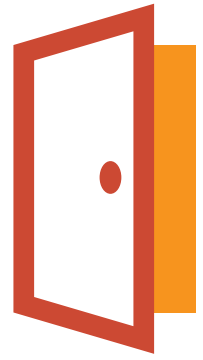


connection

THE NEWSLETTER OF RUSH HOMES • SPRING 2022



The Carolyn Haase Society — A Milestone

We are pleased to announce the creation of the Carolyn Haase Society. Named in honor of Carolyn Haase, whose gift of her home catalyzed a new stage of growth for Rush Homes, the Carolyn Haase Society will recognize philanthropic leadership and support of Rush Homes.

The generosity of the Society's members plays an essential role in sustaining our vision—"Everyone, regardless of income and disability, lives in homes and communities where they can thrive."

The Carolyn Haase Society recognizes and celebrates individuals and community partners whose giving (including

matching gifts) exceeds \$50,000 during their lifetime. Members will be recognized in the Rush Homes' annual report, receive invitations to special events, as well as a token of membership to remind them of the high esteem in which they are held by Rush Homes, our community, and all whose lives they have touched through their financial commitment to make "home" possible.

We thank each member of the Carolyn Haase Society who create through their remarkable commitments a strong foundation on which Rush Homes, and our residents, can flourish.



Director's Corner

Inflation is upon us. As a young man starting out in the early 1980s, I remember inflation rates of over 14%. Today, inflation is over 6.5%, a far cry from the 1980s and much higher than 1.7% just a year ago.



Rush Homes sees the effects of inflation. One example: our Florida Terrace development that is nearing construction start is 20% more costly than our estimates in March 2021.

Of greater importance, inflation affects Rush Homes' tenant families. A person receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), federal income provided to people with lifelong disabilities rendering them unable to work, had a monthly income of \$794 in 2021. In 2022, SSI rose by \$47 per month thanks to a 5.9% cost of living increase. But...Fair Market Rents increased by \$83

per month. You can see the problem. Housing affordability becomes even more out of reach for so many households of low income, especially those with disabilities. Most have little financial ability to cope. Our community weakens.

On the other hand, many of us are simply inconvenienced by inflation. If we stop and think about it, we have reason for gratitude; we are personally ok. We can participate in the solution, by making meaningful and tangible contributions as a measure of our gratitude. Supporting affordable housing for families with disabilities through Rush Homes gives back to our community and completes the cycle of gratitude.

Thank you for all of your support..

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

We received the following letter from a tenant, Sandra Tinsley, who asked that it be shared with you. We were so touched to have her express interest in sharing her thoughts. We hope you'll be as touched to know how your gifts make a difference.



Dear Supporters of Rush Homes,

I would like to thank you all for all you have done in supporting and donating to Rush Homes. Your donations have allowed me to live in one of their beautiful homes that your donations helped them build. In the process of time, I've lived here since 2014 and because it is affordable, it gives me the opportunity to live a better life. I love my apartment. I love my porch. I love sitting out and enjoying the sun.

I wanted to take this time out to help you understand how grateful I am to be one chosen to be living in a Rush Home. If I knew your names, I would thank each of you individually for such a beautiful place.

I would like to thank Rush Homes' staff; Jeff Smith for being here since I first moved in. He comes around and checks our apartments. Kate Goodman has also been there since I came. Morgan, Karen, and Eden are the new additions and I'm grateful to have them aboard, too. After all the years I've been here we had Al & Steve who I dearly miss and now we have Clarence who I call Mr. C.

I take great pride in my beautiful home and in keeping it clean. I'm not the only Rush Homes resident who takes great pride in taking care of their Rush Home. We're thankful for your support and look forward to welcoming new supporters, too.

With appreciation,
Sandra Tinsley

THANK YOU to Our Generous Donors in 2021

\$25,000+

Carolyn Haase*
Schewel Charitable Foundation
The Al Stroobants Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Genworth Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous (2)
Bank of America
Centra Health, Inc.
MaryJane Dolan
Nell & Billy King
Karen K. Painter
Pulte Family Charitable Foundation
Truist
Virginia Housing

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous
In honor of Graham Blanks
Bank of The James
Stan Biles
Vera & Walter Bills
Andrew Blanks
Betty Lynn & John Blanks
Taylor Blanks
Eleanor Candrian
Patsy Cannon
Carter Bank & Trust
Commercial Steel Erection
Lucy & Robert Cook
In honor of Joy Hilliard &
Tim Courville
Electronic Design & Manufacturing
Stephen English
First Presbyterian Church
Genworth Financial, Inc.
Brenda & Bill Gray
Lois & John Hansen
Becky Hawkins
Mary & Jim Hoban
In honor of Kate Goodman
Deb & Rick Huff
Jamerson-Lewis Construction
Cathie & Charlie Joseph
In honor of Jeff Smith's 65th birthday
Todd Leap & Mark Little
Anita & Jack MacNeill
Andrea Miller
Gail & Paul Mudrick
In honor of Betty Lynn & John Blanks
Bobbi & Dwight Oldham
Bill & Ida Powell

Rivermont Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Robert Roberts*
Bill Roseveare
In memory of Sandy Stanaitis
Susan Rush
Jean Stewart & Nancy Gray
Jane & Neal Sumerlin
Liz Sumpter & Brian Carlton
Jane & David Vaughan
Virginia Community Development
Corporation
Katherine Wesley

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Anthony Beckles
Coleman-Adams Construction, Inc.
Dodson Brothers Exterminating Co.
Mary Farland
In honor of Kate Goodman
First Christian Church
Susan & David Gellert
Kay Goodman
In honor of Kate Goodman
Louanne Guillermin
Kimberly & Robbie Hancock
Hansen Realty Advisors, LLC
Peggy & Garland Harper
In memory of Sandy Stanaitis
Marian Mancini
In honor of Kate Goodman
Mary McCarthy
In honor of Kate Goodman
Barbara S. Morris
Joyce O'Quinn & Steve Selby
Debbie & Ron Overstreet
Shyla & Nick Pontius
Carol Pratt
In memory of Robert J. Hempfling
Rotary Club of Forest
Marc Schewel
Mary Janick-Smith & Jeff Smith
In honor of Neal Sumerlin
Georgeann Snead
Brenda & John Stokes
In memory of Eva Mae Noble
Phillip Theisen
In memory of Dennis G. Theisen & Robert
S. Haizlip

\$100 - \$499

Anonymous
Marion Barksdale
Glenda & Oren Barnes
In memory of Rex Butler
Peggy Berger
Patricia Bower

Deborah Bowman
Teresa & Robert Brennan
Danny Brooks
In honor of Brenda & John Stokes
Brad Bullock
Campbell Insurance
Bo Calvert
Centenary United Methodist Church
Betty Chambers
Geraldine Clark
In memory of Willie E. Clark, III
Barbara & Larry Clayton
Emma & James Coleman
Karen & Drake Covey
Amy & Todd Cox
Amy & Jimmy Davis
Kanika Davis
Regina Dolan-Sewell
In honor of Jeff Smith
Melanie & Hunter Dovel
In honor of William Jackson
Ann Echols
Donna Farnandez
In memory of Josephine Farnandez
John Farnandez
In memory of Josephine Farnandez
Ann & Rodger Fauber
Vicky Fenimore
Suzanne Filiaggi
Libby & Paul Fitzgerald
Patricia Fitzgibbons
In honor of Jeff Smith
Polly & Bob Flint
Laurel I. Foot
Jennifer Gauthier
Jacquie Glanz
In memory of Robert Roberts
Debbie & Bob Golcheski
Roger & Winston Green
Elizabeth Grossman
Louanne Guillermin
Mary & Earl Guthrow
Sue & Bob Hahn
Ann Harper
In memory of Mabel Rush
Sarah & Tim Hellewell
Nita F. Hempfling
In memory of Robert Hempfling
Cecily Heuslein
Liz & Paul Highly
Betty Hileman
Ladies of St Jude Circle
In memory of Pat Golden
Kathy & John Hoskins
Chris Howell
In memory of Barbara Jacobs,
Lois Blair, & Randy Morse
Phoebe & Scott Hyman

Allison & Brian Jablonski
In memory of Thomas Slate
Linda & Mark Russell
Mari & Steve Smallshaw
Clay Taliaferro
In memory of Gabriel Taliaferro
Christine Terry
Klawe Thresher
Jo Todd
Joanne Tucker
Martha Wade
Diane & Billy Walker
Scott Walker
In honor of Jane & Neal Sumerlin
Cindi Walton
In memory of Guy Walton
Phebe & Bill Wescott
Patty & Ken West
James, Brandon, & Omar Williams
In memory of Ursula Ann Williams
Jane & Bill Wingfield
Wooldridge Heating

UP TO \$99

Amazonsmile Foundation
Betty & Barry Atkins
In honor of William Jackson
Carol & Jeff Barker
Sue & Jerry Bass
Melissa & Nicki Baugher
In memory of Bob Hempfling
Judith Boyd
In memory of Jason Boyd
Mary Brooks
Richard Burke & Beth Packert
Brenda & R.B. Carter
Hunsdon Cary
Marcy & Charlie Catalano
Centenary UMC Women
In memory of Mabel Rush
Elizabeth Clarkson
Linda Coderre
In memory of Vicky Wright
Ellyne & Jim Davis
In memory of Charles & Margie Rush
Barbara Dixon
In memory of her son

Sarah Dunstan
Gary DuPriest
Rick & Linda Edwards
Alice & Dave Espenscheid
Elizabeth B. Farnsworth
James Farrar
Howard Farrow
Judy Ferguson
In memory of Mark Patenaude
Marsha & Robert Gillette
Kate Goodman
Mary Ellen Gordon-Scudder
Ann Harper
In memory of Mabel Rush
Brenda & Bob Harvey
Victoria Hauck
Kevin Heifner
In honor of Dr. Neal Sumerlin
Kevin Henry
Elisabeth Hodges
In honor of three young Smallshaws
Shanda Horner
Paula & Carl Howell
James Johnson
Becky & Paul Keaton
Don Kidd
Sandra & Bob Knodel
Betsy & Allen Layne
Joann Linthicum
Vernelle Lytton
Frances Marshall
In honor of Dr. & Mrs. Charles Catalano
Marilyn Mateer
Langhorne McCarthy
Eloise Peters
Carolyn & Ed Polloway
Sarah Quarantotto
Dawn & Hossein Rezai
In memory of Carolyn Haase
Nancy & Anthony Salyers
In honor of William Jackson
Clara Sangston
Randall Sayre
Brenda & Melvin Scott
In memory of Aunt Ruby at Christmas
Kris & Fred Shabestar
In honor of Kate Goodman

Carolyn Sherayko
Linda Snead
In honor of William Jackson
Lisa Taylor
Ruth L. Tergesen
In honor of Kate Goodman
Arnett Thompson
Nancy Wellons
Harriet Whitten
In honor of Kate Goodman
Leah & Scott Wiebe
Karen & Hank Zylstra

In Kind Gifts

Anonymous
A R Workshop, Lynchburg
Moyanne Harding
Meanwhile Back on the Farm
Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest
Neal Sumerlin
Purple Door Catering
Batter Bar
Irvington Spring Farm
All Belong Co.
Julia Inglis
Garland Harper
Kate Goodman
Rookies
Karl Miller
Norma White
Alex Sayer
Curtains, Blinds, & Bath
Sarah Raessler
Simply Vanilla Gourmet Cheesecakes
Reserve Tasting Room & Lounge
Live Trendy or Die
Third Wave Coffee
Victoria Hauck
Grey's on Fifth
Shoemaker's American Grille
Mama Crockett's
Virginia Garden Supply
Academy Center for the Arts
Masterbrand Cabinets, Inc.

*deceased

Rush Homes makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of these listings.

If you are not listed correctly, or as you would prefer, please contact us at 434-455-2120 or email info@rushhomes.org.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

The Power of Planned Giving

You know how crucial a stable home is to everyone. Even a modest-sized gift can make an enormous difference in the life of Rush Homes, our residents, and our community.

Personal property, retirement funds, insurance policies, and more are the tools of charitable gift planning. These tools allow you to express your beliefs and values. Planned gifts can also provide you with valuable tax benefits, and an additional source of income for life.

It's easy to designate Rush Homes as a recipient of your planned gift. Call us at 434-455-2120 or email kate@rushhomes.org. Contact your attorney and financial advisor to let them know you are considering a planned gift to Rush Homes. They can help you determine what type of gift best suits your personal and financial circumstances.

Thanks for thinking of Rush Homes!

Board Member Spotlight:

Andrea Miller, Board President

When I initially learned of Rush Homes and the important gap they fill in our community, I was excited to become involved as a volunteer and donor. I began to serve on the Finance Committee in 2019, on the Board of Directors in 2020, and most recently assumed the role of President of the Board in January 2022. I am excited for the opportunity to further support Rush Homes' vision to ensure "Everyone, regardless of income and disability, lives in homes and communities where they can thrive." Through affordable and accessible housing, Rush Homes continues to turn this vision into reality for hundreds of residents in our community and helps them with housing and support programs to meet their needs and allow them to thrive.

The commitment of the staff, their dedication to the mission and level of engagement, as well as the quality of the board members is impressive. As a result, the impact that Rush Homes' has had in the community over the years is amazing. As we emerge from this pandemic and continue to overcome ongoing challenges, my focus will be to continue supporting and extending the reach of this unique organization, which empowers those with both permanent disabilities and low incomes by removing barriers to increase stability and independence.



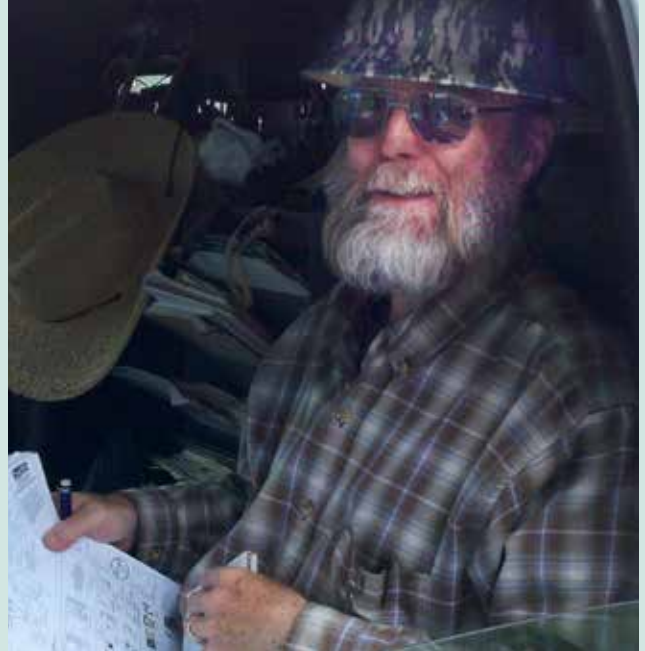
Al Maddox Retires from Rush Homes

In mid-2021, Al Maddox hung up his tool belt with Rush Homes. For much of Rush Homes history, Al, with his trusty sidekick Steve Moore, served as Rush Homes' everything when it came to property maintenance, construction, and construction oversight.

What Al did for Rush Homes is immeasurable. He smoothly carried out property maintenance, growing his support as Rush Homes grew, forming and maintaining trusting relationships with our tenants. When we needed a qualified person to watch over new construction projects, Al used his Class A contractor skills and waded into the details, ensuring that each new build was better than the last. He figured out solutions, created and maintained great relationships with subcontractors that served Rush Homes well, and walked easily among staff.

No story of Al is complete without the wonder of his full support of his brother John ("Superman") who had significant disabilities. Al understood disabilities and "got" Rush Homes.

Thank you, Al, for carrying Rush Homes from just a few units to our 99 today. We miss your van with the solar panel on the front.



BOARD

Andrea Miller, President
Andrew Blanks, Vice President
Anthony Beckles, Treasurer
Mari Smallshaw, Secretary
Aubrey L. Barbour, Jr.
James Coleman
Regina Dolan-Sewell
Micky Ferguson
Michael A. Gillette
Jacquie Glanz
Victoria Hauck
Ashley Hilbish
Brian Jablonski
Sabita Manian
Nick Pontius
Lisa Sandvig
Bill Sanford
Steve Smallshaw

STAFF

Jeff Smith	Executive Director
Kate Goodman	Development & Marketing Director
Karen Taheny	Asset & Property Manager
Morgan Holt	Residential Support Coordinator
Leslie Loucks	Housing Development Specialist
Eden Eldredge	Office Manager/Bookkeeper
Clarence Poe	Maintenance Technician

In the know...

What does our Residential Support Program do? Here's a very timely example of just one of the many ways we support our residents.

As this edition of *Connection* goes to print, we've just learned of the death of one of our Old Forest Village residents. Darius Sutor did not live in his Rush Home for terribly long—only about two years—but his big personality quickly established him as one of our better-known tenants. Quick-tempered and opinionated, his irascibility was tempered with moments of humor, courtliness, and charm. He loved cars and owned more than could be parked in the limited spaces available at his home, a regular point of contention. Sometimes, his ever-expanding collection of leisure suits and vintage records left him shy of money for rent. Keeping Darius stable in his Rush Home required regular coordination and communication among our staff—a staple of our Residential Support Program. When one of us might encounter uncooperativeness from him, another of us might be able to re-establish rapport. Through this process, the payment plans were paid, the cars were managed, and Darius spent his final years in a safe, comfortable, stable home. It will be quieter now that he is gone, and we will miss him.



1721 Monsview Pl., Lynchburg, VA 24504
P.O. Box 3305, Lynchburg, VA 24503
434.455.2120
www.rushhomes.org