

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

The Samaritan Community Connection

Learn how Samaritan Community helps Baltimore neighbors in need.



Demond's Story: When Life Changes In An Instant



Demond faced tremendous challenges after his accident. Samaritan helped him on his journey back to independence.

Demond's life was going smoothly until Christmas Eve of 2020 when he was struck by a car while crossing the street in a crosswalk. Demond was taken to the hospital where he was in for a long stay.

"I was panicked because I knew that while I was in the hospital, I would be evicted and my belongings would be on the street for people to take," he recalls. "I started calling every place I could to find some help, but either I couldn't get through or because I didn't have COVID, I didn't qualify."

Just when Demond was losing hope, he called Samaritan Community and spoke with Sharon, Program Director. "That's when everything changed!

As soon as I spoke to Ms. Sharon, I knew I'd be okay. She told me that she wouldn't let go of me until I was back on my feet and able to handle everything myself."

"As soon as I spoke to Ms. Sharon, I knew I'd be okay. She told me she wouldn't let go of me until I was back on my feet..." - Demond

Demond had been renting a basement apartment that kept flooding. We helped him find a safer, cleaner apartment. We also helped him with rent and car insurance, so he could get to work.

"Demond is a special person and determined to succeed. Being able to work with him on his journey back to health and independence was a privilege," says Sharon.

Demond is back at his job now and filled with gratitude for the help and love that he found at Samaritan. "I just wouldn't have made it without Ms. Sharon."

For more information on Samaritan Community services, please visit www.samaritancommunity.org/services

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Life Changes Instantly: Demond's Story
- Thank You, Roger and Sandra
- Our Coronavirus Response Fund Continues to Make An Impact
- Samaritan Helps Matthew: A Hard Worker With A Bright Future

SAMARITAN COMMUNITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Honorable Myshala E. Middleton,
President

Marjorie Forster, Vice-President

Jeffrey Quinn, CPA, Treasurer

Wendy Cohan, Secretary

MEMBERS

Elizabeth Goldsby

Ben Hinceman

Steve Howard

Amy Krulak

Edwin (Gus) Lewis

Vabren Watts, PhD

Margie Whitman

The Rev. Grey Maggiano

Ex-Officio

Alma Bell

Advisor

Lynn Cripps

Advisor

Advisor

Jill Griffith

Advisor

Joyce Ramelmeier Advisor

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

Treasured Volunteers, Roger & Sandra Fink: Thank You For Years of Generosity, Commitment, & Community



Roger and Sandra were instrumental in getting our Clothing Shop into an efficient, organized, and fun spot.

At Samaritan Community, the importance of community has always been at the heart of who we are and is a vital part of everything we do. There is no better example of this than Sandra and Roger Fink. Roger first came to us about a decade ago as a board member. Then he, and his wife Sandra. started volunteering in our Clothing Shop. They quickly got it organized into an

efficient operation that provides gently-used clothing, home goods, and other necessities to our members and their families, free-of-charge.

Thank you, Sandra and Roger, for all you have done for us and our members!

Sandra and Roger quickly became beloved volunteers, who we all looked forward to talking

with every week. Their good nature and humor put them in the center of the cheerful banter that permeates our space. Because of logistics and other commitments, Sandra and Roger have decided to end their regular volunteer schedule. But because of the powerful connections that have been forged over the years, they have agreed to visit us when possible, so we can enjoy catching up as old friends do.

Thank you, Sandra and Roger, for all you have done for us and our members, and for your friendship!

For more information on volunteering opportunities at Samaritan Community, visit



The Finks are all smiles, in and out of Samaritan Community. We will miss them greatly and are looking forward to their visits.

greatly and are looking forward

SAMARITAN BY THE NUMBERS!

In 2021, Samaritan Community:

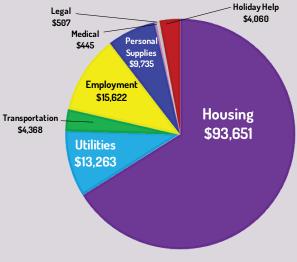
- Served approximately 310 households - impacting roughly 625 men, women, and children
- Provided fresh and healthy foods to about 215 households through direct-to-member deliveries, pantry visits, and deliveries of surplus food to other organizations
- Held an estimated 1,600 case management sessions to help members with issues related to housing, utilities, employment, medical care, transportation, legal help, and more
- Worked closely with members to help address and heal from difficult pasts, challenges, and traumas through roughly 565 individual empowerment counseling sessions
- Distributed roughly \$140,000 in emergency financial assistance, across approximately 90 households to help with rent, utility bills, transportation costs, employment and education expenses, medical care, and more. Of this total, more than \$91,000 for our Coronavirus Response Fund, which provides financial help to people who lost jobs/income as a result of the pandemic.

And we couldn't have done it without the ONE person who really makes a difference –

YOU!

www.samaritan community.org/get involved

Samaritan Community Gives \$140,000 (And Counting) To Help COVID-Impacted People In Baltimore



Financial Assistance, By Need, to COVID-Impacted Households

Two years ago, the COVID pandemic hit the globe, the country, and in neighborhoods across Baltimore. In addition to the heartbreaking illness and death it caused, it also forced millions into isolation, unemployment, poverty, and instability.

"We have new clients who recently lost jobs to COVID. They are people who never needed help before...it can happen to anyone," said Coleen, Food Pantry Volunteer, in spring 2020.

Like many organizations, Samaritan Community adapted to a "new normal". We made food deliveries to people's homes and provided our services mainly by Zoom, phone, or outside using social distancing. We also launched our Coronavirus Response Fund, which was created to give financial assistance to people who lost jobs/income as a result of the pandemic. The initial fundraising goal of the Fund was \$10,000. Two years later, we have provided more than \$140,000 in financial

stipends that has helped nearly 60 COVID-impacted households with rent, utilities, medical care, transportation, employment, personal supplies, and more. The need for these services continues.

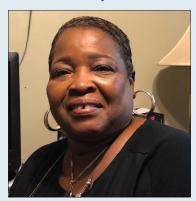
"We are all looking forward to when life returns to greater normalcy. But, for now, we're working to help people through

"For now, we're working to help people through this, so their futures aren't jeopardized." – Sharon

this, so their futures aren't jeopardized," says Sharon, Program Director. "We are deeply grateful to everybody who has contributed to the Fund to make this all possible."

For more information on our Coronavirus Response Fund, visit www.samaritancommunity.org/coronavirus-update.

Assistant Program Director, Ernestine, Helps Matthew, A Hard Worker With A Bright Future



Ernestine works closely with people, like Matthew, on their needs, challenges, and goals.

Matthew first came to Samaritan Community about five years ago when he had a short-term emergency and needed a little help with rent. Years went by until he came to us again when the pandemic struck. Matthew, having worked in the commercial cleaning industry, found it difficult to find adequate work. That's when Samaritan Community stepped in with rental assistance through our Coronavirus Response Fund.

"It was a pleasure to help such a good person who is working so hard to build the best possible life," says Ernestine, Assistant Program Director, who worked closely with Matthew.

Matthew's future is looking bright. He has found good part-time work and is in school to get a certification in sterilizing hospital equipment, which will improve his career prospects and wages. At Samaritan, we are always so grateful and inspired to be a part of beautiful success stories like Matthew's.

For more information on our services, visit www.samaritancommunity.org/services

"It was a pleasure to help such a good person who is working so hard to build the best possible life." – Ernestine