# Program Services

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www.hhinc.org



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2013-2014



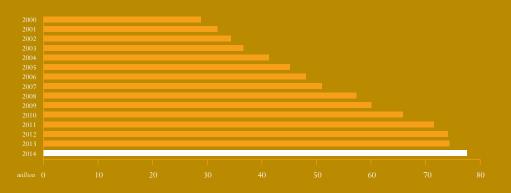


Horizon House, in partnership with individuals with disabilities and their families, advocates and provides comprehensive, community-based services. We create opportunities for those served to manage their lives through environments that emphasize individual strength and choice.



Horizon House will be a leading advocate and provider of comprehensive, personcentered services to individuals with disabilities and their families.





# DEAR FRIENDS,

In 1952, Marcie Schmoeger developed psychiatric symptoms from a drug she had been given for kidney disease and she was admitted to Friends Hospital. During her stay, she realized that many of those hospitalized could not leave because they had no place to go and no supports in the community. In response to this experience, with support from the Quaker community and others, Marcie created a support group for former mental hospital patients in Philadelphia. Marcie's organization was the beginning of Horizon House as we know it today.

Throughout her life, Ms. Schmoeger was committed to living each day to its fullest. She worked tirelessly to realize her vision of a better life for people with mental illness. A true pioneer, she believed each person was entitled to a fulfilling life in the community. Over the years, we have broadened our scope to include services and supports for adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities and individuals who have been homeless.

We remain committed to Marcie's vision. As you can imagine, this has not always been an easy journey: changes in regulations, new state and federal initiatives and shifting funding levels have all presented challenges. In 2012-2013, unanticipated funding cuts in reimbursement posed new challenges. As the result of strategic decisions (operational and financial), diversification and support from you, our friends and supporters, we quickly overcame these challenges.

When you read the stories and the successes of the men and women we serve, you will see why, despite the many challenges, we remain committed to carrying out Marcie's vision. We do it for Cornell, Vincent, Alonzo, Margaret and all the others we have the privilege to serve.

One thing we know for sure: We cannot do it alone. We thank you — our partners, donors, supporters, and volunteers for helping us make our vision a reality.

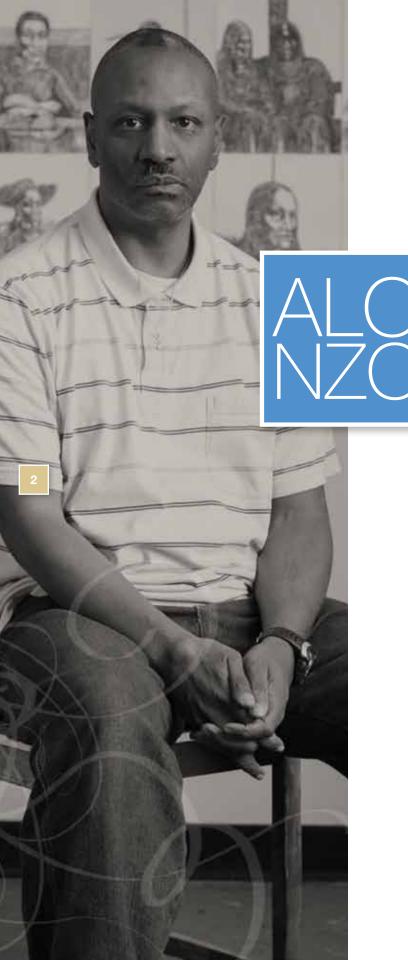
On behalf of the individuals we serve, thank you!



Jeffrey W.J. Wilush President and CEO



Gabriel Ross, Ph.D. Chairperson, Board of Directors



Some people are blessed with a photographic memory.

Alonzo has that gift. If he's in the mood for conversation, he'll tell you, "I'm an artist." If he doesn't feel like talking, his work speaks for itself.

"Alonzo is very interested in art and draws well," said Sulaiman, Team Coordinator for the Horizon House staff that support Alonzo and assisted him in lining up his current living arrangements. "He will look at you once and within five minutes will draw a portrait of you freehand."

But his work is not limited to portraiture. "I paint everything," Alonzo says."Trees, landscapes, stuff like that. I paint from my head, my mind. I draw anything, whether it's pretty or ugly."

While Alonzo faces challenges as a result of his disabilities, he has had great success in working out coping skills to manage them, including doing his art. His staff at Horizon House are respectful of his "quiet time" and after two years by his side, know when to leave him deep in thought.

Once he is ready to engage, explains Sulaiman, Alonzo will say, "I wasn't ready to talk to you but now I am. I am ready to write. I'm ready to draw. I'm ready to do some artwork."

Alonzo fills sketchbooks and scraps of paper with an eclectic range of imagery from his past and present life. His amazing visual memory allows him to record everything he sees through the process of drawing. He works quickly and often will create a rough draft of an image from observation and later redraw it from memory with incredible detail and accuracy.

His preferred medium is watercolors but a recent exhibition at the Fleischer/Ollman gallery on Arch Street in Philadelphia featured 45 portraits he made







continued



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#### (Alonzo; continued)

in ballpoint pen. Alonzo's work was discovered at the Oasis Art Center by Fleischer/Ollman's Director, Alex Baker, who was looking for undiscovered artists for the gallery's "All Different Colors" show. Alonzo is among the 19 artists with developmental disabilities whose work was chosen for the show.

The Oasis Art Center, which closed in May 2014, was home to an art program for individuals with physical and behavioral health disabilities. Alonzo would bring his imagination and talent there three days a week.

Alonzo receives support related to the management of all his daily needs, self-care, residential responsibilities, medical appointments, and leisure activity planning. Staff accompany Alonzo on outings, which often include shows where his artwork is on display for sale.

"When we attend these events, we always try to let people know that Alonzo is the artist who did the drawings," said Sulaiman. "Sometimes people will ask for his autograph, and some people just ask for a hug. It makes him feel good about himself to know that people appreciate his work. We always look forward to being with him to share that experience."



**Community Living** Services connect individuals with intellectual disabilities with homes that match their individual support and supervision needs. All programs foster personal growth and community integration and encourage residents to gradually increase their independence. Residential options include: community

homes, 1- to 4-person residences with 24/7in-home assistance, semi-independent supported living, and family living – or life sharing.

Years of chronic homelessness came to a crashing halt one August day three years ago when Cornell collapsed in the street where he had been living off and on for most of his adult life.

Following stays in a hospital and rehabilitation center to treat his fall, Cornell was referred to Horizon House's Welcome Home program. Welcome Home follows the Housing First model, which helps individuals with histories of chronic homelessness, serious mental illness and/or co-occurring substance abuse issues move off the street. Cornell put up some resistance at first.

"It took about three months to build the trust with him that we needed to help him stabilize his life," says Geoffrey, Team Leader for Welcome Home. "At first he was not very cooperative, but over time he began to believe that we were there to help him."

Working with one of its partners, the 1260 Housing Development Corporation, Welcome Home set Cornell up in his very first apartment. He received mental health and recovery services through his Welcome Home team. The Fairmount Primary Care Clinic at Horizon House and the Project HEALTH program provided Cornell with health care, health and wellness education, and support around managing physical health issues.

An only child, Cornell, 55, spent his youth in South Philadelphia. "Growing up, life didn't seem real to me," he says. He never finished school and spent most of his 20s either looking for work or at home with his parents. They divorced when he was 40. Other than a three-year stint as a longshoreman for the Port of Philadelphia, most of the jobs Cornell had over the years did not last; he was always either laid off or fired, or he simply walked away.

He remembers the cycle he followed: quitting jobs and then living with his parents or at a homeless shelter or rehab center for a while. He remembers living on the street, often delusional, not knowing



where he was or how he got there. He would start wandering at dawn, scavenging through trash bins, and sleeping on wet blankets in parks. Looking back he says, "I was committing suicide, and I didn't even know it."

The saying "Sometimes you have to get knocked down lower than you've ever been, to stand up taller than you ever were" perfectly epitomizes the turning point for Cornell. Three years ago, within the span of a year, he lost his mother, his father, and an aunt with whom he had been close. Over the years being homeless on the street he always managed to stay connected with his family, at least intermittently. Now, without that lifeline, Cornell found himself feeling completely alone.

When he fell down - literally and figuratively - that August day three years ago, Cornell had a realization: He knew he had



Laurie Ann Howard

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Visatek Services Gale Walls Linda Washington-Brown W.B. Mason Norman and Joy Weber Deena Weitzel Charles White, Jr. Kariemah White-Mack Tiffany Williamson William Penn Charter School Students Jeff Wilush Windstreet Energy The Wireless Alliance Patrick Wolodzko Paula Wright **Rich Ziegler** 

## IN HONOR OF

In Honor of Rose Anderson

Katherine Platt In Honor of Jason Bohenek Christine Long In Honor of Steven Howard Brown Evelyn Brown In Honor of Alice Hershey Anonymous In Honor of Horizon House Medical Staff Larry Real In Honor of Robert Nellinger Dorothy Nellinger In Honor of Peggy Rowe Christopher Moore

Museum

Center

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#### (Cornell; continued)

to get up. He knew he wanted to live. "I had to make a decision or I'd be on the street for the rest of my life," he recalls.

"Cornell is very stable now," says Geoffrey. "He's been in remission for a while. Cornell is grateful for his apartment and is working toward his personal goals - goals that will further enrich his new life."

"When I started taking care of myself, everything became clearer," Cornell says. "I figured out that somebody was trying to help me. It has been a blessing."



Thomas Anthony, Psychiatric Nurse and Cornell

Housing First programs support individuals with histories independent, recovery-filled lives in the community. Housing First teams secure safe and stable housing for the individual

Who knew life could be so busy, and so hopeful? Margaret spent a recent morning learning how to make wheat pasta shells filled with ground turkey and finely chopped zucchini, dressed with pasta sauce. She calls healthy recipes like this one "food for the mind and body." She is learning to prepare healthy dishes to replace the processed foods that used to make up the bulk of her diet.

These days, Margaret is filling her schedule with healthy pursuits as a member of Horizon House's **Project HEALTH and Wellness Alliance**. Together, these two programs provide Margaret with support around her mental, physical and social health.

For many years, Margaret has suffered with a severe mental illness and has experienced some very challenging and fearful times. She says that on occasion her illness had her "scared to death." But she will be the first to tell you that these experiences changed her life for the better because they have opened up her life to new opportunities, including those presented by Horizon House.

Colleen, Project HEALTH Program Manager, remembers first meeting Margaret in 2013.

"Margaret was very excited that we offered a lot of groups around health education and were going to be adding more physical health type groups," Colleen recalls. "She was trying to quit smoking at the time and was really interested in improving her physical health and exercising to help her feel better. She was also delighted to learn that she could switch her primary medical care from her current Fairmount Center location to the office conveniently located right here at Horizon House."

When Margaret visits the Wellness Alliance, she can go down the hall to the Wellness Room designated for members of Project HEALTH and attend education classes for smoking cessation, diabetes health management, and other health groups. Her favorite program benefit is the availability of yoga exercise and workout equipment. A wellness coach is on hand to help members learn how to use the machines and access hundreds of exercise videos to play on the big screen TV while participants power through their workout.

"This is a free service for members," says Colleen. "The ultimate goal is to help people to gain the skills to learn how to exercise efficiently and effectively to help improve their health outcomes and quality of life. It also helps them to connect to the community by transitioning to centers like a local YMCA."

"Project HEALTH and Wellness Alliance help me mentally," Margaret explains. "They teach me coping mechanisms, help me with self-esteem issues, and get me integrated into society."

Along her journey to recovery, Margaret has never lost sight of her dreams: "I want to understand this illness and learn how to beat it. I want to be happy, to



#### (Margaret; continued)

Project HEALTH, which offers primary health care and wellness case management, encourages those served to take an active role in their health. Individuals learn new skills through groups, activities and individual counseling around nutrition, exercise, weight management and healthy living.



Justine Hoffman, Wellness Alliance Recovery Coach; Margaret; Shelly Shaw, Wellness Alliance CPS; and Jose Gonzales, Project HEALTH Peer Support Specialist

have joy and peace in my life. I want to be closer to the one who created me - God."

"I sought all these things to improve my life," Margaret says. "I prayed God would place good people into my life that could help me. Colleen is quite a wonderful woman. She has made Project HEALTH a very welcoming and inviting place to come. Here, they build you up. Now I have people in my life who support me and understand my illness. And I know I must take an active role in my own recovery."

Most of all, Margaret wants to tell her story so that others can be inspired and encouraged by it. "With God's help and community support, I know I can overcome insurmountable odds, and others can, too. You just can't give up!"



	Year Ended June 30, 2014	Year Ended June 30, 2013
Revenue		
Program Revenue	\$ 74,006,648	\$ 70,378,306
Grants and Contributions	3,063,886	3,097,497
Other	705,979	599,585
Total Revenue	\$ 77,776,513	\$ 74,075,388
Expenses		
Program Services		
Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol	47,740,374	47,487,036
Intellectual Disabilities	20,945,040	19,867,029
Administration	8,402,442	8,447,662
Total Expenses	\$ 77,087,856	\$ 75,801,727
Net Assets		
Net Assets beginning of year	3,116,288	3,960,234
Changes in unrestricted net assets	605,794	(823,946)
Changes in temporarily restricted net assets	80,000	(20,000)
Total changes in net assets	685,794	(843,946)
Net Assets Year End	\$ 3,802,082	\$ 3,116,288



# At six-feet-nine-anda-half-inches tall and with a kind smile and easy manner, Vincent is the gentlest of giants.

As healthy and robust as he looks and feels these days, Vincent was certainly not quite as well when he first made his way to Horizon House; decades of struggling with mental illness and not enough support had left Vincent depressed, isolated, and in need of serious medical attention.

"When he came to us he had a lot of medical issues," says Barbara, Vincent's case manager. "And he was deeply withdrawn. He needed help with hygiene and with dental care. The medication he was on at the time was causing him to be very unresponsive and lethargic... So you could say he was in a bad way."

Vincent was born in Reading, PA and lived there until the age of 11 when his father died and his mother moved him and his siblings to Philadelphia. A gifted basketball player throughout high-school, Vincent received a college scholarship to play and he chose to major in psychology. Vincent's promising college career was derailed just prior to his senior year when he was suddenly overcome by a debilitating depression.

Unable to continue his studies, Vincent moved back in with his mother. Over the years he held odd jobs here and there, including two summers with the Department of Recreation, but as he says, "The depression was so serious that it made life very hard."

Vincent spent some time in the hospital and a little more than three years ago wound up homeless and out of touch with his family. Because of memory lapses, it was challenging to piece together Vincent's life before he came to Horizon House. But once he got the help he needed, tracking his incredible progress has been easy.

"In the nearly two years since Vincent came through our doors, he has completely turned his life around," says Barbara. "At the beginning he was non-communicative. He would respond in monosyllables and would sit and rock. The team used to have to prompt him constantly to bathe and to change his clothes. Now nobody has to tell him. Because of the help he's received and an adjustment to his medication, Vincent's mood and outlook have changed and he has more energy. He's very motivated."

As his case manager, Barbara helps to organize Vincent's care. She works to make sure that Vincent's various health needs are met by coordinating with the other case managers and with the agency's Project HEALTH program, which teaches people about health and

continued

### (Vincent; continued)

**Targeted Case** Management (TCM) provides assistance to those living with serious and persistent mental illness and/or co-existing drug and alcohol disorders. TCM services help people build and strengthen skills around independent living, problem solving, and money and health management. Those served increase their self-sufficiency, confidence, and overall well-being as contributing community

members.

NOT VATE

"I'm getting my life in order," he says confidently. "I feel happier."

wellness and offers support as people begin to take responsibility for their physical health. A team member often accompanies Vincent to his medical appointments.

With Barbara's encouragement, Vincent has been practicing taking public transportation so that he will soon be comfortable enough to travel to his appointments on his own. Vincent has been living in a personal care boarding home with ten other adults. He enjoys watching basketball and reading—mostly on psychology and philosophy. Sometimes he will share his personal insights with others.

Although some days are better than others, Vincent feels that his life is finally under control. Where once he would isolate himself from others, today he is comfortable establishing friendships. You are likely to find him out for a stroll with friends in his neighborhood or happily playing a card game called Pitty Pat. He acknowledges the help he has received from Horizon House that has turned his life around.



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