



The Advocate Current

Advocates for Homeless Families, Inc. 216 Abrecht Place Frederick, MD 21701 301-662-2003 www.afhf.org

Conservation Corp Volunteers Visit Advocates



This past March, twenty college-aged Chesapeake Conservation Corp (CCC) Volunteers spent a day at eight of Advocates' properties to weatherize the houses as part of a CCC Energy Efficiency Training. Hosted by Frederick County's Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources (OSER), the youth volunteers spent some classroom time to learn about household energy costs and potential savings that can be achieved with simple steps. Under the guidance of Mike Uecker from Atlas Energy Home Solutions and Dan Herbert, Advocates' Property Manager, the team of youths sealed windows and doors, cleaned air ducts, and installed energy efficient lighting among other activities.

To follow up, Advocates has issued a challenge to the participants in our programs to put into action the practices taught by Sabrina Harder, OSER's Green Homes Program Coordinator, and reduce their energy bills by 10 percent over the next year. While Advocates pays all utility bills for our properties, participants who succeed in lowering our electric bills by 10 percent or more will only pay half their housing fee for one month. (Housing fees are based on 30 percent of participants' income up to a maximum of \$300.)

If you are a member of a group and are interested in saving home energy costs, we suggest you contact Sabrina Harder regarding Frederick County's Green Homes Challenge (www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/GreenHomes). She will work with you to host a Power Saver Workshop or Powerware Party for your group where participants will learn how to reduce energy bills and find out about financial incentives and other energy conservation resources. You can contact Sabrina at 301-600-7414 or sharder@FrederickCountyMD.gov.



Volunteers from the Chesapeake Conservation Corps spend a day weatherizing eight Advocates properties.

WISH LIST ITEMS !

The homeless families in our programs are always in need of the following items:

Liquid laundry detergent

Body Wash

Women's deodorant

Men's deodorant

Paper towels

Toilet paper

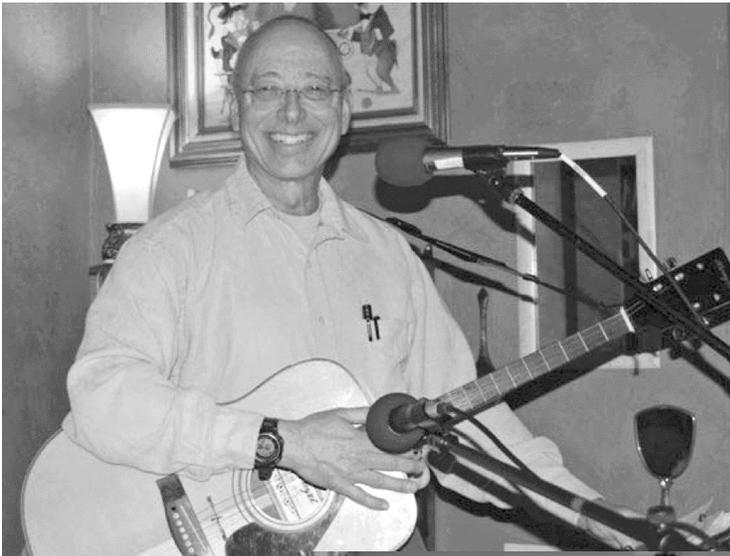
Dish detergent

All purpose cleaners

Donations can be dropped off at our office between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm. We suggest you call first, so we can make sure a member of our staff is available to receive the goods.

Proudly serving the Frederick community since 1988.

Advocates empowers motivated families to overcome homelessness. Our families succeed through a two-year structured program of housing, education and support services



In April, local musician Tony Rizzo, above, donated proceeds from concert at Beans in the Belfry in Brunswick, MD.

The band, *Beyond the Flood*, right, will be playing on May 25 at Monocacy Valley Church in Ijamsville, MD.



Concerts Benefits Advocates

Our thanks go out to Tony Rizzo who held a guitar and banjo concert to benefit Advocates on April 6, 2012 at Beans in the Belfry in Brunswick, Maryland. What a welcome surprise to have he and his wife Jacci present us with a check for the proceeds!

Beyond the Flood is holding a concert to benefit Advocates Friday, May 25, 2012 at Monocacy Valley Church, 9861 Old National Pike, Ijamsville, Maryland. *Beyond the Flood* is a Frederick-based band that plays the best in modern and classic rock with diverse influences including Collective Soul, Tom Petty, Third Day, and Jars of Clay, to name a few. There is a \$5 cover/general admission fee at the door, cash or check only. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Coffeehouse-style seating available, with doors opening at 7:00 pm and the concert begins at 7:30 pm. Our very own Dan Herbert, property manager, plays lead guitar.

Advocates for Homeless Families has begun to accept sponsors for our newsletter. If you would like to be honored in an upcoming addition by sponsoring, please contact Ken Allread at kallread@afh88.org or 301-662-2003.

Good Grades Produce Positive Outcomes

The picture to the right is of a child whose family participates in Advocates' programs. He's a happy boy, because he was one of the four honors students recognized at our March 2012 program. Children in Advocates' Good Grades Program are awarded certificates and gift cards for scholastic achievement and perfect attendance. Our thanks to Zoe Carson, administrator of Frederick County Public Schools' Homeless Education Program, for providing refreshments for the event and keeping our case managers informed throughout the school year about the progress of each school-aged child in our programs.



Save the Dates . . .

June 29

California Guitar Trio

The unique trio creates their own sound with a wide range of instrumental styles, fusing European classical music, rock, blues, jazz, and bluegrass that entertain audiences world-wide. The concert to benefit Advocates will be held at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 106 W. Church Street, Frederick, Maryland.

September 21

24th Annual Gala

We will hold our 24th Annual Gala at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Frederick, Maryland. This year we're thinking informal, great food, time with friends, and a little night music. Details to follow.

November 3

Brain Games

Teams compete in the ultimate trivia contest for trophies. Games begin at 1:00 pm with four rounds of 25 questions each.

As we get closer to the dates, ticket information will be posted on our web-site at www.afhf88.org and in separate announcements.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU . . .

Since January 2012, Advocates has provided **38 homeless individuals** (16 adults and 22 children) with safe, well-maintained, separate housing units in our Transitional Housing program. We currently have **150 homeless families on our waiting list.**

- Fourteen participants are working full- or part-time
- Three participants are enrolled in nursing programs
- One participating family of three has transitioned to permanent, stable housing
- Two participants are enrolled in master's degree programs
- Five participants are enrolled in academic programs at Frederick Community College

We appreciate your support each and every day!

ADVOCATES FOR
HOMELESS FAMILIES, INC.
is a 501(c)3, non-profit
organization.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Advocates for Homeless Families' mission is to empower motivated families to overcome homelessness. Families achieve success through a structured two-year program of education, housing, and support services.



Planned Giving Corner

Advocates for Homeless Families works in partnership with many organizations within Frederick County. One of the most significant of these partnerships is with The Community Foundation of Frederick County. The Community Foundation of Frederick County has extensive expertise and the experience in managing donor funds to the benefit of the greater community and it also has extensive experience in helping potential donors create legacies that will continue to give back for many generations.

Remembering Advocates for Homeless Families with a legacy gift in your estate provisions or with another type of planned gift such as a life insurance policy, a retirement account distribution, or a charitable gift annuity is a wonderful way to achieve your charitable goals and save substantial amounts on taxes.

If you would like to discuss the array of planned giving options that are available to you, please contact Ken Allread, Advocates' Executive Director, at 301-662-2003 or Betsy Day, President of The Community Foundation of Frederick County, at 301-695-7660. More information about planned giving options will be forthcoming in future editions of this newsletter.