



THE SAMARITAN COMMUNITY

1407 Bolton Street
Baltimore, MD 21217

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 is helping neighbors in Baltimore!



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1407 Bolton Street, Baltimore, MD 21217 | 443.438.9286 | samaritancommunity.org | facebook.com/samaritancommunity

Fall 2021

Meet Otha: An Example of Strength, Love, and Grit



Sharon and Otha work together, like a team, on making a better life for Otha and her family.

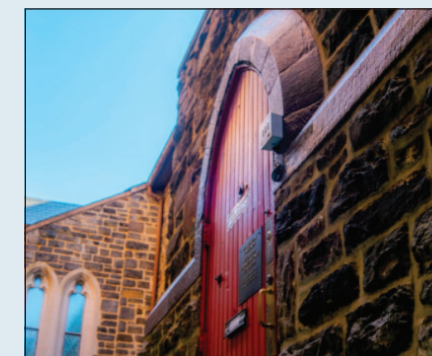
Anyone who meets Otha sees a hardworking and extremely capable woman with an indomitable spirit. But circumstances can overcome most anyone. When Otha first came to Samaritan Community two and a half years ago, life had dealt her a series of blows and she was at the end of her rope. Otha was in the process of leaving an irreparable marriage and she had two young children to protect and nurture.

“Sharon and my new Samaritan family came to my rescue. They helped me with food, clothing, rental assistance, utility bills, and even Christmas presents for my kids,” she recalls. “They made us feel loved and worthy of that love!”

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When the pandemic threw Otha another curve ball with a job loss and slashed income, her Samaritan family stepped in again with rental assistance through our Coronavirus Response Fund to keep her and her kids in their home. Today, Otha has consistent work and has started her own business.

“To see Otha shine has been such a gift for all of us”, says Sharon, Program Director at Samaritan Community. “When she arrived at our door, hard knocks had dimmed her spirits. Now, when people meet her the first thing they notice is her radiant smile!”



Since our beginning, thousands of people in crisis have come through these doors. No matter what brings them here, they are welcomed with respect, dignity, and by a whole team of people who want them to succeed.

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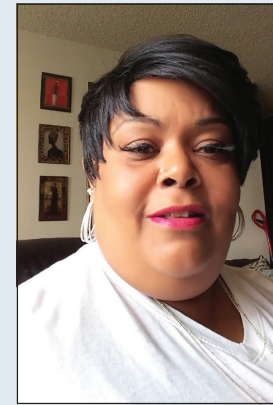
Our Annual Movie Night Gala: Thank You, Tapas Teatro and The Charles Theatre for Years of Support!

Our Movie Night Gala at The Charles is always a highlight for us at Samaritan Community. We see wonderful friends, raise support to help neighbors facing crisis, and have a nice night out with great food and fantastic films. And none of it would be possible without The Charles Theatre and Tapas Teatro! These two venerable Baltimore institutions have done so much, over these many years, to help Samaritan Community and many other worthy organizations.

We have missed you all and hope that we will be able to gather again next May for our Gala. In the meantime, The Charles and Tapas Teatro are still open for business for you to enjoy!



Neela's Journey to Health & Happiness Through Samaritan Community



Neela worked hard and lost 40lbs, in part due to the healthy foods provided at Samaritan Community.

We first met Neela when she came to Samaritan Community for community service. She had also been through a rough couple of years with multiple health issues that prevented her from returning to work. Neela, a good worker, developed a close relationship with our Program Director, Sharon and the rest of our programming staff.

"The more I got to know Sharon, Dave, Ernestine, and the work being done at Samaritan Community, the more I enjoyed my time there."

"As I opened up to Sharon about my challenges, including food, she started helping me with healthy foods. In addition to having wonderful groceries I could not afford, the healthier diet allowed me to lose forty pounds!"

And during a particularly tough time when Neela was caring for her mother who had a stroke, we also helped her with her rent. "Finding Samaritan Community was such a huge blessing for me!" she says. "They have helped me in so many ways, and my friendship with Sharon and the rest of the Samaritan Community has enriched my life!"

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"Neela is a dear person. Her story highlights how we all find Samaritan in our own way," says Sharon. "And once here, the love and respect people experience start their magic."

Dave's Evolution at Samaritan Community: Our Beloved & Talented Assistant to the Director



Dave is a crucial part of the Samaritan team. We are so thankful for him and all the hard work and passion he brings to Samaritan.

Dave first found his way to Samaritan Community about eight years ago after his office management job was eliminated due to a merger. After getting some help with food and transportation costs, Sharon quickly recognized Dave's organizational skills and wonderful way with people. He joined our weekly Breakfast Club group and began volunteering in our food pantry.

Over time, Dave moved from volunteer to employee. Because of his skills and commitment, his role kept expanding. Today, he is our Assistant to the Director and is a crucial part of Samaritan Community.

"Dave is just so good with people and is so committed to helping others. He has become a much beloved and valued member of the team," says Sharon, Program Director.

The feeling is mutual. "My life has been more enriched by being a part of the Samaritan Community family than I could ever have imagined when I first walked in the door. I have gained a family of friends and a purpose that mean everything to me," says Dave.

"Dave is just so good with people and is so committed to helping others."

Samaritan Community is a place of transformation for most who come through our door.

So, while Dave's success is wonderful and worth celebrating, it's also a testament to the community found here.



Dave is all smiles under his mask, as he works with members on their needs and goals.