



# PATHWAYS POST

SPRING 2015



Before being connected to Pathways to Housing DC in 2010, Terrencia, a native Washingtonian, had spent more than four years homeless. Today, Terrencia is living in her own apartment in Southeast DC and is working with her Pathways support team toward achieving her health goals. She is also focusing on securing a part-time job and is writing poetry in her spare time. We are honored that Terrencia chose to share her talents with her Pathways DC family!

A Poem by Terrencia  
*Pathways DC Program Participant*

## ***Pathways DC***

**P** is for how pleasant you make us feel.  
**A** is for all the things you do for us.  
**T** is for all the time you put into your work.  
**H** is for hearts of gold.  
**W** is for wisdom you acquire.  
**A** is for having a positive attitude.  
**Y** is for yearning for more and achieving it.  
**S** is for how sweet you are.

**D** is for daring to dream.  
**C** is for courageous, compassionate, considerate,  
and caring!

## **The Next Chapter: Employment**

Exciting things are happening in our supportive employment program! Every week our clients are building their job skills, securing employment, and achieving their professional goals. For Anthony (right), "It makes me a better person to work. I have rough days, but when I go into a store and see things I want to buy and can buy [them], it feels good that I have worked." Over the past several months, we have helped 15 clients find meaningful work in our community.





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### In Memoriam

The board, staff, and clients of Pathways to Housing DC are deeply saddened by the passing of our board member, Bonnie Milstein.

We are so grateful for Bonnie's dedication, passion and support of our mission.



*Bonnie tending to the Pathways to Housing DC library.*



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## CHRISTY'S CORNER: An Update from our Executive Director

On any given night in Washington, DC, there are at least 6,186 individuals and families living on the streets and in shelters. Here at Pathways to Housing DC, we find that unacceptable, and I am proud to say that we have the solution. We have already ended homelessness for more than 600 individuals since our founding in 2004. Just as remarkable is our 89% success rate of helping people remain permanently housed in their own apartments. Together with your help, we are dedicated to joining our partners in the community to do whatever it takes to end chronic homelessness by the end of 2017.

To reach this goal, Pathways to Housing DC has joined with our nonprofit and government partners to create our city's first Coordinated Assessment and Housing Placement (CAHP) system. What does this mean? Quite simply, it means that we redesigned our existing systems to make it easier for people experiencing homelessness to find permanent housing. Historically, a person has had to navigate a maze of applications, waiting lists, and assessments - every agency using different criteria and intake procedures to make their decisions on who would and would not enter housing. This new CAHP system enables housing programs to use a common set of procedures and tools to identify, assess, prioritize and match individuals experiencing homelessness with appropriate housing and service interventions. Working together as a community, we WILL end homelessness!

## Want more Pathways DC?

Log on to our website, [www.pathwaystohousingdc.org](http://www.pathwaystohousingdc.org), and sign up for our mailing list to receive our monthly move-in highlights!



We are always sharing photos and stories from the front lines!



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