



# APARTMENTS BUDGETING COUNSELING (ABC)

Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services (GSH) provides an alternative to homelessness for people denied housing in their own name due to bad credit or a poor rental history. As a "landlord of last resort," GSH rents to them and then helps them establish solid rental histories and credit.

### **HOUSING AS TOP PRIORITY**

GSH offers a connection to affordable rental housing in the community, along with guidance, support and limited financial assistance to families facing homelessness. Services are aimed at breaking the family's cycle of homelessness.

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES ASSISTANCE**

GSH provides grants up to \$350 per family in the period of a year to prevent evictions and utility disconnections, as well as help with first month's rent or security deposit.

#### **CHILDREN'S RESOURCES**

We ensure that children of families in our ABC program do not miss out on educational, social and extra-curricular and summer camp activities simply because their families don't have enough money. Scores of these children each year benefit from the school supplies, winter coats and summer camp opportunities we provide them.

#### HOUSING LOCATOR NETWORK (HLN)

Working throughout Fairfax County, our housing locators help clients find and secure safe, suitable permanent housing. This is a key initiative of the County's 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

Good Shepherd Housing is proud to have been selected for the 2014-2015 Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington as "One of the Best" community-based nonprofits in the region. Featured in the 12th annual edition of the Catalogue for Philanthropy, GSH has received this distinctive honor three times in its history.



210 organizations applied this year to be part of the *Catalogue*, and GSH was one of only 78 to be selected. We survived a rigorous evaluation and financial review process and are truly honored to be included in the *Catalogue*, which is widely recognized in the DC region as the "Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval" for community-based nonprofits. This honor and affirmation of our work is very meaningful to us as we continue to tackle homelessness.



DARIAN AND AMY, newly married, look like the perfect family with their newborn boy. However, when they came to GSH 18 months ago, each of them carried large credit-card debt and were unable to make minimum monthly payments. Their credit score - the measure of choice for many landlords in deciding on tenants for their housing - was abysmally low. No one would rent to them.

During the initial interview, the couple showed an interest in making a change. Our staff was upfront with them and told them it would not be easy.

As participants in our ABC Housing Program, Darian and Amy would have to learn to repay debt, live within their means, and rebuild their credit - but only if they were willing to do so. And they did.

During the last year and a half, Darian and Amy graduated from our budget counseling course, obtained better jobs and paid down their debt. They have also pre-qualified for a mortgage. They are now waiting for a home to become available in their price range. They have shown great maturity. They have avoided the habits of overspending and "living for the moment" that caused them housing problems in the first place.

Darian summed it up by saying...

"Without GSH, I don't know where we would be We are much better now and happier." **ALYSE**, a mother of two girls, came to GSH needing a small one-time grant of assistance. She had become ill, could not work for seven months and did not have enough sick leave to cover her time away from work.

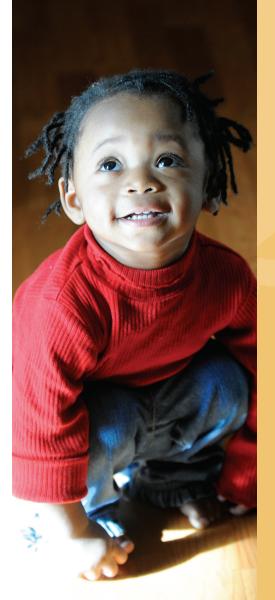
After losing work income due to illness, her mortgage payments fell behind and her house was eventually taken from her through a foreclosure.

Having recovered from the illness and returned to work, Alyse still needed housing for her family. Eventually, she located affordable rental housing. GSH was able to help her with the first month's rent — and with that, gave the family a jumpstart toward stable housing. She sent GSH this message of thanks...

"I appreciate your agency helping my family out in our time of need."



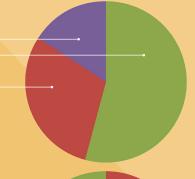




# FAMILIES WHO RECEIVED HOUSING OR SERVICES FROM GSH IN 2014

Families who were housed with or through GSH

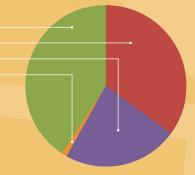
Families who received other financial assistance	547
through GSH	
Families who resolved carvise referrals from CSU	200



167

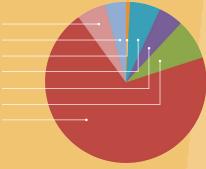
# **2014 GSH INCOME SOURCES**

Rental Income	\$1,019,476	41%
Fundraising	\$882,852	35%
Government Grants	\$595,354	23%
In-kind Donations and Other	\$35,837	1%
TOTAL	\$2,533,519	100%



# **2014 GSH EXPENSES**

	\$148,845	6%
nd General	\$113,662	4%
ources	\$35,108	1%
r	\$135,713	6%
Priority	\$111,918	5%
vices	\$185,644	8%
gram	\$1,686,023	70%
	\$2,416,913	100%
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Homelessness,
Increase
Community
Support, and
Promote

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