



# PATHWAYS POST

FALL 2012

## Housing our Heroes

On Veterans Day – November 11th – our country honors the brave men and women who made tremendous sacrifices to protect our freedoms and keep our homes safe from harm. We proudly commemorate their dedication and loyal service with celebrations of gratitude across the country. Sadly, instead of marking this day with triumph, many Veterans will continue to fight their own personal battles right here on the streets —battles of homelessness and serious mental illness. On this Veteran's Day, however, many of the District's most vulnerable Veterans are able to unlock the door to their own homes thanks to Pathways to Housing DC.

In partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Pathways to Housing DC is currently moving 50 chronically homeless Veterans from living on the streets and shelters of Washington D.C. into permanent apartments of their own. We are also providing intensive wraparound support services necessary for them to be successful in connecting to the community and address issues that hinder their recovery. In our effort to help them make their new apartments into homes, we are still in need of move-in welcome baskets and household items. Please contact Hannah at [hzollman@pathwaysdc.org](mailto:hzollman@pathwaysdc.org) or (202) 529-2972 ext. 130 for more information.

**Housing First**  
**Ends Homelessness**



*Joseph, a Veteran, receiving the keys to his apartment after spending more than 15 years living on the streets of Washington, D.C.*



### Christy's Corner

*An update from Pathways DC's Executive Director*

This is a remarkable moment for Pathways DC. In 2004, we opened our doors in the Nation's Capital to end homelessness and support recovery for our most vulnerable neighbors. And that is exactly what we have accomplished over the past eight years. Today, more than 450 formerly homeless individuals are part of the Pathways family, permanently residing in apartments throughout Washington, D.C. and receiving intensive support services from our incredibly dedicated, community-based teams. Over the past few months, we have expanded our services and reach to serve even more individuals in need. We renovated our onsite clinic to better integrate our primary and behavioral health care services, expanded our community partner and landlord network and launched three novel, cutting-edge programs. Most significantly, we increased our work with chronically homeless Veterans and their families as part of a nationwide commitment, set by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to end Veterans' homelessness by 2015. In September we began managing the Urgent Care Clinic, one of the first of its kind, at the DC Superior Court. The clinic provides immediate behavioral health and addictions treatment to arrestees (over half of whom are homeless) and is funded through a partnership with the DC Department of Mental Health and APRA. What a phenomenal year thus far! I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to you, our supporters, for your commitment and generosity! It is because of you that our clients, who despite serious disabilities and histories of homelessness, are now living and thriving members of the Washington, D.C. community.



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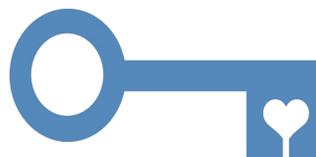
## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Volunteers from **Fannie Mae** and the **Greater Washington Society of CPAs** teamed up with **HandsOn Greater DC Cares** to honor the victims, survivors, and heroes of 9/11 by volunteering their time at Pathways DC in early September. Approximately 25 volunteers came out on a sunny Friday morning to paint, clean, organize and bring cheer to the Pathways DC family. Volunteer Pablo Simmonds remarked, "I'm EXTREMELY impressed with the work that you all do there. You take the words "patience" and "care" to an entirely new level, so I'm just glad to be able to help out a little bit." A huge thank you to these amazing individuals for their time and support! For more information on volunteer opportunities, please contact Hannah at [hzollman@pathwaysdc.org](mailto:hzollman@pathwaysdc.org) or 202.529.2972 ext. 130.

## MISSION STATEMENT

As originators of the Housing First model, Pathways to Housing seeks to transform individual lives by ending homelessness and supporting recovery for those with psychiatric disabilities. We believe housing is a basic human right, and aspire to change the practice of homeless services by: Providing immediate access to permanent independent apartments, without preconditions; Setting the standard for services driven by consumer choice that support recovery and community integration; Conducting research to find innovative solutions and best practices for those who suffer from mental illness and homelessness.



## Pathways to Housing DC

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**Thanks to a generous matching grant from The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, every gift made to Pathways DC this holiday season will be worth DOUBLE!**

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