

Community Builders

An ePublication of the Maryland Building Industry Association
& the Home Builders Care Foundation

Giving back to our Community

Fall 2014



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Repairs Made at Rainbow Place Shelter - Just in Time for Hypothermia Season

November 1st is an important date for many regional homeless service providers. On that day throughout the region, the hypothermia season begins, typically running from Nov. 1 through March 31. That's when many local governments and charities open seasonal emergency shelters to ensure that nightly refuge for the homeless is available when temperatures drop. In October, the [Home Builders Care Foundation](#) played a key role in making sure that one women's shelter was equipped to open.

The **Rainbow Place Shelter** in Rockville is one of Montgomery County's largest seasonal shelters for women. Rainbow Place provides winter emergency overnight shelter to homeless women in a safe, caring environment. Last season, the shelter served 105 women, the most it has served in its 32-year history.

But after a large-scale plumbing disaster in the spring at the facility, some key upgrades were needed in order to have the shelter fully operational by Nov. 1. A major bathroom renovation was needed and HBCF decided to help. At its October board meeting, members voted to fund key bathroom



L-R: Rockville Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton; Patti Kane, HBCF Director; Anne Baur, Rainbow Place Board Chair; Nancy Sushinsky, Rainbow Place Executive Director; Hugh Carroll, HBCF Board Member and Fred Newton, Rainbow Place Board Member

upgrades at the shelter, including new showers, toilets and other fixtures. The project is being dedicated to **Diane K. Swenson**, a Rockville resident who recently retired as Executive Vice-President from the Association.

Rainbow Place Executive Director Nancy Sushinsky added, *“The Board and staff of Rainbow Place are overwhelmed by the generosity of the home builders. In a shelter, reliable bathrooms are a key element in serving the needs of our women. This is a tremendous gift that will benefit so many and we are very grateful to HBCF.”*

A DC Homeless Center Gets an Interior Transformation



Kitchen area before and almost after renovation

The **Friendship Place Welcome Center** on Wisconsin Avenue NW was closed for about four weeks as a major renovation took place thanks to the generosity of the HBCF’s [HomeAid Washington DC](#) chapter.

Just north of Tenleytown, the Welcome Center property was originally built as a single family home in 1928. The scope of

renovation work included replacing the entire outdated boiler system with new Mitsubishi Electric high-efficiency mini-splits, reconfiguring the first floor to open up the space and better accommodate a safe flow of traffic, replacing all flooring on the 1st and 2nd floors including subfloor work, renovating the kitchen and two bathrooms, plus other general construction items.



First floor common area before and after the space is opened up.

The total value of work is valued over \$175,000. Home Builders Care is thankful to MBIA member **Efficient Home LLC** for stepping up to serve as builder captain. Another MBIA member Charles A. Klein & Sons helped with the HVAC and Masco provided cabinets.

The Welcome Center offers case management, medical and psychiatric care, and is a place where the homeless can escape from the streets. While no overnight shelter is provided at the Welcome Center, it is a primary point of outreach for numerous homeless clients. In 2013, the Center had 575 unique visitors and provided 701 primary care consultations and 329 psychiatric consultations.

Builders Lend a Helping Hand to Youth Football Club

This summer, a handful of MBIA members assisted the Sykesville Raiders with the rebuilding of their Obrecht Field broadcast booth, a renovation that the organization has desired for some time. The project value was \$5,000. The Raiders are a non-profit youth organization providing opportunities for residents of southern Carroll County to participate in football or cheerleading. MBIA members helping with the project were:

The Rachuba Group * Weichert Realtors - Property Concepts * Schafer Siding Company * Mueller Homes * Powers Homes

These members were part of a special halftime appreciation ceremony that took place on October 11th. Well done!



Ruppert Landscape Provides Facelift to Baltimore Park



Five hundred of Ruppert Landscape's employees provided nearly \$180,000 worth of landscape renovations to Baltimore's Carroll Park in October. The project included demolition, excavation and grading work along with the installation of pavers, sod, perennials, grasses, groundcover, shrubs and trees. In total, over 5,000 man hours were donated.

Located in Southwest Baltimore, Carroll Park is 117 acres and was originally part

of the Mount Clare estate of Charles Carroll, Barrister. *"Carroll Park is at the heart of the Pigtown community and a Baltimore treasure,"* said Ernest Burkeen, Director of Baltimore City Recreation and Parks Department. *"The renovations performed by Ruppert Landscape help us advance the park's five-year master plan and gives a much-needed facelift to the park, which is a hub for community recreation of all types, from flag football leagues to concerts."*



This landscape installation and park renovation is part of an ongoing commitment to the Southwest Baltimore community known as Pigtown, which is home to one of Ruppert's 16 branch offices.

HBCF Completes Charles County Group Home Projects

Two group homes for disabled adults in Waldorf received exterior makeovers over the past few months thanks to the Home Builders Care Foundation charitable construction program. The homes are part of Spring Dell Center's residential services program offering housing and supportive services to

individuals with disabilities. Eighty-eight percent of the residents in the renovated homes are in wheelchairs.

To greatly improve accessibility and to protect residents and staff from inclement weather, Home Builders Care built a new porch, widened the sidewalks and automated the front door at one home. The other home received a new roof, siding and other exterior improvements.



HBCF is working with Spring Dell Center to schedule an open house /press event that will showcase the work.

Holiday Giving - Donate Food & Toys Drive

Each and every year, the Home Builders Care Foundation organizes year-end Holiday Giving Drives to benefit local community organizations serving the needy. This year's Thanksgiving Food Drive benefits the **Maryland Food Bank** in Baltimore. Please help us reach our goal of collecting 500 pounds by bringing a bag of nonperishable items to the November 13 [Member Awards Night](#) at the Greenbelt Marriott. [Download our Food Drive Flier](#). Please help us fight hunger.

HBCF's Holiday Toy Drive benefits the **National Center for Children and Families** in Bethesda. You can bring joy into the life of a child in need this season. We're collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts at the office. Toys will be delivered December 11 directly to the charity. [Click here for the 2014 Wish List](#).

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

What's this I hear about Giving Tuesday? Well.....we have a day for giving thanks. We have two days for getting deals – Black Friday and Cyber Monday. NOW, we have **#GivingTuesday**, a global day dedicated to giving back – the first Tuesday after the long Thanksgiving weekend! It's a great day to give.



Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 2, 2014, a day when charities, families, businesses and communities around the world will come together for one common purpose: to celebrate generosity and to give. It's a simple idea. Just take the time to share.



To celebrate a new tradition of generosity during the holiday season, Maryland Nonprofits is setting a goal to raise \$12.2 million on 12.2.14, #GivingTuesday. (that's roughly the equivalent of every Marylander donating \$2). #MarylandGivesMore!

How can I give? It's easy - Make your 2014 tax-deductible donation to **Home Builders Care Foundation** via our [GIVE DIRECT web payments page](#). It's fast, easy, secure AND charges HBCF no transaction fees. Recurring payment options are also available.

Winter Gala Silent Auction is December 6.

Don't miss the annual [Winter Gala at the Columbia Country Club](#) in Chevy Chase. The evening features a fabulous surf + turf dinner, plus live dancing with "Soul Crackers" featuring our own MBIA member and custom builder Chuck Sullivan on the drum kit. Not to mention the awarding of the esteemed Kettler and Rodgers Awards for lifetime achievement.



Please consider donating items such as art, collectibles, jewelry, vacations, wine, tickets, products & services and gift certificates to MBIA's Winter Gala on Saturday, December 6. All donations are tax-deductible and the auction will fully benefit your Home Builders Care Foundation and be used directly on future charitable construction projects. To sponsor an item or make a donation, contact Patti Kane / 301-776-6212 or click for the [auction donation form](#). Your commitment is needed before Thanksgiving. Thanks so much!

For More Information, Please Contact Us

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