



THE VILLAGE VIEW

nstreetvillage.org | Fall 2023

SHEROs Came Out in Force!

This year's SHERO Community Walk had more than 100 participants walking two miles in support of women experiencing homelessness and housing instability. And more than 50 SHERO fundraisers motivated their networks to raise over \$63,000!

We are so grateful to our neighbors, volunteers, board members, and donors who showed up to support the SHEROs of N Street Village.

We kicked off the morning with donuts from Giant Food and coffee from Slipstream. Volunteer David Ridings led a group stretch, and staff member Donna-Marie Thompson got everyone line dancing. There was also



a button-making station and a photo booth decked out with everything needed to look SHERO-ic – beads, bubbles, masks, and more! Over a dozen volunteers helped



set up the street activities, register participants, distribute t-shirts, and clean up afterward.

The walk started at the Flagship location on N Street and stopped at Patricia Handy Place for Women, Erna's House, and Phyllis Wheatley YWCA. Staff and clients at each site provided encouragement and refreshments, including chocolate-dipped Oreos made by Bloomberg volunteers. Before the crowd headed out, Board Chair Peter Shields, First Vice Chair Ruth Sorenson, Second Vice Chair Hillary Baltimore (pictured above) and CEO Kenyatta T. Brunson shared some inspirational words, reminding everyone why we walk every year.



While a beautiful morning and energized staff helped make the day lively, it was the incredible turnout of community members that made this year's SHERO Walk extra special.

Thank you!

DEAR FRIENDS,

“If you can’t fly, run; if you can’t run, walk; if you can’t walk, crawl; but by all means keep moving.”

— Martin Luther King Jr.

Thank you for joining us at this year’s SHERO Community Walk. You raised more than \$63,000 for the women we serve. Every dollar you raised goes right back into this incredible community. You’ve made sure women will receive breakfast and lunch at the Bethany Day Center. That showers and laundry facilities are available five days a week. That our Wellness Center can provide classes and resources to meet the physical and mental health needs of every woman seeking assistance. Thank you!

Former board member Larry Robertson and Team Heartbeats raised \$12,965 in honor of Sharon Hart, and it breaks my heart that we lost Sharon in September. She was one of the SHEROs who helped make N Street Village what it is today. She served the Village for over three decades. After starting as a program associate in the 1980s, she became a manager of our night shelter, a coordinator at Eden House, an office manager at the flagship, and a community organizer. She truly was the Heartbeat of the Village!

It was a joy to see so many of you at the Walk, united by a common goal – to give women the support services they need to heal and be independent. Our Village is proof that when we give, engage, and collaborate, we can build a



welcoming community of equity, respect, and hope.

This past year, we have been celebrating five decades of meaningful change to so many lives because of the dedicated work of our founders, staff, board, and clients. We were born on the platform of social justice and equality, and though we continue to face a myriad of challenges, N Street Village perseveres to ensure a future of independence and prosperity.

One thing we know for certain is that the women of N Street Village push forward in the face of adversity, fight injustice, and inspire each other to keep going. It takes strength to recover from trauma or addiction. It takes courage to walk through our doors for the first time and ask for help. It takes resolve to keep coming back.

The power of our SHEROs is their determination to get up every day and commit to improving their lives, to making a difference for themselves and for others, and to keep reaching for their goals.

So thank you for walking because the women we serve take steps every day to heal, to recover, and to thrive. And we’ll keep walking, day after day, year after year, to ensure our SHEROs can keep moving toward a better future.

In gratitude and in service,

Kenyatta T. Brunson

President and CEO, N Street Village



Save the Date: Gala & Auction March 7, 2024

Mark your calendar for the Annual Gala & Auction on March 7, 2024, at the Marriott Marquis.

We will honor our dedicated Board leadership, celebrate resident successes, and share our strategic vision to end homelessness for women across the city.

Stay tuned for sponsorship and ticket information coming soon.

You Make the Village Community Thrive

We are deeply grateful to our staff, volunteers, and corporate partners for your commitment to the Village community. You ensure women in the District receive vital resources and services in a safe community environment.



JULY

Georgetown Hoya Clinic's Foot Care Initiative

provided clients with a brief Epsom salts soak, nail clipping, and tips to keep feet healthy. Participants received a giveaway bag with socks, nail clippers, lotion and more.

The amazing N Street Village **Ambassadors Council** hosted a fun tie-dye event at the Flagship location. Participants created colorful t-shirts and enjoyed time with staff and volunteers.

Georgetown Day School's Policy and Advocacy Institute prepared and donated lunches for the clients who visit Bethany Day Center. NSV staff visited the school's housing and equity group and had a great discussion about our work to end homelessness for women in D.C.

AUGUST

Hessel, Aluise & O'Leary organized and counted coats already in our closet from previous donations in preparation for our Annual Coat Giveaway.



The Village hosted an inaugural **Little Leaders Day**. Staff brought their family members aged 5-13 to learn about our work. They helped assemble toiletry kits, planted seeds of kindness in mini-pots, and

created inspirational art for display at Bethany Day Center.

Village staff members **Heidi Gauthier**, Director of Development, and **Sangita Joshi**, Director of Case Management, participated in the **Humanity First Student Division Leadership Summit**. Participants at the summit helped assemble healthcare kits for the residents and clients we serve.

The **Ambassadors Council** returned to provide an afternoon ice-cream break for residents and staff. Later in the month, they sponsored an end-of-summer cookout. They served burgers, hotdogs, mac'n'cheese, and an assortment of goodies. Huge thanks to chefs Heidi Gauthier and Leslie Williams, both NSV staff members. Residents, volunteers, and staff enjoyed a fun evening of great food and fellowship.

Sharon's Place, a residential employment program for women, and the **Greenhouse Program**, which supports women with substance use disorders, hosted a Soul Train Karaoke. The fun event brought staff, residents, and clients together for old-school music and dancing.

SEPTEMBER

Nicole Brooks, Special Assistant to the CEO, represented N Street Village at the Inaugural **National Women's Shelter Network Conference** in Miami. She spoke on two panels: Racial Equity Diversity, Inclusivity and Advancing Social Justice and Success in Your Shelters" and "Advancing Long-Term Success and Breaking the Cycle of Abuse and Homelessness."

Voyage Baltimore magazine featured President and CEO **Kenyatta T. Brunson**, discussing her career path and how the community can support the women served by 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.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
IM

Get to Know Sharece Netter, 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 **Sharece Netter, Bethany Women's Center Program Manager.**

Sharece joined the Village last year to oversee the reopening and manage the day center.

She received many nominations from her colleagues:

"Sharece has the ability to meet clients where they are in life and provide them with services and support to build them back up. Everyone is treated with dignity and respect when



interacting with Sharece. She is always respectful, helpful with providing resources, and is amazing at defusing conflict with clients."

"Sharece has worked long days when her team was short-handed and is always ready to jump into action. She has gained a great deal of respect from her peers and team. She has

connected with other staff to gain knowledge and support for

her department. These are traits of a true leader to me, being able to ask for

support and also lead at the same time."

Congratulations, Sharece!

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