

Sign up!

SIGN-UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER

Sign up for the Anawim Housing Foundation's Monthly E-Newsletter! Stay up to date with Anawim Housing and Anawim Housing Foundation. Find out about exciting projects, events and news; and follow the work Anawim Housing does for over 630 families in the Des Moines community. WWW.ANAWIMHOUSING.ORG/NEWSLETTER-SIGN-UP

Spring Gathering

WOMEN EMPOWERING FAMILIES

BASIC PARTY - APRIL 28

To all of our Women Empowering Families members and those interested in joining and learning more: Please attend our Basic Party on Thursday, April 28 from 5-7p.m. at the Riverwalk Hub. This will be a great opportunity to visit with friends, as well as make new ones, and hear from staff how this group empowers families daily. All guests are invited to bring a basic household essential that will be given to a family in need. To RSVP or for more information, contact Tiffany King: tking@anawimhousing.org or 515.809.1156.

Spring Home Tour

SPRING HOME TOUR - MAY 12

Join us on Thursday, May 12 for our home tour around the community. Lunch will be provided. To reserve your spot, contact Kate Rolfes: krolfes@anawimhousing.org or 515.809.1157.

Birdies!

BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

Each year, Anawim Housing participates in the Principal Charity Classic's Birdies for Charity program. Sammons Financial Group has generously agreed to match a percentage of all donations.

DONATION	SAMMONS MATCH
\$1,000-\$10,000	10%
\$10,000+	15% (not to exceed \$10,000)

Help us reach this goal— every dollar counts and 100% of your donations go toward the programs and services Anawim Housing provides. Donate online at Principal Charity Classic's Birdies for Charity. WWW.PRINCIPALCHARITYCLASSIC.COM/BIRDIES-FOR-CHARITY

ANAWIM HOUSING



ANAWIMHOUSING.ORG

2024 FOREST AVENUE, SUITE 101
DES MOINES, IOWA 50311



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RUSS FRAZIER
PRESIDENT, ANAWIM HOUSING

BEHIND THE BRICKS & MORTARS

ANAWIM HOUSING DEVELOPS STABLE HOMES AND STRENGTHENS COMMUNITIES. OUR MISSION IS PURPOSELY VAGUE WHEN IT COMES TO HOW WE DEFINE DEVELOPMENT. FOR MANY, DEVELOPMENT MEANS A BUILDING – NEW CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION OR REPURPOSING A STRUCTURE. THAT IS AND REMAINS A BIG PART OF ANAWIM HOUSING. HOWEVER WHAT MANY PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW IS THAT OUR WORK ALSO INCLUDES A VAST NETWORK OF RESOURCES, SERVICES AND HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR FAMILIES EXPERIENCING A HOUSING CRISIS.

FOR NEARLY TWENTY YEARS ANAWIM HOUSING HAS BEEN OFFERING PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAMS THAT TARGET FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE HOMELESS. THESE PROGRAMS, NOW SERVING ALMOST 200 HOUSEHOLDS, PROVIDE A UNIQUE SOLUTION. USING OUR FUNDING COLLABORATION WITH THE CITY OF DES MOINES, THE POLK COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE, THE STATE OF IOWA AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, ANAWIM IS ABLE TO OFFER RENT SUPPORT, CASE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE REFERRAL TO THESE FAMILIES IN NEED OF A HOME.

WHAT MAKES THE PROGRAM ESPECIALLY EFFECTIVE IS THE COLLABORATION THAT ANAWIM HAS CREATED WITH A NETWORK OF PROPERTY OWNERS THROUGHOUT THE DES MOINES METRO. USING THIS MODEL, ANAWIM IS ABLE TO SUBLEASE UNITS TO FAMILIES GIVING THEM A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME AND PROVIDING THEM WITH THE DIGNITY OF HOUSING THAT IS NOT SPECIFIC TO A HOMELESS POPULATION. THIS SCATTERED SITE APPROACH BETTER INTEGRATES FAMILIES AS WELL AS OFFERING A WIDER CHOICE IN HOUSING OPTIONS.

BORROWING FROM THE QUOTE “IF YOU BUILD IT THEY WILL COME” WE SEE THE EVIDENCE EVERYDAY THAT PROVES “IF YOU GIVE THEM A HOME THEY WILL ACHIEVE.” TAKE AWAY THE BURDEN OF SHELTER AND PEOPLE CAN AND WILL THRIVE. FOR MOST, NOT LONG AFTER OVERCOMING HOMELESSNESS THEIR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH IMPROVES, THEIR OUTLOOK IMPROVES AND OPPORTUNITIES COME MORE READILY INCLUDING EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT. YOU WILL STILL ALWAYS HEAR ABOUT ANAWIM HOUSING’S WORK IN BUILDING HOUSES BUT ALSO KEEP LOOKING FOR US TO CONTINUE TO CREATE HOMES.



Former Anawim Tenant Receives Special Honor

*Being a part of the
community has truly
helped me become
who I am today;*

- CHARITY

Charity, a former Anawim Housing tenant, was nominated by Anawim staff for the Opening Doors

ceremony benefitting the R. Dean Wright Housing Fund. Opening Doors is an annual celebration sharing stories of those coming from homelessness to HOPE. It recognizes individuals who have overcome challenges on their way to economic stability, and this past fall Charity was presented the Family Award.



Prior to housing with Anawim in 2008, Charity was homeless—facing mental illness as well as substance abuse. Her mother had custody of her son. She was referred to Anawim’s permanent supportive housing program, known as Shelter Plus Care. After being in housing for approximately one year, Charity regained custody of her son, Caleb. While in housing, Charity enrolled at DMACC and sought treatment to stabilize her mental health. She is a first generation college student. In 2015, Charity left Anawim Housing to move into her new home where she is able to pay full rent.

“I was petrified starting school because I hadn’t been to school in 20 years. I was lacking confidence. Once I got in

the swing of things though, I realized how smart I was. It helped that I had my support system: Anawim, my family

and a few close friends. It wasn’t always easy though,” said Charity.

Charity is cross-enrolling at Grand View University to study social work this year. She is emerging as a leader and taking on new rolls in the community. She is president of the Human Service Club, a member of the Student Activity Council and is a member of Trio/Student Support

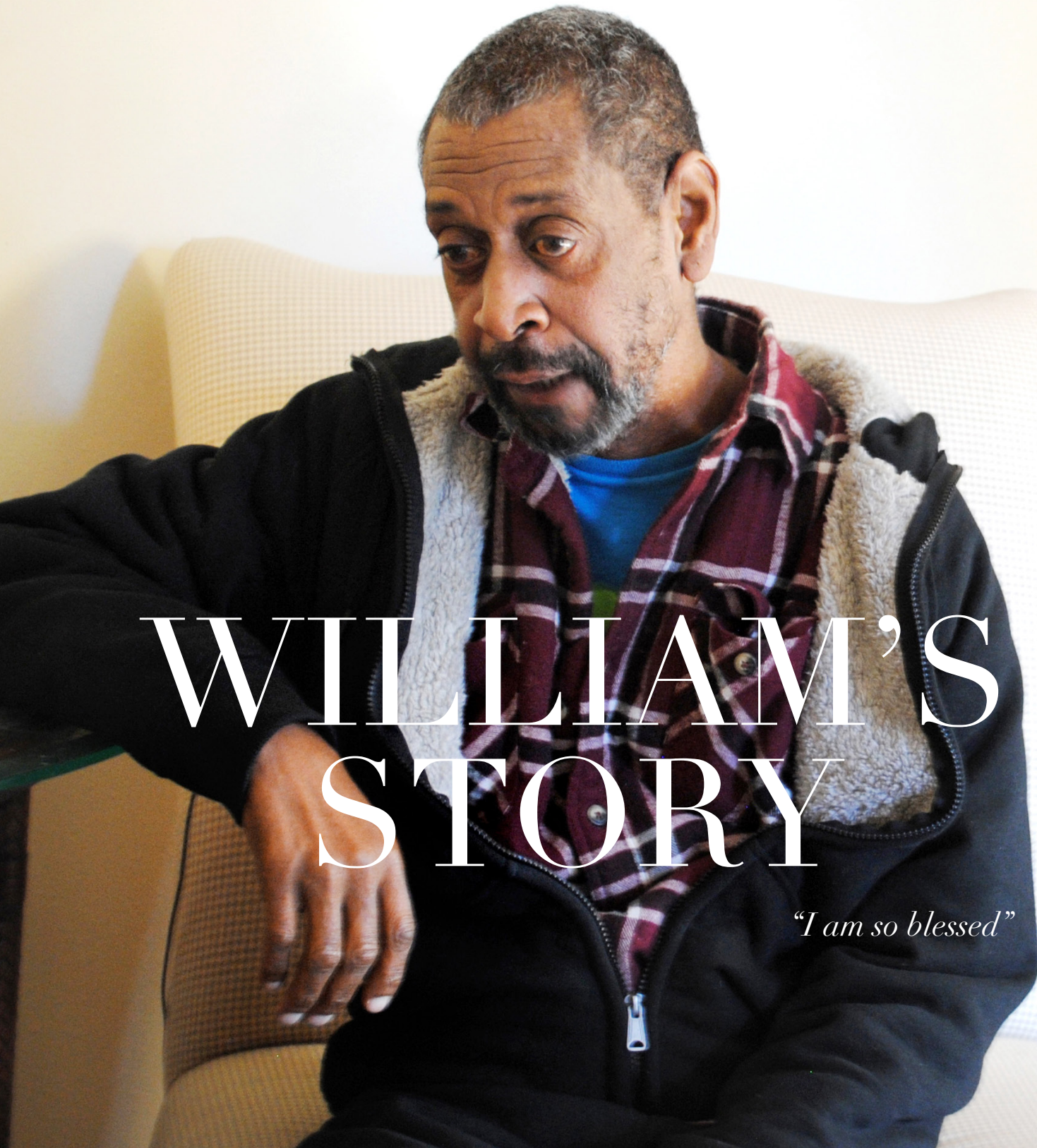
Services. She organizes collections for IHYC and JOPPA Outreach. Charity’s dream is to one day open a homeless shelter for families that also provides mental health services.

“I want others to know Anawim was able to help me to become self-sufficient by giving me the tools I needed to succeed; I just had to put the tools to use. Going back to school and being a part of the community has truly helped me become who I am today,” Charity said.

On behalf of the Anawim staff, supporters and advocates, we congratulate Charity on an amazing achievement.



WILLIAM (53) SPENT TWO HARD YEARS ON THE STREETS BEFORE ENTERING INTO THE HOMELESS TO HOUSING PROGRAM. IT'S HARD TO ENVISION WHILE SPEAKING WITH HIM THAT ONLY A COUPLE MONTHS AGO HE WAS HOMELESS AND SLEEPING IN HALLWAYS, CLOSETS, AND EVEN DUMPSTERS.



WILLIAM'S STORY

"I am so blessed"

William would get particularly nervous sleeping in dumpsters because he would worry that in the morning, the dump truck would come and he'd still be in there. He would often sleep behind gas stations. On one occasion, the owner of a Quick Trip asked him to leave because they were worried about his safety sleeping out there.

These days, William finds life to be drastically different. With a roof over his head, he says he doesn't worry about getting rained on, snowed on, or having high winds blow on him anymore. When he was on the streets, even in the summer months when it was 90 degrees, he would walk outside with his winter coat on because he is anemic. He now receives regular treatments at the hospital for his anemia. When asked how he got through it he says, "Each and every day, I have to turn it over to God—I can't do this on my own."

Dan McBee, program manager with Homeless to Housing, asked William what his vision was for a happy life.

“
To me, just having you
there (Dan), the Church,
and my family. That makes
a happy life for me.
”

William hopes to reconnect more with his family now that he has a roof over his head, and says he can now focus on making their happiness his happiness.

Out of habit, whenever William finds he has extra canned or packaged food, he will put it in a bag and give to those who may need it. His good natured heart and willingness to help people goes far from unnoticed when you meet him. He hopes to volunteer with Meals From The Heartland or another organization where he can help ensure others have access to food and get enough to eat.

Since entering into the Homeless to Housing program, William has settled into his new apartment. Outreach organizations, and our Homeless to Housing program help ensure William has access to food, various home appliances, furniture and clothing. William's apartment was noticeably clean. "I'm a bit of a neat freak," he says with a laugh. "I don't know what I can say to say thank you enough. I am so blessed."

HOMELESS TO HOUSING

In December of 2015, Anawim Housing piloted a permanent supportive housing program known as Homeless to Housing. The intent of this program, funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is to shelter individuals who are considered to be chronically homeless, and are most vulnerable and at risk. The program allows for 18 chronically homeless individuals to be housed. These are individuals who no longer have to endure the cold nights of an Iowa winter outdoors, and whom now have a permanent roof over their head.

Mental health challenges, combined with alcohol or other drug abuse problems, are often found with the people being served, as many have had a difficult time accessing supportive services in the past. Centralized Intake at Primary Health Care identifies the most vulnerable of Polk County's homeless population and refers them to Anawim Housing. Anawim's role is to then bring them into permanent supportive housing and provide case management through our Homeless to Housing program.

Dan McBee, program manager for Anawim Housing, works with participants at their own pace, providing case management—using principles of trauma informed care, harm-reduction, motivational interviewing and strength based contact. Provided case management can include scheduling medical appointments, setting up legal appointments, helping them reconnect with family, and being a person they can trust and talk to. "There's an expectation that people will backslide, but that's okay. Being able to build a trusting relationship with participants is really what makes this program work," Dan states.

The heart of the Homeless to Housing program is in the belief that housing is a fundamental human right and that housing, in and of itself, is therapeutic. Having a home is the first step to finding stability. Whatever their idea of a happy life might be, whether it's being mentally healthy, physically healthy, or having healthy relationships, Anawim will work to help them get there. Housing is the first step.



FRONT ROW: SUE KENNY; CECELIA KENT, FOUNDATION CHAIR; MARILYN CARROLL; PATRICIA SHOFF; ELIZABETH GOODMAN; KATE MASSOP, MD; TIFFANY KING, ANAWIM HOUSING. BACK ROW: RUSS FRAZIER, PRESIDENT, ANAWIM HOUSING; BOB DOUGLAS; KEVIN WAETKE; FERN KIDDER. NOT PICTURED: TIM SITZMANN

ANAWIM HOUSING FOUNDATION 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Anawim Housing Foundation Board of Directors began in 2014 to manage the donations entrusted to the foundation, guaranteeing that 100% of all dollars raised go to the programs and services provided to all of the tenants Anawim serves.

Anawim is very excited to welcome two new members: Marilyn Carroll, retiree from Mercy Medical Center and Fern Kidder from Housby.

“I joined the Anawim Housing Board because of the people and what they stand for. Anawim to me sends a bigger message than

affordable housing. It’s meeting new friends, helping families in need, and most of all, building a stronger community that people can be proud of. I am excited to be a part of an organization that can change people’s lives like Anawim. Giving back and helping those in need are important to me. Anawim Housing for me has all of the core values, drive, and leadership that make me a proud board member for Anawim,” said Fern.

“It is an honor to serve on the board of such an impactful organization. The vision and untiring spirit of the staff and fellow board members are

inspiring. I’m eager to help support the mission and to spread the word about the important work being done by Anawim,” said Marilyn.

“It’s a new year and the 2016 Anawim Housing Foundation Board is off to a strong start. We remain steadfast in our mission of developing stable homes and strong communities, with supportive services and programs being a big part of this mission. We are committed to raising the needed funds to support those within the Anawim Housing community,”

said Foundation Chair, Cecilia Kent.



LEFT TO RIGHT: KARA WILCOXIN, PROGRAM MANAGER; CYNTHIA LATCHAM, SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER; SUSAN O'BRIEN, UNITED HEALTHCARE COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPECIALIST; ERIN VALERIO-GARROW, SUPPORTIVE SERVICES MANAGER; BILL SWANSON, VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES; DAN MCBEE, PROGRAM MANAGER

United Healthcare Community Plan Donates to Anawim Housing's Programs

In February, Anawim Housing was presented with a \$400.00 check from United Healthcare Community Plan to be used towards transportation vouchers for our program tenants. Anawim Housing is grateful for United Healthcare’s support and partnership as we work together to aid in the lives and personal journey of our program tenants.



THE BRICKSTONES AT RIVERBEND

Anawim Housing Awarded Major Tax Credit Funding

On March 9, The Iowa Finance Authority awarded federal affordable housing tax credits to 11 rental projects in Iowa, including three in Greater Des Moines. Anawim Housing was awarded \$4,562,960 in tax credits for The Brickstones at Riverbend project, a 30-unit development for seniors ages 55 and older located at 513 Forest Avenue in Des Moines. The Brickstones at Riverbend will be a mixed-income, urban-style, multi-family building. The project will break ground in the fall with an anticipated completion in summer of 2017.

Anawim is also a consultant on two other awarded projects in Iowa: The Villas at Meadow Springs in Ankeny, and Paragon Square in Dubuque. Both projects are projected to be completed in 2017.

These awards will allow Anawim to continue moving forward with the vision that every person has a home that supports self-sufficiency.



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- Arwen Chaplin, *Housing Manager*
- Tim Davis, *Director of Property Services*
- Russ Frazier, *President*
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- Rose Zimmerle, *Family Advocate*

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