

Messenger

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Repairing Homes for Long-Time Residents: Rebuilding Together Comes to Pigtown

Millie has lived in Pigtown all her life; she's grown to love the neighborhood, despite its challenges, and she knows every one of her neighbors. Over the years, she has watched as good people have been evicted from their homes because they got behind on their mortgage or rental payments. She's watched as houses on her block have been abandoned, boarded up, and taken over by drug dealers and squatters. Through the years, she and Ben have stayed, slowly paying off their own mortgage, and waiting for change to come to Pigtown.

In the last few years, she's seen a change in the neighborhood. Motivated by the pride the new residents have in their homes, Millie made a few small repairs on her house, keeps the outside in good shape, and cleans up the street in front of her house. She even began saving for some of the bigger repairs on her list.

Then within a few months last fall, Millie lost one of her jobs, she and Ben ran through their savings, and three days before Christmas, the plumbing in their bathroom went out for the fourth time. "When I was working full-time, I could pick up the phone and schedule a plumber, but at \$80 a visit and \$80 for every half hour of work, we just can't do it now,"

Millie has lived in Pigtown all her life and has enjoyed watching the neighborhood change as new residents move into homes renovated by Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake and Paul's Place. She is hopeful that Rebuilding Together will fix the water damage to her house when the volunteer crews come to Pigtown in April.



she laments. Left unattended, water from the bathroom seeped into the dining room leaving the ceiling soggy, staining the dining room walls, and causing electrical damage.

Millie was distraught—she had no savings and, with only a part-time job, she could barely pay the bills. She had no idea how she would fix the damage to her house. Millie is like so many low-income Baltimore residents who have worked hard all their lives to pay their mortgage and maintain their homes in good condition only to find themselves unable to make needed repairs due to economic hardships, illness, loss of a spouse, or aging.

That's why, in April 2011, Paul's Place and Rebuilding Together are teaming up to make repairs to 20 homes in Pigtown. Rebuilding Together will select families based on income, age, disability, and the repairs needed. On April 30, hundreds of volunteers, led by skilled tradesmen, will repair roofs, weatherize homes, fix safety hazards, and makes homes more safe and accessible for people with disabilities in eight communities in Baltimore City—at no cost to the homeowners.

Millie is hopeful that Rebuilding Together will select her home: she and Ben make less than one half of the income limit; the water damage fits into the program's priorities to keep homeowners warmer, safer, and drier; and she was one of the first families to apply.

Paul's Place Executive Director Bill McLennan says, "We see families like Millie's every day. She's worked hard all her life and done everything she's supposed to as a homeowner, then a string of bad luck leaves her with a home in disrepair. This partnership will help families like hers and help Paul's Place continue to stabilize Ward Street and the adjacent blocks and ensure the long-time homeowners in our community have safe and healthy living conditions. We are excited that this partnership with Rebuilding Together will transform 20 homes in our neighborhood and make a real difference for those families."

Rebuilding Together, formerly Christmas in April, is a nonprofit, nonsectarian, volunteer organization dedicated to helping low-income homeowners, through home renovation and repair. Since 1990, Rebuilding Together Baltimore has repaired and revitalized 966 homes, keeping Baltimore City and County homeowners living in warmth, safety, and independence while building better communities.



PAUL'S PLACE

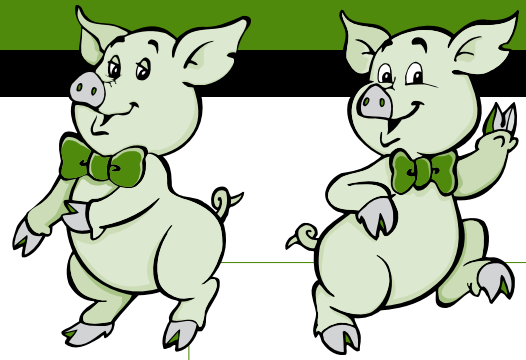
9th New Habitat Homeowner on Ward Street



Terrell Mitchell (pictured above) got the keys to the first home she's ever owned on July 13, 2010, becoming the ninth new resident on Ward Street to move into a house renovated through the Ward Street Stabilization Fund.

For 20 years a victim of spousal abuse and drug addict, Terrell hit bottom and began the hard work to turn her life around when she left her husband and admitted herself to a 28 day drug rehabilitation program at Tuerk House in May 2006. At the end of the program, clean and sober, but with nowhere to go, she moved into Marian House, a transitional housing program for homeless women. The counselors and case managers at Marian House helped her stay clean, rebuild her self-worth, find a part-time job, and when she was ready, referred her to Habitat for

Pig Pickin' Proceeds = More Meals for Pigtown!



Pig Pickin' was a huge success again in 2010! On a sunny afternoon in early October, music by Jody's Band floated through the air at Deer Park as families enjoyed authentic barbeque along with fun activities for the kids—all while raising record proceeds for Paul's Place.

In its 12th year, Pig Pickin' raised almost \$30,000 from ticket sales, an ever-growing group of sponsors and in-kind donors, and a 50/50 raffle. The proceeds from this event will provide nearly 10,000 meals for low-income and homeless men and women in Southwest Baltimore!

Our thanks go out to our Pig Pickin' sponsors, in-kind donors, and event committee members:

Boss Hog Sponsor
Merritt Properties

Porky Pig Sponsors
Allied Waste Services
Coors Light
Kissinger Financial Services
The Legum Foundation
MECU
Yerman Witman Gaines &
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The Jody West Band

Committee Members
Denie Dulin, Co-chair
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Marjorie Buchanan
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Entertainment Co-Chair
Katie Kamieniecki
Kirsten Maggart
Barbara Mason
Bill McLennan
John S. Morton III, Sponsorship Chair
David Nichols
Katherine O'Donovan
Jaye Richardson
Erin Yaggy, Entertainment Co-Chair



318 adults and children enjoyed good food, music, games, and a view of the pond at the 12th annual Pig Pickin' on October 2, 2010 hosted by Denie and Randy Dulin at their beautiful Deer Park Farm.



John and Tricia Morton thank our Boss Hog, Porky Pig, and Little Piggy sponsors as well as our in-kind donors for their generous support of Pig Pickin' and Paul's Place.



Children had a blast painting pumpkins, jumping in the moon bounce, trying their hand at the bean bag toss, and riding ponies from the Greenspring Valley Pony Club.



GIVING HOPE

for the Holidays

Thanks to the generosity of dozens of local companies, schools, churches, and organizations, the holiday season was filled with good food, gifts, joy and hope for low-income families in Pigtown. Families who could not afford to celebrate Thanksgiving or the winter holidays turned to Paul's Place for our holiday food baskets and holiday gift shop. This year, 347 families enjoyed a home-cooked turkey dinner at Paul's Place on Thanksgiving Day, and 217 parents had gifts for their children on Christmas morning.



Graul's Market donated turkeys for 347 Thanksgiving and holiday food baskets; food donations from local companies, schools, churches, and organizations filled the baskets with stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, brownie mix and other desserts, and breakfast for the next morning. James shares his thanks to our food donors for enabling him to celebrate Thanksgiving at home with his family.



Holiday gift shop volunteers helped 217 parents choose gifts for their children from among the hundreds of games, toys, dolls, sports equipment, electronics, and clothing items collected through gift drives for Paul's Place. While their parents shopped for gifts, 346 children made photo frames to give their moms and dads, assisted by volunteers like Anna.



42 children in our after-school programs were surprised with gift bags at the Paul's Place Holiday Party. Addie exclaims with excitement over the perfect gifts our children's program staff picked out for her.

A big thank you to the 2010 food, toy, and gift card donors:

1st Marine Division – Maryland Chapter
 Allied Waste/Republic Services of Baltimore
 Association of Legal Administrators – Maryland Chapter
 Baltimore Fire Fighters Local 734
 Calvert School
 Canusa Corporation
 Cassidy Turley
 Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services
 Chubb Insurance
 Church of the Good Sheppard
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 Gillis Memorial Christian Community Church

Grace Episcopal Church
 Graul's Market
 The GreenMount School
 Honey Baked Ham
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 Northrop Grumman
 Oak Crest Village
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 Quinn Building Co. Inc.
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 St. John's Episcopal Church, Kingsville
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 St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Towson
 The Shelter Group
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 Towson United Methodist Church
 Trinity Church Day School, Long Green
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 Trinity Episcopal Church, Long Green
 University of Maryland School of Nursing Venable
 Wachovia, a Wells Fargo Company
 Whit Harvey Group
 WTMD 89.7 FM
 Yerman Witman Gaines & Conklin Realty

Spotlight on Giving: Give More by Giving Monthly

Roger Eve has volunteered at Paul's Place every month—or just about—for the last six years with his church, Trinity Episcopal Church in Long Green. A small group from his church serves lunch on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. In that time, Roger has gotten to know many of our repeat guests and seen dozens of new faces, especially in the last two years.

His first gifts to Paul's Place were gently used clothing, and when a beloved relative passed, he donated many of her household items to families in Pigtown with Paul's Place's help. He's made cash donations to Paul's Place, but as he's seen the need in the community grow and the challenges our guests face in these difficult economic times, he decided to give more this year.

In January, Roger joined the devoted group of donors who give monthly by credit card. "I believe in the work that Paul's Place does to assist the families in the Southwest Baltimore community. I see first-hand the positive difference this organization makes in the lives of men, women, and children, and I'm glad to be a part of that difference."

Give While You Search and Shop Online

It just got easier to support Paul's Place— every time you search the internet or shop online, you can support our essential services, education and job-readiness programs, health and wellness programs, and after-school and summer programs for children and youth!

GoodSearch donates 50% of its sponsored search revenue (money from advertisers, not users) to non-profits designated by its users. It works like every other search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get proven search results. **GoodSearch** partners with thousands of merchants, and when you shop through GoodShop, a portion of your purchase comes directly to Paul's Place.

Ready to search and shop? Designate Paul's Place at www.goodsearch.com by entering Paul's Place on the "Who do you search for?" page. Thank you!

Roger Eve (left) and Bill McLennan at Paul's Place's annual Holiday Gift Shop. After seeing the need for Paul's Place's services and programs grow significantly last year, he became a monthly donor in 2011.



How can you make a bigger difference? Join Roger Eve and see how a monthly charge to your credit card each month quickly adds up to make a big impact!

- A Thanksgiving turkey and food basket for one family is just \$4 per month.
- One month of Wednesday dinners and Saturday lunches for 15 middle school students is just \$10 per month.
- One week of breakfasts and lunches for 40 elementary school students in summer camp is just \$20 per month.
- Hot Lunch for 300 guests is just \$40 per month.
- Fresh fruits and vegetables for one month of Hot Lunch is just \$80 per month.
- Emergency assistance to prevent two evictions or four utility cut-offs is just \$100 per month.
- One day of all service and programs Paul's Place offers is just \$200 per month.

Becoming a monthly donor is easy! Simply select "I want to make a recurring donation" on the Donate Now page at www.paulsplaceoutreach.org. Future donations will be made automatically, and you will receive an email receipt for each donation. You will also receive a separate email with a password and link to a site where you can review and change your donation options (amount, frequency, billing information at any time).

Thinking bigger? Contact Barbara Mason, Director of Development, at 410-625-0775 x20 or bmason@paulsplaceoutreach.org to plan your monthly investment in Paul's Place and the people we serve.

Join Roger and others as a catalyst and leader for change in Pigtown, now and in the future, by giving to Paul's Place!

Executive Director's Letter

All too often I see the same faces in line for Hot Lunch, emergency assistance, and other essential services. Each time they return, we welcome them with open arms, respect their challenges, and help them maintain dignity as they ask for help once again. We help them meet their immediate needs, but what we really want is to see them living self-sufficiently. What we really want is for all individuals and families living in Washington Village/Pigtown to have full access to high quality health care, education, employment and housing along with the other supports necessary for stability and self-sufficiency. And we are on the way toward that goal for our guests and the community.



This winter, Paul's Place began offering case management and outreach services with the addition of two new staff members—Julia Hartenstein, MSW, Case Manager, and Na'eemah Zakia, Outreach Coordinator. Julia will work intensively with families in or near crisis to help them address the underlying issues and develop strategies to address future challenges while Na'eemah will strengthen the safety net in Southwest Baltimore by creating new partnerships with human service providers and marketing

the services available to community members in need. Together, Julia and Na'eemah will offer assessment, immediate assistance, and support and referrals to address the long-term challenges our guests face such as unemployment, physical and mental health issues, and drug addiction.

Julia and Na'eemah are not new to the needs of our guests: as a graduate student at the University of Maryland School of Social Work, Julia participated in the evaluation of our programs; and for over ten years, Na'eemah has coordinated the social services for multi-generational families in Southwest Baltimore. The two bring a wealth of knowledge to our community and will build on the strong foundation that already exists in our essential services, education and job-readiness programs, and health and wellness programs.

And as with all new programs at Paul's Place, we've done a thorough assessment of our capacity and extensive planning prior to hiring staff and establishing the program. Jason Sharp, MSW, our Director of Programs, researched best practices, surveyed local social services providers on the best ways to utilize our program database—Efforts to Outcomes—for case management and program evaluation, and contracted the University of Maryland School of Social Work to conduct a full program evaluation.

I am excited by the potential of this new venture for Paul's Place and look forward to sharing the positive results. Thank you for your continued support as, together, we stabilize and strengthen our Southwest Baltimore community!

William J. McLennan, Executive Director



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Humanity of the Chesapeake to start the process of becoming a homeowner.

For nearly two years, she worked on other Habitat homes on her days off, earning hours toward the “sweat equity” requirement. Last July, nearly four years after she set out on her own, she got the keys to 1147 Ward Street. Almost immediately, she found Paul's Place where she got a few household items she needed from our Market Place and accessed our computer lab to upgrade her skills.

She thanks God every day for the four organizations that have transformed her life from a victim and addict to an independent homeowner and says, “It wasn't easy, but I'm grateful to God for the journey.”

For more information or to volunteer, contact Tamara Neuhaus, Volunteer Coordinator, at 410- 625-0775 x22 or Tneuhaus@paulsplaceoutreach.org

Paul's Place Recognizes Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

On December 21, the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, Paul's Place staff and volunteers were among the observers in Baltimore City's Homeless Persons' Memorial Day. 87 homeless men and women who died in 2010 in Baltimore were remembered, including Doug “Sarge” Hamm and Theo Colwin, members of the Paul's Place community.

A pair of shoes and a candle served the solemn reminder of lives lost while observers heard the reading of resolutions from Mayor Stephanie Rawlings Blake and Governor Martin O'Malley. Jeffrey Henson, a Paul's Place Ambassador volunteer, and Will Thomas, Ambassador Volunteer Coordinator, read the names and stories of some of the deceased men and women. Five members of the Paul's Place Men's Club volunteered at the memorial service, and Julia Hartenstein, Case Manager, helped organize the memorial in Baltimore.

Each year since 1990 communities across the nation have joined together to remember their neighbors who have been affected by homelessness and died while homeless. The public memorials are co-sponsored by the National Coalition for the Homeless, National Consumer Advisory Board, and National Health Care for the Homeless Council.



Paul's Place is proud to be a Standards for Excellence organization. Standards for Excellence is awarded by the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations and shows that Paul's Place operates with ethics and accountability in our program operations, governance, human resources, financial management, and fundraising practices.

THE MESSENGER

Paul's Place, Inc.
1118 Ward Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
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The Mission of Paul's Place

Paul's Place is a catalyst and leader for change, improving the quality of life in the Washington Village/Pigtown neighborhood and the surrounding Southwest Baltimore communities. Paul's Place provides programs, services, and support that strengthen individuals and families, fostering hope, personal dignity, and growth.

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**Building a Better
Baltimore
One Person
One Community
At A Time**

PAUL'S PLACE

TOUCHDOWN FOR PIGTOWN GALA II!

to benefit Paul's Place
SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2011
M & T Bank Stadium, Club Level

Join Honorary Chair Baltimore Ravens Running Back Ray Rice
in Honoring Wachovia, A Wells Fargo Company
The Paul's Place 2011 Commitment to Community Award Recipient

Tickets: \$175 or \$1750 for a table of 10. To purchase tickets visit
www.paulsplaceoutreach.org or call 410-625-0775 x23

**Every ticket sold before March 20, 2011 will be entered a
drawing to win two seats at Ray Rice's table.**

**The Messenger is a publication
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For more information about volunteering:
Volunteer Coordinator: Tamara Neuhaus
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