mission relies on the generosity of partners like you. Thank you for continuing to invest in the power of our community to address the 5Ds and give women a chance at a new life.

In gratitude and in service,

Kenyatta T. Brunson
President and CEO, N Street Village



Bethany Day Center is Open

The Bethany Women’s Day Center reopened on a part-time basis in the fall after closing due to the pandemic. Open hours are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. The center is providing essential services that include carry and go breakfast, hot lunch, showers, laundry, and toiletries.

“Bethany is a place for women to come and feel safe and supported,” said Sharece Netter, the center’s Program Manager, who joined the team in October. “My goal is to continue to grow the resources we provide to support our clients in creating the life they desire and deserve.”

To ensure the safety of participants, women are required to answer screening questions and have their temperature taken prior to entry. The shower and laundry facilities are on a first-come first-served basis.

We hope to open the center on a full-time basis soon.

You Made the Year End on a High

We are grateful to our volunteers and corporate partners for their commitment to supporting the Village community.

The NSV Wellness Center partnered with Bluemercury and Breast Care for Washington to provide mammograms to women at Phyllis Wheatley YWCA. Bluemercury sponsored the van and gave away cosmetic goodie bags to residents. Thank you for providing women access to essential breast cancer screenings.

Wiley law firm, Metropolitan (DC) Chapter of The Links Inc., and many other in-kind donors provided residents with much-needed items for the holidays, including hats, socks, gloves, blankets, toiletries, household supplies, and art kits.

Our incomparable Ambassadors Council brought baked cookies to the Flagship location and spent an afternoon packing 300 baggies of the holiday goodies for our permanent supportive housing residents and N Street Village staff.

N Street Village hosted Excellence in Government Fellows from the Partnership for Public Service. Fellows received a tour, learned about our programs, and heard from one of our residents. We appreciate this opportunity to share our work with federal government leaders.

More than 40 businesses and individuals including Bloomberg and J. Jill clothing for women, contributed over 250 coats to our fall Coat Drive for our permanent supportive housing programs and emergency shelter residents. Volunteers from Bloomberg spent a morning at Phyllis Wheatley YWCA to help distribute coats. Residents “shopped” for the perfect fit, choosing from a selection of clothes, hats, and gloves.

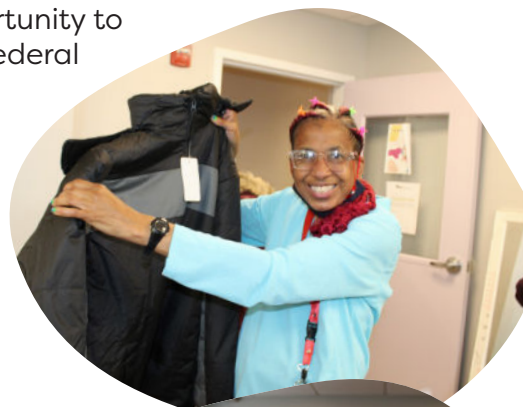
50 Years and Thriving

Since November 28, 1972, N Street Village has opened its doors to women and transgender individuals experiencing homelessness in Washington, D.C. and offered life-affirming wrap-around services.

We are forever grateful to those who founded this extraordinary Village 50 years ago. To mark this golden anniversary, we recorded a discussion between two significant figures in the Village’s history: Gary Maring, one of its founders, and long-time board member Portia Robertson Migas.

Visit our YouTube channel to see this in-depth conversation about how the organization got started, or use this link: <https://bit.ly/NSV-History>.

The pair offer wonderful insights and memories of the past five decades of N Street Village.





a community of empowerment
and recovery for women

1333 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
info@nstreetvillage.org

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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First Lead Program Associate 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 Barbara Jordan, Lead Program Associate at Erna's House. She is the first of our awesome Lead Program Associates to win this accolade.



"Working to change the lives of homeless individuals not only benefits them but benefits ourselves and society as a whole."

Barbara joined the Village in 2012. As Lead Program Associate at Erna's House, she provides interdisciplinary support, rotating between client, program, and facility support tasks.

"The goal of any individual who works with underserved populations, especially the homeless,

is to provide the best quality of service that is available," she says. "Sometimes this isn't a practical reality. Politics and systemic challenges often get in the way. Still, we strive to reach the goal. Why? Because the world is changed by our example, not by our opinions. Working to change the lives of homeless individuals not only benefits them but benefits ourselves and society as a whole. It is an investment in our community. Together, we make the difference."

Barbara plays an integral role in program improvement activities, engendering positive program and client outcomes, and frequently joins in client support planning and care coordination duties. She also maintains quality working relationships with internal and external stakeholders and frequently liaises with the property management team to support each client's highest residential experience.

We thank Barbara for her commitment to service and for her consistent program support.