



Samaritan Community 2009 Annual Report



"...No matter who you are, at one time or another, you're gonna need somebody's help..."





Samaritan Community
MISSION STATEMENT

The Samaritan Community provides assistance to meet the needs of families and individuals who are in crisis and wish to improve their lives. Our program is rooted in respect, hope and healing.

Samaritan Community Staff

Angela Allen – Intern

Marcia Sternbergh – Bookkeeper

Peter Dunn – Development Director

Dale Balfour – Food Program Coordinator

Marvin Carroll – Food Program Associate

Sharon Krieger – Crisis/Group Counseling /Program Director

Susan Smeragliuolo LCSW-C – Crisis Counseling/Clinical Therapy

Samaritan Community Board of Directors

Steve Howard, President

James Blue, Vice President

Sanford Groff, Treasurer

Alma Bell

Lois Eldred

The Rev. Roger Fink

Pam Fleming

Edwin Lewis

The Rev. Martha Macgill

George Maris

Joyce Ramelmeier

Leon Taylor

The Rev. Dianne Tomlinson

The Samaritan Community
1407 Bolton Street, Baltimore, MD 21217

For information call: 410.669.1229
Email: office@samaritancommunity.org

Website: www.samaritancommunity.org



Dear Friends,

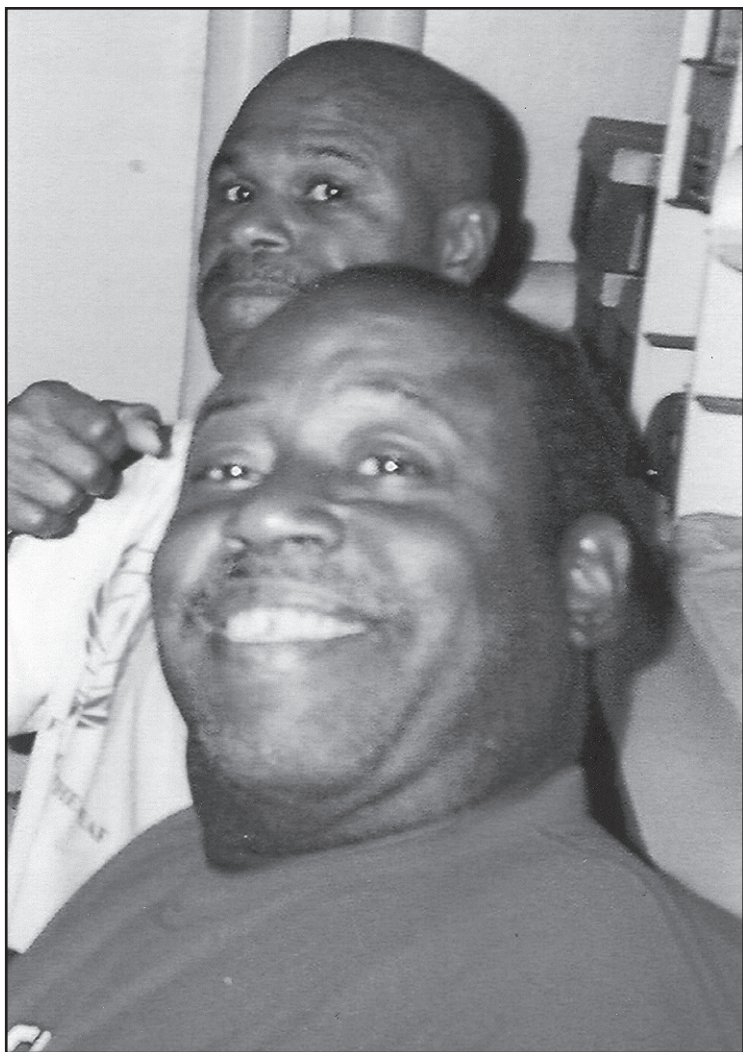
The Samaritan Community has had a year of great transition. We extended the work with our consultant, Odette Ramos (begun with a grant from the Memorial Capital Outreach Fund), and we have great accomplishments from that work. The biggest news is our new partnership with Episcopal Housing Corporation. EHC has helped us turned our Wilson St. residence into an Oxford House. The building continues to provide housing for those in need, but now it is cashflow-positive. And minor repair needs at the house will no longer distract from our focus on our other programs.

The weekly breakfast program continues at full strength, building real community while helping people get back on their feet. The food pantry has added Saturday hours once a month to help those still struggling after finding work. Many opportunities exist for volunteers. For those who worship nearby, please bring food every Sunday to keep the pantry as well stocked as possible. A wonderful surprise has been the positive feedback from volunteers working the Saturday food pantry. Parent-teen teams have had especially good results working the pantry.

Staff and board have seen changes as well. We would like to thank Sallye Perrin for her many great years as president and Gus Lewis for his strong leadership as vice president and interim president. Steve Howard and James Blue ask for your support in their new roles as president and vice president, respectively. We also welcome new board members Alma Bell, Fred Demers and Diane Tomlinson, and new staff members: Angela Allen, Intern; Peter Dunn, development; and Marcia Sternbergh, administration.

Sincerely,

Steve Howard, President



"It's the spirit in which help is given, like everyone is special."

SERVICES

At its core, the Samaritan Community is a healing community. We support individuals and families in times of crisis, assisting with material support while enabling them to make sustainable changes in their lives. Our founder, F. Lyman Farnham, created a legacy, a calling to meet each person where they are, to love them as they are, and to enter into relationship with them as they undertake the difficult challenge of creating better lives for themselves and their families.

Since the early '70s, the Samaritan Community has been a lifeline for individuals and families whose struggle to survive is temporary or ongoing. In 2009, the Samaritan Community distributed over 5,400 bags of food to 622 unduplicated individuals, as well as clothing, and household items. We visited people in homes and hospitals, and accompanied them to appointments. We conducted more than 1,600 counseling or therapy sessions to individuals and over 100 hours of group counseling. To augment the counseling, we provided grants for health, housing, employment, utility and legal costs to 101 unduplicated households based on their need.

We receive many requests for assistance each day from individuals, and from both private and public institutions. We see those who have lived on the fringe of society their entire lives as well as middle class families caught in a crisis or a tragedy. They arrive at our door in great need of emotional and physical healing as well as sufficient resources for the basic necessities of life.

Our support sustains people struggling with short and long-term crises and offers opportunities to build and maintain more stable lives. With our core values of respect, hope, and healing for every person, the Samaritan Community acts as an advocate and voice for those who feel powerless. The Samaritan Community also empowers individuals to gain the knowledge and confidence to advocate for themselves, to become whole, spiritually-centered individuals, and to be a contributing member of society.

COUNSELING

The Samaritan Community offers community and hope for those struggling with acute and long-term problems. Each person's story is compelling; each situation is unique. We listen wholeheartedly and are present without

judgment. Our support is tailored to the specific needs of each individual and family.

COMMUNICATION, FINANCE, and LIFE SKILLS counseling provides participants with the tools needed to help them improve and rebuild their lives. Though the Samaritan Community strives to provide assistance that participants cannot readily access elsewhere, we do maximize our efforts by functioning within a network of established social service programs.

Accessing available services through public and private agencies is daunting for many, so we provide **ADVOCACY**. We help clients learn about their options and teach them to advocate for themselves.

Through **CRISIS INTERVENTION COUNSELING**, financial and other material needs frequently surface. The Samaritan Community provides a number of families and individuals with direct emergency goods or grants. These small grants address immediate needs and prevent further crisis. Through counseling and tangible assistance, the Samaritan Community provides an invaluable safety net for people in crisis.

CLINICAL THERAPY is offered two days each week to those seeking long term exploration in coping with life's problems and choices. Ideas emerge, options are clarified, and decisions are made that can turn the course of lives in crisis.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT and SUPPLIES

Many people come to us initially through our **EMERGENCY FOOD** program. Food is purchased in bulk from the Maryland Food Bank and local stores but we continue to rely on the many food donations collected by Scouts, neighbors, churches, students, youth groups, and institutions. Groceries are distributed as emergency 3-day supplies to those in need. Also clothing, holiday food baskets, and household items are provided.

TRANSPORTATION costs are often a barrier to self help. After an assessment to determine both need and lack of resources, we provide funds to:

- * attend training programs
- * search for employment
- * maintain employment until the 1st or 2nd paycheck is received
- * keep medical and other appointments distant from home

Samaritan community offers *EMPLOYMENT* counseling and referral and prepares individuals for employment by connecting participants to job readiness and training programs. We assist with resumes and job searches, providing follow-up and support. Also provided are grants for uniforms, tools and gently used business clothing.

LEGAL ISSUES are often minor but need immediate attention. A lost ID or an old criminal record for example, can cost someone their job or prevent them from gaining employment. We provide small grants for:

- * court fees
- * probation/public defender fees
- * birth certificates
- * drug screening
- * photo ID cards
- * clearing old criminal records

HEALTH — While seeking food is often the first contact with the Samaritan Community, injury or illness is often the primary reason that people find themselves in a crisis. By offering small grants for dental, vision, hearing and pharmacy costs, we are able to prevent further medical complications. Counseling, referral and advocacy play an important role in addressing the serious physical and mental health challenges that many of our participants face and help to mitigate the sense of helplessness that often accompanies them.

HOUSING is perhaps our greatest challenge. The stock of affordable, safe housing continues to decline in Baltimore City. Much of the existing housing is not maintained, and boarded empty houses are a common blight in urban landscapes, threatening the stability of neighborhoods. The housing that is affordable is often in disrepair and unsafe. Despite the poor quality of residences, rents (and utilities) continue to rise. Displacement or eviction are often the precipitating crisis that bring clients to Samaritan. We help individuals and families in their search for affordable housing and shelter and support them through the transition to their new living arrangements. We often serve as advocates for tenants in disputes with property owners and work to resolve problems so that clients may stay in their current residence whenever possible. We provide grants for security deposits, rent, and utilities.

The *SAMARITAN RESIDENCE*, located in Bolton Hill, provides a family environment for individuals committed to the values of mutual respect and community living. The residents contribute financially as they are able. Since opening, 19 individuals have lived there for either short or long periods of time. In 2009, Samaritan partnered with the Episcopal Housing Corporation

to operate an **OXFORD HOUSE** at the Samaritan Residence. Five men are currently residing there. Residents live together as a family and learn to share the management of a home, including cooking, cleaning and basic upkeep.

The Oxford House relationship will allow the Samaritan residence to continue serving our mission while also allowing staff and volunteers to enhance services in our other programs. In 2010 the Samaritan Residence will apply for substantial in-kind services from the federal stimulus package including a new furnace, water heater, high efficiency duct work and insulation. These energy efficiency services will lessen utility bills and provide substantial upgrades to existing systems, further helping residents.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Men and women seeking empowerment through a supportive community are invited to join the **BREAKFAST CLUB**. Through group counseling and communal support, members are encouraged to grow in self-discovery, improve personal relationships, and deepen their role in the community at large. All participants assume the roles of inspirer, leader, helper, or the person being supported. The Breakfast Club includes an informal breakfast followed by a group activity or discussion that explores culture, health, religion, science, history and each person's life story. One group member is a licensed acupuncturist and is certified in zero balancing. He offers **ZERO BALANCING** and **CHI GONG** lessons to interested members.

The **WOMEN TOGETHER** support group gathers twice monthly to help women find meaning, purpose and serenity in their lives. Loss and trauma are common threads that connect them; the supportive, loving environment gives women the courage to move on with their lives and develop a deepened spirituality. Along with the heartfelt sharing of pain, there is much fun, laughter and solidarity. Women gain confidence as they become one with the group, determine their needs and plan interesting educational activities.



Volunteers - *We couldn't do it without YOU!*

Bill Balfour	Mary Ann Lewis
Dale Balfour	Dede Little
Marvin Bigham	Chris Malanga
Sara Bigham	Judith McFadden
Betty Biliske	Memorial Church Youth Group
Lee Bowers	Ann Mladinov
Caroline Bradley	Judith Paris
Brown Memorial Church Youth Group	Deborah Phinney
Abby Carlson	Ralph Phinney
Ty Carlson	Cathy Polkowski
Gould Charsee	Nirina Randrianarivelo
Anne Clewell	Beth Ratrie
Walt Dent	Sally Ratrie
Judy Dobson	Wendy Shuford
Bobbi Hahn	M. Lee Starkey, Jr.
Guy Hollyday	Eric Sommerville
Melissa Huch	Noah Stone
Amy Krulack	Janet Taylor
Zoe Krulack	Peter Van Buren
Bob Lawrence	Denise Weeks
Myra Lawrence	Jeff Whipple

Thank You to Our Generous Supporters

Associated Jewish Charities

Baltimore Community Foundation

Bank of America

Bolton Hill Community

Brown Memorial Park Ave. Presbyterian Church

Corpus Christi Catholic Church

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Giant Foods

Grace United Methodist Church

Memorial Episcopal Church

Memorial Episcopal Church, Youth Group

MICA, faculty and students

Obrecht Family Foundation

St. Christopher By-The-Sea

Stone Mill Bakery

The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

The 50 Girl Scout Troops of Service Unit #82

The Jim & Patti Rouse Charitable Foundation

The Wine Source

T. Rowe Price

University of Baltimore, Students and Faculty

United Way of Central Maryland

The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

2009 Income Statement

RECEIPTS	2009 Year End	2009 Budget	2010 Budget
Memorial	\$39,309	\$39,309	\$30,000
Donations	66,571	55,000	90,000
Events	8,119	7,500	5,916
Other Churches	10,890	9,500	16,500
Grants	27,500	32,500	42,500
Diocese of Maryland	15,000	15,000	15,000
Interest	499	1,800	250
Designated Income	1,600	0	0
Prior Year Reserves	0		
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$169,487	\$160,609	\$200,166
EXPENSES			
Administration	\$47,025	\$39,277	\$53,073
Empowerment	110,693	109,070	124,593
Crisis Intervention	20,372	20,500	22,500
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$178,090	\$168,847	\$200,166



THE SAMARITAN COMMUNITY

Memorial Episcopal Church

1407 Bolton Street

Baltimore, MD 21217

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