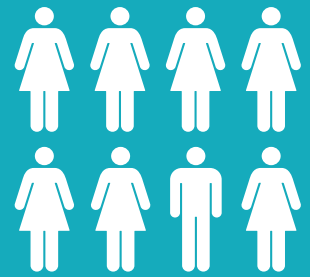




# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## 2018-2019



8 BHA Staff



112  
women and  
children served  
( FY 2018-2019 )

\$1.4

million invested  
since 1989



88%  
of households  
Obtained Permanent  
Housing

84

cents of every one dollar  
directly serves the families in our care



22  
apartments



# Dear Friends

**The past year has been an exciting one for BHA.** 2019 marked 30 years since BHA began serving single mothers with children experiencing homelessness. What started as one building with two volunteers has grown to **22 apartments with eight staff members serving over 100 individuals per year across three programs.**

Over the last five years, we have continued to rehabilitate apartments to make room for more families in need. Our *Transitions Program* is unique and effective with the one-on-one relationships formed between the families we serve and their Family Advocates. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19, we added a part-time Family Advocate to serve the additional families in our *Transitions Program*.

In FY 2017-18, BHA adopted a strategic plan that focused on diversifying our funding sources and strengthening our individual giving program. At that time, we kicked off our *Thriving Families Program* which asked supporters to pledge at least \$1,000 per year for three years.

In FY 2018-19, we extended the *Thriving Families Program* to include our Sustainers Level. The Thriving Families Sustainers Level allows supporters to pledge at least \$40 per month for three years. The *Thriving Families Program* provides predictable income to sustain BHA's mission and service to families experiencing homelessness for years to come.

• **BHA remains in a strong financial position,**  
• **and through thoughtful stewardship,**  
• **84 cents of every dollar directly serves the**  
• **families in our care.**

As we look forward to a new year, we find joy in watching families grow and flourish in their personal journeys. During FY 18-19, BHA served

35 families for a total of 112 adults and children in our *Transitions Program*. In addition, 88% of households obtained permanent housing. Our unique approach helps families prepare to live independently.

**Since 1989, BHA has invested \$1.4 million dollars into our neighborhood.** We have been a catalyst for the changes that have occurred in the surrounding area, such as the investment of \$20 million dollars by several partners, including the City of Harrisburg, Harrisburg Housing Authority and Tri-County Housing Development Corporation. These investments will improve pedestrian and traffic flow, increase curb appeal, and provide affordable housing opportunities for families.

In FY 2019-20, BHA has continued to invest in the lives of the families we serve by introducing a planned giving initiative designed to support families now and in the future.

For 30 years, BHA has served as a beacon of hope in our neighborhood. Our vision is to build a future with hope for each family that comes through our doors. Because of you, we have been able to do that.

**Thank you for your continued support. We could not do this without you.**



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brent Smith".

Brent Smith  
BHA Board of Directors  
President

# Program Stats

## Transitions Program

Transitions is a transitional housing program for women with children experiencing homelessness. The Transitions program provides housing and supportive services that bridge the gap from homelessness to stability.

### Individual people served:

- 35 adults
- 77 children

### Total numbers served:

- 112 individuals
- 35 families

**88% of participants successfully completed the program and obtained housing at program exit.**

**Of the 20 participants discharged from the program,** 15 were discharged successfully, two were asked to leave for safety reasons, and three did not engage and left before four months in the program.

**53% of participants obtained or maintained employment at discharge.**

**82% of participants maintained or increased their income at discharge:**

- 12 participants increased their income
- 2 participants maintained their income
- 1 participant did not acquire income while in the program
- 2 participants lost employment at time of discharge and were applying for unemployment benefits

### Supportive Services

- 42 life skills classes were offered
- 76% of participants were connected to entitlement benefits they were not receiving at entry (ex. medical insurance, child care assistance, etc.)
- 100% of participants were connected to community resources for their family stability (ex. Diaper Bank, mental health counseling, etc.)
- 88% of participants completed a budgeting program while at BHA

## Transitions Youth

Children at BHA can attend a weekly youth program focused on building resiliency. In addition, BHA's Youth Coordinator conducts emotional and developmental assessments on all children ages 5 and younger and works with the mother to educate her on developmental stages.

### Children served:

- 50 total
- Ages 10-18: 14
- Ages 6-9: 7
- Ages 3-5: 12
- Ages 0-2: 17

### Assessments Completed:

- 23 Developmental
- 15 Social-Emotional

62% of youth demonstrated competency in skill-building activities

52% of youth demonstrated competency in conflict resolution activities

65% of youth demonstrated competency in self-regulation activities



## Side-By-Side

Side-By-Side provides permanent housing for persons who have a disability and are experiencing homelessness. BHA leases housing in the community for individuals and/or families to reside in while they work to increase their stability.

### Total numbers served:

- 11 adults
- 4 children
- 6 households

**83% of participants maintained housing for at least 6 months.** *(One family had only been in the program 4 months.)*

### 67% of participants maintained or increased income:

- 1 participant decreased income due to benefits decreasing
- 1 participant decreased income due to suspending work while recovering from surgery

**83% of participants accomplished at least one goal by a year in the program.**

## Next Steps

Next Steps is an aftercare program for families who have completed any of BHA's housing programs.

### Total numbers served:

- 5 adults
- 13 children
- 5 families

**80% of participants maintained housing while in the program.**

**80% of participants maintained or increased income while in the program.**




# Our Amazing Volunteers

We are so thankful for the many ways BHA volunteers donate their time to help build a future with hope for the families we serve. In FY 2018-19, we had **264 volunteers donate 2,690 hours** of their time. Because of our incredible volunteers, BHA is able to put the money that would be spent to purchase items or hire workers back into the life changing programs we offer.

## What do volunteers at BHA do?

- General maintenance and paint apartments before *Adopt-An-Apartment* volunteers come in to furnish and decorate.
- Pull weeds and spread mulch to spruce up the garden and flower beds on Hummel Street.
- Clean, furnish, and decorate apartments for incoming families in the *Transitions Program*.
- Help BHA children learn conflict resolution skills during the *Transitions Youth Program* on Monday nights.
- Plan and execute the Little Black Dress Soiree, Golf Tournament, and Annual Celebration to help raise funds for BHA.
- Serve on the BHA Board of Directors and other committees to help govern and guide the work of BHA.



Brothers Don and Paul Trimble from Mechanic Grove Church of the Brethren are two of our dedicated property volunteers. They travel to BHA frequently to use their skills to assist our Property Manager, Dennis, with housing related projects.

## From Our Volunteer Don Trimble:

*"It is a privilege for me to volunteer at BHA, to help provide a safe home for women and their children. I know that these women are being empowered to change their life styles for this generation and for generations to come. God will continue to provide for them and BHA!"*



*Building a Future with Hope*

# Adopt-An-Apartment

## PROGRAM

The *Adopt-An-Apartment Program* launched in May 2017. In its first year, five volunteer groups adopted seven apartments. In the second year, 11 volunteer groups totaling 150 volunteers adopted 18 apartments. Groups assisted with cleaning and furnishing the apartments to create a safe and welcoming space for new families entering the *Transitions Program*. The *Adopt-An-Apartment Program* has not only touched the lives of the women and children in *Transitions*, but it has also maximized BHA's resources. As we have increased the number of families we can serve over the last five years, the property workload has also increased. This volunteer program has engaged new volunteers in a meaningful way and allowed our property manager to focus on other projects.

## Financials for Fiscal Year 2018-19

### Revenue

Individuals and Small Businesses | \$271,145  
Foundations and Corporations | \$208,109  
Member Churches | \$33,794  
Non-member Churches | \$6,918  
Contracts (CYS, HUD, etc.) | \$216,995  
In-Kind Contributions | \$41,020  
Investment Income (net) | \$695  
Special Events (net) | \$53,796  
Program Fees | \$9,942  
Occupancy Fees | \$5,792  
Miscellaneous | \$3,388  
Net Assets Released From Restrictions | \$30,716

**Total Revenue: \$882,310**

### Expenses

Program Services | \$622,289  
Supporting Services:  
Management & General | \$57,561  
Fundraising | \$58,990

**Total Expenses: \$738,840**

### Apartment Item Values:

Twin Mattress and Frame | \$250  
Dining Room Table | \$200  
Linens and Towels | \$40  
Pack 'n' Play | \$50

Full Mattress and Frame | \$350  
Sofa | \$500  
Dishes, Pots, and Pans | \$50

Dresser | \$100  
TV and Stand | \$250  
Miscellaneous | \$100

### Labor:

1,099 volunteer hours x \$25 an hour (*Property Manager salary as this is saving his time*) = \$27,475

### Furnishing the Apartment:

- Four 1-bedroom units were adopted at a value of **\$1,640 each** *plus labor*
- Ten 2-bedroom units were adopted at a value of **\$2,030 each** *plus labor*
- Three 3-bedroom units were adopted at a value of **\$2,670 each** *plus labor*
- One 4-bedroom unit was adopted at a value of **\$2,880** *plus labor*

### Total value of the Adopt-An-Apartment Program for FY 18-19

**\$27,475** (*labor amount*) + **\$37,750** (*total value of items donated for the apartments*) = **\$65,225**



For many of our participants, BHA is the first time they have felt safe and supported in a home of their own. Most of our participants come to us with very few belongings, and no one has ever arrived with their furniture and treasures packed into a U-Haul.

The *Adopt-An-Apartment Program* is an important piece to a participant's stay at BHA. We are so thankful for all of the volunteers who have cleaned and furnished an apartment to get it ready for a new family to move in.

One of those volunteers is Jen Basom. Jen recruited friends and family, and together, she and her recruits have adopted four apartments in 2018-19. We talked with Jen to find out what makes the *Adopt-An-Apartment Program* a meaningful volunteer experience for her.

### **Why did you want to get involved with our Adopt-An-Apartment program?**

Before learning about the *Adopt-An-Apartment Program* with BHA, I was looking for volunteer opportunities to support those in need within my community. I discovered this program at the annual dinner in 2017, and I signed up immediately that evening as the opportunity touched my heart. As a single mother, I know the challenges faced every day to provide for your family and to raise your children to be holistically healthy and productive adults. I couldn't imagine my son and me not having a stable place to call home; it struck a chord with me and provoked so much emotion.

### **How do you get people interested in working with you to adopt the apartments?**

The program really sells itself as I learned from doing my first apartment. I used Facebook to alert my family and friends of the volunteer opportunity and received an awesome response. I used Facebook Marketplace to secure furniture and other household items. Many of the individuals and families from Facebook Marketplace donated the items they had for sale after hearing about the program and my mission



*Jen (on right) and her many volunteers have been an important part in helping BHA build a future with hope for families.*

to furnish an entire apartment for a mom and their kids to get a fresh start.

This has been such a heartwarming experience for me and for everyone in my group. People are excited about helping to make a difference in the lives of families who need a little boost to get ahead. Over time, my group has grown. Group members talk about the mission of the *Adopt-An-Apartment Program* to their family and friends, and then they want to get involved, too.

### **What is your favorite part of adopting an apartment?**

From start to finish the *Adopt-An-Apartment Program* is just an awe-inspiring experience. The program allows you to help those in need but connects you with people you wouldn't otherwise be connected. I have become very aware of the genuine goodness in people and their willingness to give to those in need. Another favorite aspect is learning about the families and trying to tailor the apartment to their likes. We try our best to provide everything they need to give them the best chance of a future filled with hope.

Finally, the personal message we write to the mom really helps to keep us focused on the reason we volunteer for this program. Our message is filled with prayers, hope, and encouragement for the family. We want them to create success and we want to give them a stable, warm, and welcoming place to call home while they work to achieve it.