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Carpenter's Shelter

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December e-News

We're Home!

The ribbon cutting was a lot of fun, but now we're getting back to work!



On Thursday December 10th at 11:30 am 930 N. Henry Street officially opened its doors to the city of Alexandria. At the same time, The Bloom at Braddock, the low-income housing located above the shelter, opened its doors as well. This brings to a close an amazing chapter in Carpenter's Shelter's history, 9 years of planning, three Board Chairs, and countless professionals worked to bring to fruition a purpose built shelter and low income housing for the City of Alexandria.

With the snip of the lime green ribbon Board Chair Edith Bullard, Amazon Executive Rebecca Wetherly, and Shannon Steene, Carpenter's Shelter's Executive Director, ushered in a new chapter of service and proactive solutions for years to come.

"It's with pride that we open the doors on our purpose-built space to help Alexandria's homeless population. But more importantly to be able to work with a great organization in AHDC to also increase the city's affordable housing was a masterful collaboration," stated Shannon Steene.

December 2020

[Donate Now](#)
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Quick Calendar

December 16th - 31st:

Remember Carpenter's Shelter in your End of Year donations, [Click here](#) to visit our donation page.

December 15th:

Volunteer Orientation!

Please join us for our monthly volunteer orientation. If you would like to attend, join our Community Relations Manager Jamila Smith between 6:00-7:00 pm on Zoom by [clicking here](#).

December 25th:

Christmas Day!!

January 1st:

New Years Day!!

**From all
of us here working
at the shelter
to all of you,
Happy Holidays!**

May the coming year
be full of happiness and



[Click here](#) to watch the full video on Youtube.

...And Counting!

On December 1st Carpenter's Shelter received an astounding response to #GivingTuesday a nationwide online fundraising effort to share for those less fortunate.

Every year on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving the nation takes a moment from its buying frenzy for the upcoming holidays and asks that we all give a little to honor those among us who need help. The holidays as you can imagine are a very tough time for people who have, in some cases nothing, to celebrate. But with the help of this day, people from all over the country share some of their good fortune to assist those that really need their support. We had a great turnout and we are overwhelmed by your generosity,

#GIVINGTUESDAY

This Giving Tuesday, we were amazed at the local individuals, churches, and organizations who not only stepped up, but rose leagues above and beyond the challenge we had set. Regular donors, individuals who had donated for the first time, and the Alexandria community came together and allowed Carpenter's Shelter to exceed our ambitious goal. 2020 has been a difficult year for many individuals, and with growing concern of evictions, this Giving Tuesday was vital to Carpenter's being able to provide essential services to those in need.

We were surprised and elated to receive a \$2,500 donation from our friends at The Motley Fool, one of the many gifts that helped us surpass our Giving Tuesday goal. The Motley Fool – an Alexandria financial and investing company – is a neighbor and long-standing ally to Carpenter's Shelter. A special thank you to Samantha Whiteside, Chief Wellness Officer at the Motley Fool, who was instrumental in choosing us for their gift. Sam has served as a dedicated volunteer and donor to the Shelter and we thank her and The Motley Fool employees greatly for their continued support of the Carpenter's Shelter's efforts!

Home Sweet Home

good health!



Staff assembled in the shelter's new community room that was decorated for the holidays following social distancing guidelines.

We look forward to seeing you in 2021!

David's Place a Resident Interview



Here is a brief interview with one of our David's Place clients. [Click here](#) for the interview.

Welcome to New a Staff Member!

Last month we added a new staff member to the Development Office Team:



Sienna Brown
Development Associate

Sienna joins Carpenter's Shelter from Central Virginia, where she worked in Admissions and Marketing.

Sienna has a BA in Psychology and Human Rights and is passionate about Carpenter's Shelter's mission. Growing up in Maryland, she has a great

Each year Carpenter's Shelter likes to send a memorable End-of-Year mailer.

With the help of Yes& Agency, we were able to design and create something magical. The mailer adds to the festiveness of the holiday by giving you the directions to build an ornamental gingerbread house to add your decorations, [Bittersweet Catering](#) one of Old Town's favorite caterers and bakery joined in and shared their famous gingerbread recipe that you can prepare at home.



It is our hope that you will support Carpenter's Shelter with an end of year gift! Your incredible support means Carpenter's Shelter will continue to be a refuge for those most in need.

The return envelope is included with the mailers.

We are elated to have such wonderful friends & volunteers!

Carpenter's has the most amazing donors! Just today, we received a donation of \$600 from the Braddock Lofts HOA!



Chuck Thomas, President of the HOA, and his wife Pat Barbarowicz (pictured at left) dropped off the check to Shannon Steene (pictured above) and we are so very grateful for their generosity!

To all of our volunteers and our donors, Thank you for your gifts of time and money! Carpenter's wouldn't be able to operate without you.

If you ever wanted to be a Volunteer for Carpenter's? Here's your chance.

Carpenter's Shelter has a large and engaged volunteer community. We're grateful to all of them.

From time to time though we need help and if you're interested in joining this community [click here](#). When you do you'll get more information and find out how you can become a part of this thriving community today!

love of the area and enjoys hiking, oil painting, and travelling.

We welcome her and wish her success in her new position.

In need of Gift Cards!

We are always in need of gift cards to provide for our clients, who often arrive to shelter with little or no resources with which to provide for their families.



We could use gift cards in \$25 increments from:

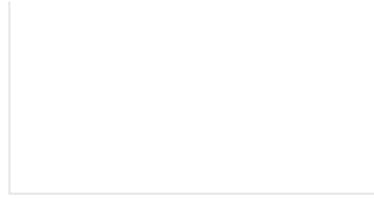
- Target,
- Walmart
- Amazon
- Visa

Receiving donated gift cards are always a tremendous help in this regard, especially during the holidays. Gift card donations can be made in person at the reception desk or by mail to:

Sienna Brown
Development Associate
Carpenter's Shelter
930 n. Henry St.
Alexandria, VA 22314.

Thanks so much for your continued support of the children, women, and men, we serve!

Happy Holidays!!



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