OCTOBER
2023

PITTSBURGH MERCY
A HERITAGE OF HOPE

DONOR CONNECTION

BethlehemHaven

Continuum of Care in Partnership with Bethlehem Haven

In 2016, Bethlehem Haven's Board voted to become a part of Pittsburgh Mercy. This partnership combined our respective strengths to develop a premier, community-based health services network that addresses the physical, behavioral (mental health and addiction), social, occupational, and spiritual dimensions of health for those experiencing homelessness. Through an integrated system, we effectively provide critical programs like street medicine and outreach, community-based services, employment services, emergency shelter, and rapid rehousing programs.

Exciting Transformation at Bethlehem Haven

The residents at Bethlehem Haven's supportive housing facility at 1410 Fifth Avenue in Pittsburgh's Uptown neighborhood will soon have a newly renovated space to call home. Scheduled for completion early next year, the redesigned house will offer a higher standard of living for the 26 unhoused women who require therapeutic and individualized care due to their physical and behavioral health disabilities. Many residents have been at Bethlehem Haven for more than 10 years. Our community partner UPMC has generously provided comfortable housing for residents and staff until the building is completed.

40 Years of Care

For 40 years, Bethlehem Haven has provided a continuum of care for homeless individuals that leads toward self-sufficiency. In addition to the supportive housing facility, its services include:

- **Emergency Shelter Program:** 28 beds for individuals at risk, unstably housed, or homeless. From its start in a small church in downtown Pittsburgh, today it's Allegheny County's only emergency shelter that serves women, trans women, and gender non-conforming people, and has been at capacity since opening. Individuals begin to transition out of the shelter once they have a care plan, which may include reconnecting with a family member or moving into permanent housing.
- **Community Based Supportive Services Program:** Currently, there are 22 individuals living in community-based supportive housing and 40

individuals in 'Scattered Site' independent living facilities. All clients receive wrap-around support services including budget management, workforce development, and rental assistance to help them move along a continuum toward stability.

- **Medical Respite Program:** This unique program provides 29 beds for adults with acute recuperative care needs: too ill or injured to recover while living in a shelter or on the streets, but not sick enough to be in a hospital. Bethlehem Haven started the program in partnership with a local health system in 2018, focusing on the many individuals who – due to a substance use disorder (i.e., drugs, alcohol) – needed some level of inpatient care but, once stabilized, had nowhere to continue recuperating because they were homeless or unsafely housed. This safe recuperative environment includes a full-time housing advocate and partnership with community health organizations for optimal care.

Housewarming Gala to provide *'a room of her own'*

On October 25, Bethlehem Haven will host a Housewarming Gala to support furnishing the interior living spaces at the renovated 1410 Fifth Avenue supportive housing facility. Gala guests will get a glimpse of the renovation underway and learn about the life-changing work of the organization. Presented by Mosites Construction Co., the event will also honor John Lovelace, a longtime Board member and champion of Bethlehem Haven's mission. Pittsburgh-based interior designer Catherine Montague of Montague Design is selecting the decor, and residents were invited to share feedback on the look of their updated rooms.

Event Details:

Wednesday, Oct. 25 at Hotel Monaco
6-7 pm VIP Reception; 7-10 pm Gala
VIP Reception & Gala: $300
Gala: $175

Tickets at https://bethlehemhaven.org/gala

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