

My Place Germantown, Inc.

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May, 2016

Dear Friend of My Place Germantown:

We wanted to share with you some of the news about My Place Germantown:

MPG is in the Top Ten

My Place Germantown was rated number 8 of 106 housing for homeless projects in Philadelphia in 2015. The rating was done by a team of reviewers of the Philadelphia Continuum of Care, Office of Supportive Housing. The ranking was based on several criteria including: the quality of the project description and case study, the identification of achievements, the stability of the population in the program, and its community relations efforts. It's a great testimony that MPG has reached this level in just five years!

MPG Working with Horizon House, Inc.

In October of 2015 My Place Germantown entered into a service agreement with Horizon House to assume program and maintenance operations at the site. This was the result of a yearlong study to plan for the stability and future of My Place Germantown. So far the transition has been smooth and the staff and residents are very positive about its benefits. The connection has allowed staff to have more training and support.

Continuing to Grow

The Board of My Place Germantown continues to be responsible for raising matching funds of \$60,000 to support its program as part of the federal grant from the Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Recently three members of the Board were invited to a workshop sponsored by The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia which was held on May 11. The focus of the workshop was creating strategies for fund raising, engaging volunteers, and developing board leadership. The presenters offered concrete approaches to improving how non-profits can be sustained. For MPG, an organization in transition, these strategies could not have been more timely. In the coming year the board will discern which ones to implement.

A Sad Goodbye

On May 2, our dear Sandra "Sandy" Jones passed away from cancer. Sandy was one of the first Resident Advocates to work at My Place Germantown. She was called the "mother hen" by the residents. She held cooking activities so the men would learn how not to depend on fast food. She maintained relationships with Starbucks and Chipotle and would go regularly to pick up baked goods for the residents. She was always approachable and willing to listen. Her wish was to not have a funeral but please remember her kindness and dedication. She would have turned 67 on May 21. She exemplified the spirit of My Place Germantown.

We appreciate your support and interest.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors of My Place Germantown