

THE MESSANGER



PAUL'S PLACE INC. | BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF HOPE | WINTER 2014



Getting to Know Our Guests:

FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity, defined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as "limited availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food, or the limited ability to acquire such food," impacts many Paul's Place guests. In fact, 42 percent of those we serve receive SNAP (Food Stamp) assistance. What does that mean? According to Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity:

- The average SNAP household has a net income of just \$338 a month.
- The average monthly SNAP benefit per person is \$133.85, which allots less than \$1.50 per person, per meal.
- SNAP benefits rarely sustain participants the entire month. Up to 90 percent of SNAP benefits are redeemed by the third week of the month. In fact, at Paul's Place, we serve an average of 250 lunches a day at the beginning of the month and up to 500 lunches a day at the end of each month.
- Up to 58 percent of SNAP households who utilize food banks do so at least 6 months out of the year.

BENEFIT BREAKFAST COMMUNITY FUNDRAISERS

Paul's Place to Honor Aris Melissaratos with "Commitment to Community" Award

Paul's Place will honor Aris Melissaratos, former MD State Secretary of Business & Economic Development, and Executive in Residence & Sr. Advisor at the Johns Hopkins Carey Business



"ARIS IS A PILLAR OF OUR COMMUNITY, a SUPPORTIVE FRIEND OF PAUL'S PLACE, and we are GRATEFUL FOR HIS SUPPORT THAT HELPS US PROVIDE CRITICAL SERVICES FOR OUR GUESTS." Executive Director, Bill McLennan

School, at its Benefit Breakfasts: *Transforming Lives, Strengthening Communities*. The events are 7:45 a.m. – 8:45 a.m., Wednesday, April 23, 2014, at the Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., Hunt Valley, MD; and Thursday, May 1, 2014, at the Center Club, Baltimore.

Aris' philanthropic commitment to Baltimore runs deep and wide over several decades. "We are proud to honor Aris with the Paul's Place Commitment to Community Award," says Executive Director, **Bill McLennan**. "He is a pillar of our community, a supportive friend of Paul's Place, and we are grateful for his support that helps us provide critical services for our guests."

The breakfasts will also highlight and celebrate the amazing work going on every day at Paul's Place while also raising critical dollars in our fight against hunger, drug addiction, violence, crime, illiteracy and joblessness.

For sponsorship opportunities or to be added to the invitation list, please contact Tina Crow, tcrow@paulsplaceoutreach.org, 410-625-0775 x123.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: JAYNA POWELL, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Volunteers are the backbone of everything we do here at Paul's Place. But who manages the more than 5,000 people who generously give an estimated 40,000 hours each year? That would be Volunteer Coordinator **Jayna Powell** who joined the Paul's Place team in 2011.

Like her colleagues, Jayna is passionate about the Paul's Place mission, but the part



One of the many things Volunteer Coordinator **Jayna Powell** (R) likes about her job is the opportunity to work with great volunteers like **Briana Johnson** (L), whose fiancée just happens to be Ravens LB **Josh Bynes**. Briana recently arranged for several Ravens and their significant others to volunteer at Paul's Place and Jayna made sure they had jobs to do and had fun doing them. (Read more about the Ravens' visit to Paul's Place on the back cover.)

cont. on pg. 3

HOLIDAY MAGIC AT PAUL'S PLACE

No matter how you slice it, the winter holidays are a special time at Paul's Place, and this year was no different! Once again, hundreds of volunteers joined forces to donate, assemble and distribute Thanksgiving and December holiday meals our guests could cook at home; donate, sort and display brand new toys, hats, gloves, scarves and more for our Holiday Gift Shop, all while not missing a beat in the on-going programs and support we offer year-round. Here is just a small taste of the amazing work that capped off a very successful 2013 season. (For more pictures of the armies of volunteers who make our work possible, visit us at www.paulsplaceoutreach.org.)

Thank you!

We are so grateful to all of our donors throughout the year. However, we pause at this time to specially thank the nearly 100 companies, groups, donors and patrons who joined forces to provide supplies and volunteers for Paul's Place holiday programs. Because of their generosity, Paul's Place touched more individuals and households than ever before with Thanksgiving and Holiday meal baskets as well as our Holiday Gift Shop. Thank you to these and our many anonymous donors as well:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Allied Waste | Barbara Maher |
| Alpha Omega Sorority | Maryland Dept. of the Environment |
| Alpha Sigma Tau, McDaniel College Chapter | Massage Envy Spa Timonium |
| Kim Aschenbach | Kristin Mowry |
| Baltimore Community Foundation | James McIntyre |
| Baltimore Hebrew Congregation | Chris Montgomery |
| Young Adults | Timothy Nixon |
| Baltimore Metropolitan Council | Dave Oros |
| Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Chesapeake | Christine and Dennis Peacock, Signal Hill |
| BJ's Wholesale Club | Theresa Potts |
| Cal and Grayson Bowman | Price Modern |
| Mary Brown | Prudential Homesale YWGC Realty |
| Sean Buchanan | Rite Aid Pharmacy |
| Buzard Family | Scott Rodgville |
| Josh Bynes | Roland Park Country School |
| Catonsville High School | Sandy Shapiro |
| Virginia Creek | Seven Oaks Elementary School |
| Bryn Mawr School | Shelter Group |
| Calvert Hall College High School | South Baltimore Network |
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| Chezelle | St. James Academy, Monkton |
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| Church of the Redeemer | Qiana Stepe |
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| Greenmount School | University of MD Medical Center |
| Gross, Mendelsohn & Associates, P.A. | University of MD Medical Center Medical Intermediate Care Unit |
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| Carol Knight | Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP |
| Sandra Kull | Bob Wuenschel |
| Landfried Family | |
| Legg Mason Inc. | |
| MacKenzie Commercial Real Estate Services | |

*Holiday donor for 31 consecutive years



LEFT TO RIGHT:

Paul's Place distributed almost 400 Holiday meals, serving nearly 1,500 people. That's a lot of yams, stuffing, cranberry sauce and mashed potatoes, not to mention the actual turkeys! Many thanks to all of our generous donors, and also these and other volunteers who gave their Saturday to assemble the items. Great team work!

On a very special Saturday in December, after dozens of Paul's Place elves sorted and organized hundreds of donations, adults from 126 families shopped for free, bringing holiday smiles to nearly 400 children and teens in our neighborhood.

Jeannie Pohlhaus (L) and Ruthie Cromwell survey their fine work as part of a team of volunteers who sort, organize and display the donated toys that brought holiday joy to many of the children in our neighborhood. Jeannie and Ruthie have been with Paul's Place since the beginning and their passion for our mission is remarkable.

Holiday meal pickup is a festive occasion, complete with music and games. Our guests are so grateful to receive their traditional holiday meals!



TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS SERVED
 2012: 488 | 2013: 504

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS WITHIN SERVED HOUSEHOLDS
 2012: 1,867 | 2013: 2,013

Staff Spotlight: cont. from pg. 1

about "personal dignity" particularly resonates with her. "Paul's Place is about treating people with dignity & respect," she says. "That's what we do. ... We can all treat people with dignity and respect. It doesn't take a lot of skills; it takes a lot of heart. Volunteers are treated with dignity and respect back, and it's an amazing experience."

Executive Director **Bill McLennan** says, "In nearly 12 years with Paul's Place, I've seen our volunteer pool triple. Jayna does an amazing job making sure that our 8,000 slots are filled every year so we can provide our services. The schedule is organized, and most importantly, the volunteers have a great time and want to come back."

Before working for Paul's Place, Jayna knew Bill and the team through her position at Habitat for Humanity. "When I was looking to make a change," Jayna says, "Paul's Place came to mind immediately because of the reputation (and) having worked with Bill, who has such a passion for this neighborhood, (and) because I knew volunteers would make a difference **every time** they walk in the door...and that's what I'm all about."

An ordained minister who once ran mission trips throughout the US, Jayna believes her job at Paul's Place brings her life's work full-circle. "I feel like I do a mission trip *every single day*. Each day, I have a different (volunteer) group here...and they have to have an amazing time."

Paul's Place is an opportunity for Jayna to fulfill many of her own personal missions including: giving children the opportunity to make a difference.

As adults, "it's our responsibility to train our children to make a difference in the world, to know that everything they do matters, that they don't have to wait till they are adults to volunteer," Jayna says. At Paul's Place, cleaning tables is a huge job. It creates that respect and dignity that's so important, giving guests a clean place to sit and eat. And often times, kids are on "table duty," which is a great service opportunity of humility.

"And being greeted with a child's smile melts your heart. Our guests remember that. When children come in and volunteer, it changes their perspective of life. They remember," Jayna says. "This is the *best* kind of ministry I could be doing. **Every single thing we do matters.**"

In an organization with so many moving parts, Jayna says it's often a challenge to find volunteers who want to *work behind the scenes*. "Everyone wants to meet our guests, and I understand that, and I want them to meet our guests. But we can serve our guests better if we also have people come in and sort clothes, do filing, assemble food bags, organize in the MarketPlace..."

Her other big challenge: Recruiting tutors. "We need 75 tutors to run our after-school programs to their highest potential. Right now we are about 30 tutors short of where we need to be, but I am *committed* to getting 75 people who can commit to coming in every week for a semester and connect with our kids." Jayna points out that "it's probably the *coolest* job we have!"

Thinking about her own role and impact on the organization, Jayna says simply, "To have a job that I can't wait to get to every single day of my life is a really good place to be. I've waited a long time to have that kind of job. To work with the people I work with – the staff and volunteers – and to know that what I'm doing every day is impacting someone else's life is more than I ever dreamed of."

Plan Your Next Corporate Team Building at Paul's Place



Everyone who supports Paul's Place does so because they want to have a true impact in our community. But when we ask our corporate volunteers what they most want to gain from their Paul's Place experience, "Team Building" is always near the top of their list as well.

For 30 years, Paul's Place has been very good at this: when we see a need, we develop a plan to strategically fill it. And in partnership with **Patty Lattin**, Paul's Place Board Member and **Legg Mason** Head of Global Human Resources, this is no different.

"When I learned that Paul's Place was looking for a new way to engage companies," Patty says, "I knew the Legg Mason team could help." Patty and her colleagues developed a unique team building session that Paul's Place could use with visiting companies who want to embrace both a volunteerism and professional development opportunity.

Designed for groups of up to 20 executives and/or associates to mobilize as part of the Paul's Place 'Mission in Action,' the curriculum strengthens employee engagement, team loyalties and leadership skills. The full-day program includes opportunities to:

- Greet, serve lunch, clear tables, and/or sort clothes and/or assist guests in the Market Place.
- De-brief in private, professional setting to discuss the experience, what resonated, what was learned, what perceptions were changed, etc. Includes catered lunch.
- Participate in post-lunch facilitated corporate team-building exercise(s) to reinforce team bonds, relationships, corporate priorities and lessons learned throughout the day. Includes refreshments.

"Companies routinely spend thousands of dollars for team-building retreats," says **Amy Sauerwalt**, Paul's Place Director of Development. "This is an opportunity to implement a curriculum designed by top-level HR professionals at a major global financial services company, while putting real dollars and sweat equity behind the Paul's Place mission."

Team building packages, which include robust Return on Investment (RoI) visibility and promotional benefits as well, range up to \$10,000 for 20 participants and include other sponsorship benefits as well. For more information, contact Amy Sauerwalt, asauerwalt@paulsplaceoutreach.org, 410-625-0775 x120.

WE NEED YOU...TO VOLUNTEER!

Paul's Place has grown well beyond our humble soup kitchen beginnings. That growth has created many opportunities for volunteers to join our mission. We offer opportunities for everyone!



MARKET PLACE: On any given day, our Ambassadors and up to 20 additional volunteers sort donated, gently used clothes and keep the Market Place organized "behind the scenes." If you're more of a shopper, join us 11 a.m. – 12:15, Wednesday - Friday, and be a "personal shopper" to help our guests find their size and selection in the Market Place. Our needs are greatest when the weather is coldest.



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS: While we have opportunities for up to 75, we presently have only 45 tutors and mentors who partner with our students to help develop academic, organizational and leadership skills. Unlike our other volunteer areas, we do ask for after-school program volunteers to make a weekly commitment for one semester at a time. Our goal is to help our students develop relationships with their tutors and mentors who range in experience from High School juniors to senior citizens.



HOT LUNCH: And of course our band of 25 front-line-faithful make the magic happen in the dining room for hot lunch every day. We serve hot lunch year-round, Monday - Friday, but generally have a volunteer waiting-list around the winter holidays. If you have been wait-listed in the past, please contact us again as there is always a need for volunteers throughout the year.

Make an Impact! Get Involved.

Paul's Place can be a standing activity on your weekly, monthly or quarterly calendar, or you can let us know whenever you have some time and we'll almost always have a task for you!

VOLUNTEER

Call or email in advance to schedule your volunteer time.

Contact: **Jayna Powell**, jpowell@paulsplaceoutreach.org; 410-625-0775 x121

• Clothing Bank

- M-F, anytime between 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.: sort donated clothes, prepare clothes for selection
- W-F, 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.: Be a "Personal Shopper" to assist guests

• After-school programs

- M-TH, 4-5 p.m. (Elem. & MS); 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. (HS): After School Programs: Tutoring

• Hot Lunch

- M-F, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: clean tables, manage lunch line, serve lunch

DONATE ITEMS

Drop off any of the following items during regular business hours at 1118 Ward St., Baltimore, MD 21230:

- Gently used clothes, shoes, small household items
- New socks, underwear
- Canned goods
- Toiletries
- Laundry detergent/dryer sheets
- New school supplies

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- For financial contributions, please make your secure gift on-line at our web site: <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/1386219> or send a check to Paul's Place, 1118 Ward St., Baltimore, MD 21230

Welcome, Dr. Davis



Stephen N. Davis, MBBS, FRCP, FACP

We are pleased to welcome the newest member of the Paul's Place Board of Directors, **Dr. Stephen Davis**. Dr. Davis is a nationally and internationally-renowned clinician-scientist in type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Dr. Davis is the Univ. of MD School of Medicine Theodore E. Woodward Endowed Chair, and Professor and Chair of the Dept. of Medicine. Dr. Davis also holds the positions of Program Director of the Gen. Clinical Research Ctr., Physician-in-Chief at the Univ. of MD Medical Ctr. And CoDirector of the Univ. of MD Clinical and Translational Science Institute.

Executive Director's Letter

Quick! What was your 2014 New Year's resolution? If you're like many Americans, it may have been to "volunteer more" or "do something for charity" which routinely appears on "Top New Year's Resolution Lists" from usa.gov to digitalspy.com. Here at Paul's Place, we often have so many volunteers around the holidays that we sometimes have a wait-list. However, our need for volunteers doesn't end with the winter holidays.

We are fortunate to have a core group of volunteers that help keep our programs running and our doors open every day. When you think about the fact that we are on-pace to serve nearly 78,000 hot lunches this year, and last year did more than 1,200 loads of laundry, distributed 1,400 boxes of food and holiday food baskets and received 4,500 guests at our Clothing Bank, it's no wonder that our 29 Ambassadors provided 19,231 volunteer hours! And, that doesn't even begin to cover the other services our guests count on each and every day. With a lean staff of only 14 full-time employees, it's no understatement to say that we could not do what we do without our amazing volunteers.

But we need more. We need **you**.

If you've volunteered with Paul's Place, thank you! If you haven't been here for a while, we want you back. And, if you haven't experienced the joy of helping someone pick out a suit for a job interview as a Personal Shopper in our Clothing Bank...or the pride that comes from tutoring or mentoring our after-school students (tutors can be as young as 16!)... or the benevolence of service in the lunch room... you are depriving yourself of some of life's great rewards. We have opportunities for volunteers as young as age 5 with a parent/guardian, so volunteering at Paul's Place is also a great idea when the school calendar allows.

Whether you join us individually, bring your kids, some of your friends, or recruit a group of your associates, volunteering at Paul's Place provides an opportunity to serve in our own community, and have a positive, *real* impact in the lives of those around us. We offer our volunteers rich rewards and team-building experiences that just can't be found during the average work day. In fact, turn to page 3 to read about our brand new Team Building package developed in conjunction with the HR team at Legg Mason.

Regardless of how you choose to make an impact here at Paul's Place, we are grateful for your support. I urge you to consider new ways to get involved, explore new programs and opportunities. That's the great thing about Paul's Place – we not only offer a comprehensive spectrum of services for our guests, but also a full array of opportunities for our volunteers.

William J. McLennan, *Executive Director*



VIVs (Very Important Volunteers)



L to R: Beth Bowden, Tim Parker, Charlie McLennan, Wesley Finnerty

Guests who come to Paul's Place know they can count on us for many things, not the least of which is the kindness and respect of our amazing volunteers. Our Monday Lunch Crew is no exception.

With nearly a quarter-century of Paul's Place service between them, **Beth Bowden, Charlie McLennan, Tim Parker** and **Wesley Finnerty** started as strangers and are now a cohesive team of service and smiles who volunteer from 10 – 12:30 p.m. every Monday.

Four different paths led them to Paul's Place, but there's no doubt what has made them a team and keeps them coming back: the service, the people and the camaraderie.

Tim and Charlie, who also volunteer together every Wednesday to pick up food for Paul's Place, have become "quite good friends," Tim says.

Wesley adds, "and there's always good conversation back here" while they're serving the guests. "We look forward to seeing the same faces each week, and so do the guests."

"Their work and reliability is so important," says Volunteer Coordinator **Jayna Powell**. "And Beth, Charlie, Tim and Wesley have built relationships with each other, which is so great to see!"

Beth adds, "The truth is, we're serving folks who may not really be looked in the eye when they walk down the street. We make eye contact, we acknowledge them...we see them, we greet them...and we become familiar faces to them," she says with a warm smile. "It's nice to know you're making some part of someone else's day a little nicer."

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Paul's Place is proud to be a Standards for Excellence organization. Standards for Excellence is awarded by the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations and shows that Paul's Place operates with ethics and accountability in our program operations, governance, human resources, financial management, and fundraising practices.



THE MESSENGER

Paul's Place, Inc.
1118 Ward Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
410-625-0775

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The Mission of Paul's Place

Paul's Place is a catalyst and leader for change, improving the quality of life in the Washington Village/Pigtown neighborhood and the surrounding Southwest Baltimore communities. Paul's Place provides programs, services, and support that strengthen individuals and families, fostering hope, personal dignity, and growth.

WWW.PAULSPPLACEOUTREACH.ORG



visit us on facebook - Paul's Place Inc.



follow us on twitter - @PaulsPlace21230

RAVENS VOLUNTEER AT PAUL'S PLACE!

It was a great day of gratitude and celebration when several Ravens and their significant others volunteered at Paul's Place just before Thanksgiving. Not only did they provide roasted chickens and cooked hams to feed 300 guests that day, but they served it all up with generous helpings of smiles, pictures and autographs for a lunch our guests will never forget. Afterwards, they hung around for pictures with the Paul's Place team.



BACK, L TO R: **Will Thomas**, Ambassador & Vol. Coord.; **Lardarius Webb**, Ravens #21, CB; **Caroline Speirs**, Dir. Of Case Mgt.; **Brad Clevenger**, Kitchen Asst.; **Gina Sykes**, Day Prog. Coord.; **Josh Bynes**, Ravens #56, ILB; **Amy Sauerwalt**, Dev. Dir.; **Alison Graham**; **Corey Graham**, Ravens #24, CB; **Christan Morley**, Elem. Program Coord.; **Tina Crow**, Dev. Asst.

FRONT, L TO R: **Shante Adams**, Outreach Worker; **Tissa Thomas**, Youth Prog. Coord; **Toya Thomas Webb**; **Elise O'Meara**, Intern; **Jayna Powell**, Vol. Coord; **Briana Johnson**; **Bill McLennan**, Exec. Dir.; **Sue Schmincke**, Kitchen Manager

The Messenger is a publication of Paul's Place, Inc.

Executive Director: William J. McLennan
Email: bmclennan@paulsplaceoutreach.org

Deputy Director: Sadie Smith
Email: ssmith@paulsplaceoutreach.org

For information about Paul's Place sponsorships, planned or major gifts or grants...

Development Director: Amy Sauerwalt
Email: asauerwalt@paulsplaceoutreach.org

For information about volunteering...

Volunteer Coordinator: Jayna Powell
Email: jpowell@paulsplaceoutreach.org

1118 Ward Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
Phone: 410-625-0775
www.paulsplaceoutreach.org

Paul's Place, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions to Paul's Place, Inc. are tax-deductible. Financial information is available from Paul's Place or from the Office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401. Phone: 410-974-5221

PAUL'S PLACE E-NEWS!

Please help Paul's Place reduce costs as well as our impact on the environment! Send us your email address with the subject line: "E-news!" and we'll send you the "Messenger," as well as other pertinent, occasional Paul's Place information electronically. We promise not to bombard your inbox and we will never sell or share your contact information.