### **2017 REPORT REPORT COMMUNITY**

DEAR FRIENDS,

It's spring, and The Coalition is blooming.

2017 was a huge year of growth for us. We turned over a new leaf aesthetically and internally. We hired new talent, and we keep developing in fresh and innovative ways. We expanded programs and pruned old ideas. Our energy was put into changing and growing, moving towards sustainability and longevity.

Imagine you're in crisis but you have no roots—no support emotionally or financially—to get help from those around you. You may not have family, friends, or other networks to lean on. None of us are immune to a sudden illness, a job loss, a car accident. But for the people we serve, these events cause complete devastation and create a cycle of poverty.

In 2017, The Religious Coalition provided roots for people in emergency situations, and built permanence for those in crisis. We kept people in their homes. We kept people's heat on. We helped them with life-saving medications and dental assistance.

We continue to look at our history and our unused potential. We will remain the safety net we have always been, but now we look to seed the future. We are planting new programs, expanding current ones, and the harvest will be shown in the people The Coalition serves.

We want to offer our sincere thanks to the community that helps make our roots sturdier and deeper, so that we can continue to flourish and nourish those in need. Thank you for making your community thrive.

Although the gardens are seasonal, poverty is not.



YES, I WANT MY COMMUNITY TO THRIVE!			
\$1,000	00 OTHER		
PLEASE USE MY GIFT TOWARD	A DESIGNATED PROGRAM.		
(DESIGNATE PROGRAM HERE)			
Name			
City	State	Zip	

## SAVE TIME, SAVE RESOURCES. MAKE YOUR DONATION ONLINE TODAY! www.rcehn.org



#### **RETURN THIS FORM TO:**

The Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs 27 Degrange Street | Frederick, MD 21701

301-631-2670 | ONLINE » www.rcehn.org



patched dollar for dollar by a grant from the Ausherman Family Foundation





#### "That's my Boy!"

- Dale Parkhurst, Shelter Case Manager

## JOURNEY OF GROWTH

Brandon came in to the Alan P. Linton, Jr., Emergency Shelter as a 19-year-old who was kicked out of his home. He had no place to go and no prospects for the future. He routinely came into the shelter high and drunk, something that Dale Parkhurst, the shelter case manager, would not tolerate. Dale worked with Brandon, setting firm boundaries aboutnot coming in an altered state, and they started etching out a path towards a sustainable future. Brandon said to Dale that Dale was more of a father figure to him than his own father. Ultimately, the support, direction, and stability Brandon received at the shelter yielded tremendous results. After staying at the shelter for a month, he got a job in the restaurant business, and is now an Assistant Manager at a restaurant. He's working on his MBA, and Dale beamed when he talked about him. "That's my boy," Dale said.

## CONTINUED GROWTH





# BRANCHING

GROWING FOR A HEALTHY
FUTURE COMMUNITY GARDEN!

where it's difficult to obtain and buy affordable and good-quality fresh food. Our mission at The Coalition is to keep our community not only housed, but healthy and thriving. That's why we've partnered with Hood College and Frederick Food Security Network to create the Growing for a Healthy Future Community Garden. We've built raised garden beds to grow fresh veggies year-round in our own backyard. These crops will then be distributed throughout this neighborhood and the community at large that lacks fresh and nutritious foods. The Healthy Future Garden initiative perfectly encapsulates our new philosophy: fresh, innovative ideas on how to tackle poverty from different angles. Volunteers from Hood College and beyond are the backbone of this effort.

The Religious Coalition is located in a food desert, an urban area

"Our mission is to keep our community not only housed, but healthy and thriving."

THE EMERGENCY FAMILY SHELTER SERVED 41 FAMILIES.

48%

OF THE CHILDREN WERE FIVE YEARS-OLD OR YOUNGER.

440

HOMELESS ADULTS SERVED IN OUR ALAN P. LINTON, JR. SHELTER IN 2017

ON FOR 200 PEOPLE

26,089

SAFE BED NIGHTS PROVIDED AT THE ALAN P. LINTON, JR. SHELTER













"WE ARE SO MUCH MORE THAN A SHELTER AND WE WANT TO KEEP BLOOMING!"

– Nick Brown

IN 2017, OVER

4,000

PEOPLE WERE SERVED
BY OUR PROGRAMS

1,262
PEOPLE KEPT IN THEIR HOMES



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