

**Michiko Yoon**

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**From:** Carpenter's Shelter <development@carpentersshelter.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 4, 2024 3:30 PM  
**To:** Michiko Yoon  
**Subject:** E-News! April 2024

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Carpenter's  
Shelter

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A family who has faced homelessness knows what it feels like to be evicted because they can't keep up with the high cost of rent. They've slept on the couches of friends, slept in their car, but when a family comes to Carpenter's Shelter, that is when they are finally able to breathe a sigh of relief.

Here at the shelter, those parents don't have to worry about paying rent, utilities, providing meals for their children or doctor's visits. This is a brief period where those issues that cause the most stress are paused, and the family can truly focus on finding employment and saving money to be able to afford housing. This is a chance to rebuild, to start over without judgement.

Carpenter's Shelter is only able to be a safe haven to families and individuals because of the financial support of donors like you.

Please consider making a financial contribution during our [Spring2Action campaign](#) so that you can make a difference for a family or individual experiencing homelessness and give them a chance to build something better for themselves.



This year's Spring2ACTion on April 24th is more than just a campaign—it's a testament to our community's resilience and generosity. **The Development Office is setting a new milestone with our \$100,000 goal, driven by our recent expansion to operate two emergency residential shelters.** This growth has doubled our ability to provide safe housing and essential services, but it also means our need for support has never been greater. We're inviting our community to come together to help us reach this goal.

### **How can you help?**

(1) Maximize your impact by donating through [our page](#). This year, Carpenter's Shelter will double the value of your gift with matching gift funds during Spring2ACTion, thanks to matching donations from Kris Keydel and Janet Garber, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, Rose Ellen and Paul Campbell, Nancy DiPaolo, Dawn and Nate Hurto, Katherine McCarron and Ben Neaderland, Ray and Maggie Reddy, and other generous supporters. Act now to make twice the difference with your donation.

(2) If you've supported us before, we warmly invite you to increase your last donation, thereby magnifying your contribution's effect.

(3) Spread the word to friends and family about our mission and the critical support we provide. [Your involvement is crucial](#) in helping us continue to serve our community effectively.

P.S. Did you know you don't have to wait till the 24th to make a difference? Early Giving starts **April 10th** – mark your calendars and remember to visit [www.CarpentersShelter.org/S2A](http://www.CarpentersShelter.org/S2A).



Congratulations to these three friends for "Shaking the Keys"! The trio decided to become roommates together in Arlington, VA to be able to afford rent. The biggest challenge was being on a fixed income as seniors and getting their documents together to apply for the Rapid Re-Housing program, but they did it!

Neil\* was born and raised in Alexandria, VA. He became homeless after he could not keep up with the rapidly increasing cost of rent while being on a fixed income. Neil spent some time sleeping on the couch at a friend's house until his friend became hospitalized. He decided to come to Alexandria Community Shelter (ACS) because at that point he had nowhere else to go. While in shelter, Neil was always quick to help others.

Jennifer\* came to Carpenter's Shelter from Florida. She was a retired nurse who became homeless after her relatives sold their family home.

Matt\* arrived to the shelter from Arizona. When Matt first came to the shelter after getting transferred from a hospital, he was extremely nervous, but he reported that Carpenter's Shelter staff were always kind to him. Matt did not have any family or emergency contacts to report when he arrived.

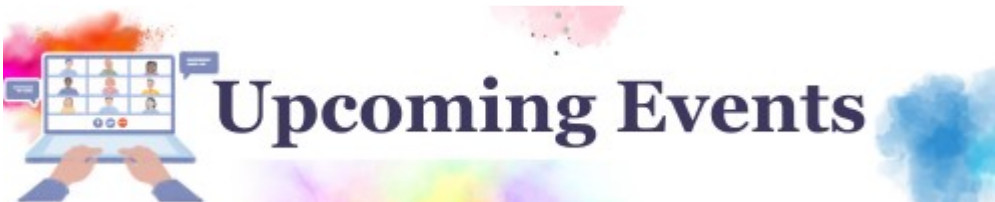
Neil, Jennifer and Matt slowly became good friends over the months at the shelter. Matt is a social person and does not like to be alone, so he thought a roommate situation would be exactly what he needed. He proposed the idea to his friends, and they agreed.

This was a unique way to get three individuals housed affordably and much quicker.

\*Names have been changed for privacy reasons.



Please be aware that there is a loading zone on N. Henry St. in front of the Carpenter's Shelter front entrance that is reserved for package deliveries and USPS mail delivery. Please avoid parking on the side street unless you are doing a quick drop off so that your car does not get towed.



### **Virtual Volunteer Training**

Tuesday, April 16, 6:00 pm

Click this [link](#) to register!

Please note that the [Volunteer Application](#) must be completed before training.



## **Volunteer Appreciation Reception**

Thursday, May 23rd, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

The Garden ALX, 5380 Eisenhower Ave Suite C, Alexandria, VA 22304

Please join us to celebrate our volunteers for a night of food, drinks, music and dancing. Event sponsorships are available. RSVP required to attend. Contact [DHenry@CarpentersShelter.org](mailto:DHenry@CarpentersShelter.org) for more details.

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