

Michiko Yoon

From: Carpenter's Shelter <development@carpentersshelter.org>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 3:30 PM
To: Michiko Yoon
Subject: E-News! February 2024

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**Carpenter's
Shelter**

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HOME is Where the ART Is

You may have noticed beautiful artwork from [HOME is Where the ART Is](#) on the hallways of The Hoffman Center and Alexandria Community Shelter. The artwork brightens the space, and as residents transition to their own homes, they can choose artwork to take with them.

“We are truly grateful for the partnership with HOME is Where the ART Is!” said Jamie Ergas, Deputy Director at Carpenter’s Shelter. “Having the art displayed in the shelter for the residents to see, knowing they can choose a piece when they move to their own homes, is a reminder that we all believe they can do it. It is not a matter of *if*, it is a matter of *when*. Nothing is more powerful than instilling hope.”

Reilly Schilling and her father Brian are the team behind HOME is Where the ART Is. Reilly Schilling is currently a teenager attending high school at Arlington Tech. She is continuing the mission of HOME Is Where the ART Is after her family friend started the organization five years ago to brighten the spaces of shelter residents moving into permanent housing.

Many art pieces for HOME is Where the ART Is come from individual artists who are clearing out their studio, unsold paintings from art shows and the Arlington Artists Alliance.



Schilling is always looking for more art and is committed to finding a display space for every piece she collects. "If you donate art to HOME is Where the ART Is, chances are very good that it will get seen and that it will end up making someone very happy in the future," said Schilling. "I think the most compelling reason for most artists [to donate pieces to our organization is] the idea that their art will get out into the world and do some good."



William* was able to turn his life around after homelessness. [Watch the video.](#)

Today, William is working as a city bus driver and is living in his own apartment after going through the Rapid Re-Housing program at Carpenter's Shelter.

At Carpenter's Shelter we have always believed that homelessness, in all of its forms, should be rare, brief, and non-recurring.

To become a Landlord Partner, email Housing@CarpentersShelter.org and our Housing Locators will welcome you to our community housing network.

*Name has been changed for privacy reasons.



Please help us to fill the fridge, pantry, and freezer at The Hoffman Center and Alexandria Community Shelter (ACS)!

We are in need of frozen family-size meals like lasagna, meat and vegetable casseroles, chicken tenders, hot dogs, soups, frozen breakfast items like waffles and sausages, instant coffee and powdered coffee creamer.

Visit CarpentersShelter.org/Fill-the-Fridge for a complete list of items.

The Hoffman Center, 930 N. Henry St., Alexandria, VA, 22314.

Drop-Off Dates: Tuesday, February 20th to Saturday, February 24th

Drop-Off Hours: 10 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

A volunteer will be at the David's Side entrance (at 1102 First St, Alexandria, VA 22314) at The Hoffman Center to accept donations.

Alexandria Community Center (ACS), 2355-B Mill Road, Alexandria, VA, 22314.

Drop-Off Dates: Tuesday, February 20th to Saturday February 24th

Drop-Off Hours: 10 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

A volunteer will be at a table at the front entrance of ACS to accept donations.

For more information, please contact Demi Henry, Volunteer Coordinator at DHenry@CarpentersShelter.org.



We are writing to express our heartfelt gratitude to our Shelter Helpers for your unwavering commitment and generosity. Your recurring monthly support has a direct impact on the lives of our clients. With each contribution, you make a tangible difference. This kind of support is crucial for the daily operations and well-being of those we serve.

Please note that your annual giving statements were emailed in mid-January. If you have not received it, please do not hesitate to contact our Development Associate, Meghan Cole, at MCole@CarpentersShelter.org, and she will be happy to assist you.

As we embrace a new chapter of assuming the operation of the Alexandria Community Shelter, our capacity, impact and the need for support have nearly doubled. This expansion allows us to reach more families and individuals experiencing or at-risk of homelessness. However, this also means that we rely more than ever on the generosity of community members like you. If you can, we invite you to consider increasing your monthly donation. Your donation will be instrumental in helping us meet the growing needs of our community and continue our mission with greater impact.

Thank you once again for your commitment and generosity. Together, we are making a profound difference in the lives of those who turn to Carpenter's Shelter for help and hope.

Upcoming Event:

Virtual Volunteer Training

Tues, Feb 20th, 6:00 pm

Click this [link](#) to register!

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



Congrats to Elizabeth* for Shaking the Keys! After building up savings, budgeting, applying and qualifying for housing, Elizabeth has moved on to being in her own apartment with her four school-aged children. [Watch the video.](#)

*Name changed due to privacy reasons.

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