

PATHWAYS POST

FALL 2013



Russell grew up in Southeast DC before becoming homeless more than three decades ago. Struggling with schizophrenia, Russell was in and out of jail and the hospital. He spent the last ten years sleeping on a park bench downtown.

This fall, with the help of his Pathways team, Russell moved off the streets and into a permanent apartment.

For the first time since 1980, Russell finally has a roof over his head and a place to call home. His favorite thing about the new space? "The television." A die-hard Washington Redskins fan, Russell is thrilled to be able to cheer his team on-- hopefully all the way to the Superbowl--from the comfort of his living room.

For Russell though, it is more than just watching his favorite team play. After just two months, Russell is beginning to thrive in his new home. He

has accomplished a number of personal goals including saving to buy a new bike (Russell is a former DC courier) and attending his first-ever Nationals game. Because of you, Russell will not be out in the cold this winter.

Welcome home, Russell!



Last Veterans Day we shared some exciting news with you! Pathways DC had been chosen by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to move 50 chronically homeless Veterans with serious mental illnesses and other medical challenges from the streets of Washington, D.C. into permanent supportive housing. Now, on this Veterans Day, with your generous support, each of these individuals is starting their next chapter in a new home filled with furniture, household items, artwork and the love and support of their Pathways family.

UPDATE ON VETERAN'S HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM

Thank you for helping us house our heroes!



United Way NCA Designation Code 9536



CFC Designation Code 59854

Thanks to a generous matching grant from The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, your gift this holiday season will be worth DOUBLE!

Pathways to Housing DC

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We're always sharing photos and stories from the front lines! Facebook.com/ pathwaysdc



@pathwaysdc

AN UPDATE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

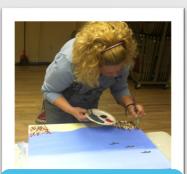
CHRISTY'S CORNER



This fall, my family moved from our home of eight years into a new house.

As we unpacked the boxes, it dawned on me that our work at Pathways is similar to that of an interior designer. It can be overwhelming to move into a new space and decide where each piece of furniture will go, how to create the feeling of comfort and home, or even where to hang the artwork on the walls. A good interior decorator looks at a space and sees limitless potential. I relied on friends to be my interior designers using their unbiased eyes to help take the blank canvas of my empty house and turn it into a space that felt like home. At Pathways, we help people design their own dream canvas after moving off of the streets.

A good interior decorator doesn't try to impose their personal style on you. They listen to what you want and



Volunteer creating artwork to give as a housewarming gift for Pathways clients.

support you in realizing your vision. Otherwise, you would feel like a guest in your own home! Pathways does the same with the people we serve. From our very first meeting with each client, we take the time to get to know what is important to them, and then support them in achieving those dreams. We focus on building rapport and a relationship of trust so that we can hear directly from our clients

how they think we can best be of help to them. We may give suggestions if asked, but ultimately each person we serve chooses the type and frequency of services they need to continue on their personal journey of recovery.

It's all about the details—a vibrant painting or a strategically placed plant can change the feel of a room from empty to inviting. At Pathways we ask questions and notice the details. We see the potential in each and every person who enters our doors and guide them to realize it fully.