

Community Builders

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

Giving Back to Our Community

Summer 2013



Table of Contents

[Chip Merlin Memorial Project](#)

[Tornado Relief Fund](#)

[Virtual Walks for the Homeless](#)

[Open House Invitation](#)

Chip Merlin Memorial Project Dedicated at the Home Builders Care Assessment Center

On August 22, the ribbon was cut on a new picnic pavilion and grilling patio at the Home Builders Care Assessment Center (HBCAC), Montgomery County's primary emergency shelter for homeless men.

The new exterior improvements at the shelter, enhancing the main outdoor space for residents, staff and volunteers was dedicated to Mr. Chip Merlin, a past president of the Home Builders Care Foundation (HBCF). Mr. Merlin, a former executive with K Hovnanian Homes, had served as Builder Captain during the original construction of the shelter in 2000. Mr. Merlin passed away in July of 2011.

Montgomery County Executive **Isiah Leggett** joined HBCF, the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH) and friends and family of Mr. Merlin in the dedication the new space enhancement.



The original construction of the permanent emergency shelter for homeless men was the result of an exciting public/private partnership between HBCF, MCCH and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Prior to the shelter's construction, emergency shelter for homeless men in

Montgomery County was rudimentary and consisted of three temporary trailers parked at the site on Gude Drive. The shelter was expanded in 2009 and was renamed the Home Builders Care Assessment Center in recognition of HBCF's ongoing efforts to provide shelter to those who need it, and to help to end homelessness in our County.



Today, the HBCAC is a 10,000 square foot, 135-bed facility operated by MCCH and provides 24/7 shelter and supportive services to men experiencing homelessness in Montgomery County. The shelter serves approximately 750 men throughout the course of a year. Shelter residents have access to basic amenities such as showers, beds, laundry and dining facilities, as well as a variety of supportive services to help residents exit homelessness more quickly, including: thorough assessments, case management, vocational counseling and job training, health education classes, in-house 12-step meetings and mobile medical services.

Immediately following the ribbon cutting, a BBQ dinner was served to all shelter residents, staff and guests.

Special thanks for the new outdoor patio and picnic pavilion is due to:

Ted Smart, MDC Services LLC
Bruce Hutchinson, AIA Architect
Stephen McLaughlin, landscape architect
A. Morton Thomas, civil engineering
Evergro Landscaping
MCCH staff
Montgomery County
Mr. Merlin's family

Oklahoma Tornado Relief Fund

At MNCBIA's May Membership Dinner Meeting, member **Jim Thompson** of WF Wilson & Sons, announced a special giving challenge to Maryland building industry members interested in helping victims of the Moore, Oklahoma tornado.

Mr. Thompson called upon his fellow association members present to give, and then pledged to match donations to the OK tornado relief fund via MNCBIA's Home Builders Care Foundation.



Within a few weeks, more than one thousand dollars was collected by HBCF and was forwarded, along with Mr. Thompson's match, to the Oklahoma Home Builders Foundation (OK Fund), set up by the National Association of Home Builders.

The Central Oklahoma Home Builders Association and the Home Builders Association of Greater Tulsa are coordinating assistance efforts on behalf of the home building community.

At last report, these two associations have assisted 75 families including more than 100 children affected by the May Tornadoes and are currently working to provide assistance to additional families. As of mid-July, close to \$60,000 and countless amounts of building materials and emergency supplies have been donated to the OK Fund from about sixteen home builders associations across the country, including MNCBIA.

Thank you to all of those MNCBIA members who donated. Special thanks to Jim Thompson!

It's Help the Homeless Time!



For 13 years running, the Home Builders Care Foundation has been selected as a beneficiary of Fannie Mae's Help the Homeless Program.

The 2013 program is here!

The same as last year, due to a number of reasons, there is no centralized walk on the National Mall. Instead, it's smaller community "walks" and our 2nd annual Virtual Walk!

In total, the Home Builders Care Foundation needs to register 250 "walkers" to Help the Homeless in 2013. **When we reach this goal – we qualify for a 15 percent match from Fannie Mae!**

We are on our way to 250, thanks to our August 8th Happy Hour with the Professional Women in Building and the Chip Merlin Dinner Dedication on August 22nd (which both counted as community "walk events") with about 86 walkers, but **we need 164 MORE WALKERS** to reach our goal.

So, how can you help? By simply joining our online "Virtual Walk" on or **before Saturday, November 2**. It's easy to participate.

Simply go to www.hthwalks.org/goto/HBCFwalk and register yourself, your co-workers, your kids, and a few friends as walkers. (You can register up to 10 people at a time) All fees directly benefit our charitable construction program. Just \$30 adults (\$20 for youth) for a great cause – and you've helped build for our neighbors in need.

For more information on how the HTH program works, (or if you'd rather avoid the hassle of registering your support online), simply email [Patti Kane](#) or call her at 301-445-5410 concerning other ways you can give to Home Builders Care or [Donate Here](#).

You're Invited to a PROJECT OPEN HOUSE

Renovations Help Troubled Youth on the Road to Recovery

The Home Builders Care Foundation (HBCF) and Adventist Behavioral Health (ABH) invite you to an OPEN HOUSE to showcase the recent renovation project at ABH's Boys Cottage, a Montgomery County-based therapeutic group home for teenage boys.

The Cottage is a detached single family home built in 1968. HBCF's goal was to improve and make safe the home's two main common areas used primarily for program operations and social gatherings—the frequently used backyard and the kitchen/dining area. After 13 years of continuous program use, both spaces were in need of upgrades and a more home-like quality. With HBCF involvement, ABH saved 62 percent on the cost of construction.



Newly renovated kitchen

Special thanks to MNCBIA Member companies & other trade partners contributing to this project:

Builders First Source
Fine Earth Landscape Inc.
MDC Services LLC
SCK Contractors
Sport Systems LLC

OPEN HOUSE - Please join us!

[Click here](#) to view invitation

Tuesday September 10

10:00am-12:00pm. Program at 11:00am.
16412 Kipling Road, Rockville, MD 20855.
Refreshments Provided.

RSVP by September 6 to [Patti Kane](#) or call 301-445-5410

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