Dear Friends,

Thank you for making 2017 yet another remarkable year for Community Lodgings! This year marked 30 years of service to Alexandria’s most vulnerable community. Our dedicated staff and board have done an incredible job in expanding our outreach while strengthening our programs and services. I am in awe when I reflect on how much Community Lodgings does in terms of the services we offer, the amount of people we serve, and the profound success we have had “Opening Doors to Independence” for each and every person who walks through our doors.

In 2017-2018:

• Most of our focus was on improving our infrastructure, we completed renovation of 607 Notabene Drive, a 7-unit apartment building that houses low–moderate income families.

• We cultivated relationships with community organizations, setting the stage for enriching our youth education program by opening a third afterschool program at Beverly Hills Community United Methodist Church.

• Over the coming months, we will formalize our partnerships and our direction through a new strategic plan, which will define Community Lodgings role in addressing the emerging needs in the community.

We have worked hard to ensure that this report accurately reflects our exciting work. We hope you enjoying learning about the community we serve, the inspiring forward momentum we are creating in communities facing crippling poverty, and about the vital role donors like you play in our efforts to combat hunger, homelessness and general poverty in our own backyard.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks as we move forward in 2019 and beyond. We are proud of what Community Lodgings has accomplished and excited about the future.

Sincerely,

Lynn Thomas   Paul Stilp
Executive Director  Chair, Board of Directors
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

NOTABENE DR. RENOVATIONS

Thanks to:
• Homeaid Northern Virginia
• Brookfield Residential
• The Evergreene Homes
• M/I Homes
• Richmond American Homes
• City of Alexandria Office of Housing
• Virginia Housing Development Authority
• BB&T

5 months
Nearly $900,000
Completed September 2017

“My family and I have been living at 607 Notabene for 11 years and felt very happy to return to our new home. I am pleased with the renovations of the building and grateful for the donations we received such as furniture and new bedding. Thank you to everyone who was a part of this project.”

- Community Lodgings Resident

HOMERUN FOR THE HOMELESS

Partnership with:
• Bridges to Independence
• Homestretch

Purpose:
To shed light on homelessness in Northern Virginia with our First Annual 5k Home Run for the Homeless.

8 Sponsors
$8,250 raised
76 Runners
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

30TH ANNIVERSARY PEARL GALA

Sold Out Event Included:
• Live and silent auction
• Music from American Soul group The Intruders
• Attended by community leaders, staff, sponsors, board members, community partners and founding churches
• Special awards to thank and highlight individuals for their service to Community Lodgings

$64,000 raised

February 17 declared “Community Lodgings Day” by City of Alexandria

“A lot has changed in 30 years. But the one thing that has not changed is the dedication, compassion and love of the volunteers who spend countless hours helping the most needy of those in Alexandria.”

- Barry Roman, Board Member since 1987

IN THE NEWS!

Several local online and print publications have recognized our organization over the past year. Here’s one of our features!

Alexandria Gazette Packet

Helping the Homeless

Community Lodgings celebrates 30 years.

By Joanne Thellung

Several publications have recognized Community Lodgings over the past year, highlighting the organization’s dedication to helping the homeless in Alexandria. The Alexandria Gazette Packet featured an article about the Community Lodgings 30th anniversary Pearl Gala, which was attended by community leaders, staff, sponsors, board members, community partners, and founding churches.

The gala was a sold-out event that included a live and silent auction, music from American Soul group The Intruders, and special awards to thank and highlight individuals for their service to Community Lodgings.

In 30 years, Community Lodgings has provided transitional housing to hundreds and has gone above and beyond to provide support to those in need. On February 17, the nonprofit held its 30th anniversary Pearl Gala to recognize its outstanding work and volunteer contributions.

“People are always looking for ways to help and don’t know where to turn,” said Community Lodgings board chair Marie Romano.

Nearly 300 people attended the event at Belle Haven Country Club, which brought several contributions and raised $63,000 to fund programs for homelessness, food, and education.

“A lot has changed in 30 years,” said Betty Roman, a board member who worked for the organization as its executive director for 30 years. “But the dedication, compassion, and love of the volunteers who spend countless hours helping the most needy of those in Alexandria has remained unchanged.”

- Barry Roman, Board Member since 1987

Community Lodgings board member Marty Devlin, right, with her husband, was recognized for more than 24 years of service to Community Lodgings.
We believe that education is one of the keys to overcoming poverty. Many of our students are first-generation Americans. Our staff assists them with learning English, improving math skills, and developing socially. There are no words to describe the joy we feel when we see our students thrive.

Girls on the Run
Girls On The Run is a non-profit that was founded in 1996 in Charlotte, North Carolina with the assistance of thirteen girls. The organization envisions a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams. In September of 2018, we incorporated Girls On The Run as a means to build confidence and self esteem through fitness.

Job Readiness
The goal of the program is to provide students with an enriching and constructive experience to gain exposure to an array of careers and obtain hands-on experience. At the conclusion of the summer program, six of our students received three of the top four prizes out of 200 students in the city during the awards and ceremony presentation. We also received the Corporate Responsibility Award.

Just Some of Our Recent Successes!

- 127 students were served across three sites.
- 98% of students advanced at least one reading level between September 2017 and August 2018.
- 100% of students in after-school and mentoring program were promoted to the next grade level.

Girls on the Run
Girls On The Run is a non-profit that was founded in 1996 in Charlotte, North Carolina with the assistance of thirteen girls. The organization envisions a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams. In September of 2018, we incorporated Girls On The Run as a means to build confidence and self esteem through fitness.

Job Readiness
The goal of the program is to provide students with an enriching and constructive experience to gain exposure to an array of careers and obtain hands-on experience. At the conclusion of the summer program, six of our students received three of the top four prizes out of 200 students in the city during the awards and ceremony presentation. We also received the Corporate Responsibility Award.

Just Some of Our Recent Successes!

- 127 students were served across three sites.
- 98% of students advanced at least one reading level between September 2017 and August 2018.
- 100% of students in after-school and mentoring program were promoted to the next grade level.

Girls on the Run
Girls On The Run is a non-profit that was founded in 1996 in Charlotte, North Carolina with the assistance of thirteen girls. The organization envisions a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams. In September of 2018, we incorporated Girls On The Run as a means to build confidence and self esteem through fitness.

Job Readiness
The goal of the program is to provide students with an enriching and constructive experience to gain exposure to an array of careers and obtain hands-on experience. At the conclusion of the summer program, six of our students received three of the top four prizes out of 200 students in the city during the awards and ceremony presentation. We also received the Corporate Responsibility Award.

Just Some of Our Recent Successes!

- 127 students were served across three sites.
- 98% of students advanced at least one reading level between September 2017 and August 2018.
- 100% of students in after-school and mentoring program were promoted to the next grade level.

Gabriel is an outgoing and creative student that has made strides in his time with Community Lodgings. He started with us in the first grade without knowing English. Staff and volunteers witnessed his vocabulary increase, reading skills flourish, and his writing skills develop each day. It was exciting to see him grow into an inquisitive and bright young man. It was a special day last year when his mother came in to ask us to translate a document from a teacher that stated Alex placed out of English Language Learning Services. Gabriel was speaking and reading on grade level. He transitioned to being bilingual with English and Spanish to support his steps academics and future. In addition, Gabriel’s father began working at a local nonprofit to increase the household income. When summer school ended, Gabriel was excited to start the after-school program again and continues to request creative journal entries and supplemental work to complement his interests. In the spring of 2018, we learned he was honored by ACPS for his poem and represented his school at the awards ceremony and received a cash prize.

“I like going into the center and having all my friends and nice teachers there. The teachers help with anything I need like doing my homework and printing papers and doing projects.”

- Gabriel
Since, its inception, Community Lodgings has been committed to supporting homeless individuals and families in Alexandria, VA. Our mission is to lift families from instability to self-sufficiency by providing them with transitional and affordable housing and youth education services. The need for our services is great, and the demand continues to increase throughout our community.

**The cost of living in Northern VA is 40% higher than the national average***

City of Alexandria families must earn an average of $70,000 a year to live comfortably.

Community Lodgings clients earn an average of $43,864 per year, while the U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts cite the 2016 median city income of $89,200.**

55% of adults in homeless families were employed.***

Median home price in the City of Alexandria is $490,000 and median rent per month is $2600****

* Economic Policy Institute
**Many of our clients are victims of domestic violence, immigrants and/or are working daily but do not earn enough to afford the basic necessities
***From 2018 Point In Time Report
****From Trulia.com

Transitional Housing

The Transitional Housing Program (THP) supports six homeless families at a time with subsidized housing and supportive services for up to two years. We also provide case management on a regular basis with the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency for each of our clients.

250 families moved out of homelessness and learned the skills necessary for lasting independence since Community Lodgings’ onset.

The 2018 Point In Time report by The Partnership to Prevent & End Homelessness in the City of Alexandria revealed the count of homeless persons increased by 7% from the previous year. On January 24, 2018, there were 226 persons experiencing homelessness, including 29 families with 53 children in Alexandria.
HOUSING

Affordable Housing
With the completion of the renovations of the Notabene Drive building, we were able to increase our stock of affordable housing from 38 to 39 units. In order to qualify for the housing program, families can earn no more than 60% of the area median income.

- 39 Affordable Housing units.
- 158 people receive safe, affordable housing.

VOLUNTEERS

At Community Lodgings we cherish our volunteers and realize that we would not be able to serve Alexandria’s most vulnerable families without their help and dedication.

We recorded a total of 2282 volunteer hours in 2018.

“\nThe after school teachers and volunteers taught me new ways to learn and helped me get my work done. I’m glad I had a place to go after school because there are too many distractions at home. I also appreciate the school supplies Community Lodgings gives us. ”

- Bryan

AWARDS

Community Lodgings Honored For Upgrading Affordable Housing Units By HomeAid Northern Virginia
**FINANCIALS**

**REVENUE & SUPPORT**

- 46.21% Rent & rental related
- 31.13% Inkind
- 12.20% Interest
- 8.82% Special events
- 1.62% Contributions & grants
- 0.02% Program fees

**EXPENSES**

- 33.05% Management & general
- 28.46% Fundraising
- 15.93% Affordable housing
- 9.40% Transitional housing
- 13.16% Family learning center - youth & adult education

**GRANTS FY2018** (July 2017–June 2018)

- ACPS-Fifer Center
- Comm Partnership Grant
- Youth Fund Grant
- VHDA Capacity Grant
- Alexandria Rotary Fund
- George Preston Marshal
- Ivakota Foundation
- Portals Wes Associated L.P.
- Running Brook Foundation
- Reva and David Logan Foundation
- Scheidel Foundation
- Kids Helping Kids
- Calvert and Sally Simmons Foundation
- The Revada Foundation
- IMF employee Foundation
- Anonymous Foundation

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD MEMBERS**

- Paul A. Stilp, Chair
- Christy Zeitz, Vice Chair
- Kristen H. Moore, Secretary
- Rosalyn Brown, Treasurer
- Helen Lewis
- Selena Hutchinson
- Anne LaFond
- George Tuttle
- Barry Roman
- Marty DeVine
- Derek M. Argust
- Steve Wallace
- Virginia Hammell
- Angela Welsh
- Monique Miles
- Donna Cramer
- Robert J. Test
- Marie Muscella
- Douglas Hibshman

**OUR STAFF**

- Lynn Thomas, Executive Director
- Susan Fitzpatrick, Director of Development
- Karina Wiggs, Director of Operations
- Melanie Ficke, Program Director
- Charlyne Braxton, Transitional Housing and Case Manager
- Erika Orozco, Property and Office Manager
- Gwen Spitzhoff, Site Coordinator
- Joseph Muniz, Program Assistant
- Eric Lopez, Building Engineer
- Nelson Vasquez, Maintenance

Financials for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 from Community Lodgings annual audit as prepared by Corey and Associates.