In Memoriam

Haywood Jones, who was a tenant at our Wildwood Drive house in Madison Heights, passed away January 3, 2018. He was a quiet man who enjoyed spending the last year and a half putting personal touches on the house to truly make it feel like home. He is survived by his mother, his loving wife, three daughters and one son, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren! Haywood was a Dunbar High School graduate and attended Phillips Business College. He was employed at Griffin Pipe for 18 years and enjoyed fishing, traveling and being an avid Dallas Cowboys fan. Chris Howell, program manager shared, “Haywood always had a smile on his face. From the first time we met, I liked him. I’ll miss his cheery hello each month when he would stop by to drop off the rent check. He never lingered for very long but always made a point of saying how much they were enjoying living with Rush Homes.”

NEW ADDRESS!

Please note that Rush Homes has a new mailing address:

P.O. Box 3305
Lynchburg, VA 24503

Would you rather receive your newsletter electronically?
Share your current email address by calling 434-455-2120, or by emailing info@rushhomes.org

Rush Homes
INDEPENDENCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

1721 Monsview Pl., Lynchburg, VA 24504
P.O. Box 879, Lynchburg, VA 24505
(434) 455.2120
www.rushhomes.org

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This is what your gifts to Rush Homes means to the families we serve. The road isn’t always easy…but they don’t expect it to be. All they ask is a chance—a chance your gifts have given them.

In 2017, Rush Homes undertook a performance challenge. Knowing how much stable, accessible homes mean to our tenant families, and knowing how many people are struggling to find that stability strengthened our resolve to be an even bigger part of the solution. We challenged ourselves to improve our bottom line by $100,000.

YOU MADE THAT POSSIBLE.

So, it’s not hard to understand that everyone needs a place to live. As a supporter of Rush Homes, you also understand many people have needs related to disabilities that make finding a satisfactory home—not perfect, but satisfactory—very difficult, if not impossible. What happens when a family doesn’t have a stable place to live that meets their needs? You already know the answer to that question. Are you a teacher? If you are, then you know how a child who moves frequently or who hasn’t eaten or who doesn’t have a safe place to sleep influences the overall experience of the entire class. If you are a health care professional, you know how chronic issues such as asthma, diabetes, and anxiety can be exacerbated by a person’s living environment. No matter your profession, you can imagine what your days and nights would be like if you didn’t have the most basic foundation on which everything else is predicated—a home that meets your needs.

Whether you are an individual who has made a gift of $5 or a corporation or foundation that has made a gift of $25,000, your gifts are put to good use immediately.

YOUR GIFTS helped Randy have a home in which his wheelchair fits through every doorway.

YOUR GIFTS funded our new Resident Support Coordinator who advocates for James as he learns to live independently with his loss of vision.

YOUR GIFTS bring hope to the more than 500 individuals and families on our waiting list who just need a chance to live their best lives.

Thank you for caring.
FROM THE DIRECTOR

Home is important to all of us individually, as families, and as a community. Home is the biggest line item in personal budgets, important in our health and well-being, and a significant driver of our economy. Home is critical to family and community stability. Multiple studies show the link between quality, affordable homes, stability, and health care costs. For people with disabilities, a home that provides both independence (think accessibility and affordability) and refuge is crucial to stability.

Rush Homes is a solution to the problem of stability for people with disabilities and incomes that are as low as $9,000 per year. Here’s Rush Homes’ track record: 71 homes provided with 28 more set to open this summer, 200 plus people with disabilities served, and over $17 million brought into the Lynchburg economy. Because of the over 500 on our waiting list, we are redoubling our efforts to meet the need by growing our capacity. In 2017, we worked hard to meet our Performance Challenge, becoming more efficient, starting our Residential Support Program, beginning construction of Old Forest Village, and improving our bottom line finances all while participating in local poverty reduction initiatives and housing collaboratives. This year, 2018, we will lease our new Old Forest Village apartments, complete a strategic plan with a fresh look at our mission and vision, and again improve our finances with an eye toward “staffing up.” We will get even better and we will do even more.

When I was a boy, I was my mom’s runner on a route in my hometown where we sold eggs. One customer, Ms. Q, lived in a small house that I now know was a shack, heated by an old wood stove and below street level at the bottom of several steps. Substandard housing is the term we’d use now and it was certainly not wheelchair friendly. Ms. Q had both legs amputated and required a wheelchair to get around. She baked, possibly to bring in enough money to live because, in those days, there was no safety net. I know that house hurt her well-being. Rush Homes changes this equation for people like Ms. Q who desire and need a decent, stable life.

Rush Homes
INDEPENDENCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

What do we mean by affordable homes?

In order to have the residual income necessary to afford the basic necessities, a family should pay no more than 30% of their income for housing and utilities. By this standard, $300 per month is what is “affordable.”

$300

In Lynchburg, there are an estimated 942 homes for rent at a gross rent of $300 or less. Only 2%–3% of those are vacant, and most are not accessible for people with disabilities. Families are forced to find homes at higher rents—more than they can afford—which results in instability.

942

Affordable homes matter to all of us. Why?

Housing stability increases independence, well-being, economic activity, community involvement, personal financial security and HOPE!

Housing stability decreases work and school absenteeism, medical needs and related costs, and use of public services.

Being able to afford rent for a home that meets ones needs eases concern and stress. Being able to afford rent brings stability which offers relief not only for families in need, but for all connected with them.

Rush Homes: A LOCAL organization solving a LOCAL problem with LOCAL support

17 million
amount of money Rush Homes has brought to our local community through the development of affordable housing.

71
accessible, affordable homes Rush Homes has brought to our community

193
the number of people served by Rush Homes

523
the number of individuals/families on the Rush Homes waiting list

99
total number of Rush Homes upon completion of Old Forest Village in spring of 2018

$21
approximate return for each dollar donated to Rush Homes

We all do better when we all do better.

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www.rushhomes.org
THANK YOU to Our Generous Donors in 2017

**Gifts of $25,000 +**
- Scheuwel Charitable Foundation
- Wal-Mart Foundation

**Gifts of $10,000 – $24,999**
- The Esake Foundation
- Jill & John Fees

**Gifts of $5,000 – $9,999**
- The Greater Lynchburg Community Trust
- Jane & Neal Sumerlin
- HDHA
- Wells Fargo Foundation

**Gifts of $2,500 – $4,999**
- Sarah & Tim Burnett
- Electronic Design and Manufacturing
- First Presbyterian Church
- Lisa Stinnette
- TNT Lynchburg, Inc.
- Karen & David Truitt
- Virginia Community Development Corporation
- Walmart Madison Heights #2565
- Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund

**Gifts of $1,000 – $2,499**
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Bank of the James
- Larry Bassett
- Andrew Blanks
- Betty Lynn & John Blanks
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- Lucy Cook
  - In honor of Chris Howell
- Delta Star, Inc.
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- Lynchburg Academy of Medicine
- Anita MacNeill
- Mary Peterson
- Rivermont Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Robert Roberts
- Susan Rush
  - In memory of Mabel & Wallace Rush
- Brenda & John Stokes
- Liz Sumpter & Brian Carlton
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  - In memory of Peggy Teague
- Virginia Community Capital
- Walmart Old Forest Road #4697

**Gifts of $500 – $999**
- Atlantic Bay Mortgage Group
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- Janie & David Vaughan
  - In honor of Dr. & Mrs. Scott Wade
  - Janie & David Vaughan
  - In honor of Drs. Dwight & Bobbi Oldham
  - Janie & David Vaughan
  - In honor of Dr. & Mrs. William Gayle
  - Walmart Ward’s Rd #1350

**Gifts of $100 – $499**
- Anonymous
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- Carol & Jeff Barker
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- Peggy Berger
- Dori & John Bowden
- Art Bowen
- Deborah Bowman
- Jeanine Bunero
- Bo Calvert
- Marcy & Charles Catalano
  - In honor of Stephen Joseph
- Centenary United Methodist Woman
  - In honor of Chris Howell
- Centenary United Methodist Woman
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- Betty Chambers
- Geraldine Clark
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- Alan Cooper
- Betty Corbin
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- Kitty & Bobb* Davenport
- Dawn Dearth
- Cheryl Delta Pia
- Leighton Dodd
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- Lynn Dowde*
  - Judy & Linnie Dudley
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- Linda & Rick Edwards
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- John Farnandez
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- Jodi & Michael Gillette
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  - In memory of Mabel Rush
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  - Sarah Helfewell
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- Langhorne McCarthy
  - In honor of Raymond Dyke
  - B.J. McCraw
  - Member One Federal Credit Union
  - Betty Miller
  - Alyson & Benjamin Minnear
  - Makanah Moriss
  - Gail & Paul Mudrick
  - In honor of John & Betty Lynn Blanks
  - Peggy & Bill Nolley
  - Joyce O’Donnell & Steve Self
  - In honor of Mikel Griffing
  - Karen Painter
  - Linda & George Paulson
  - Peakland Baptist Church
  - James Peery
  - Paula & James Petrey
  - In honor of Mrs. Jean Petrey
  - Helen Petrill
  - David Petty
  - Ceci & Dick Potehein
  - Ida Powell
  - In honor of Chris Howell
  - Mary Ann & Tony Pula
  - In honor of John & Brenda Stokes
  - Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Class
  - Deborah & Dan Raessler
  - Sharon Robinson
  - William Rosemoe
  - Velda & George Rowe
  - R. W. Baird and Co. Inc.
  - Katherine Sasser
  - Emily & Joe Sayers
  - Nancy & Bill Schneider
  - Iva & Phickey Scott
  - Earle Simpson
  - Robyn Smith
  - Hope Snell
  - Linda & Jimmy Spencer
  - Cara Splinder
  - St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
  - Allison Stonora
  - Marion & Phil Stump
  - Bonnie Svveck
  - Joanne & William Tucker
  - Stuart Turtle
  - Diane & Billy Walker
  - Cindi Walton
  - Patty & Ken West
  - Jane White
  - Sterling Wilder
  - James Williams
  - In memory of Ursula Williams
  - Jane & Bill Wigfield
  - Wiley Wright

**Gifts up to $99**
- Betty & Barry Atkins
  - In honor of Bill Jackson
- Sue & Jerry Bass
  - Carla Blankenstein
  - Anne Boynton
  - Vera Brandt
  - Mary Brooks
  - Linda & Glenn Buck
  - Brad Bullock
  - Muriel Casey
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  - Court Street United Methodist Church
- Linda & Bryan Cox
- Betty & Todd Cos
- Elizabeth Davis
- Garry Deal
- Melanie & Hunter Doval
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- Gary DuPrist
  - In memory of Rebecca Anne DuPrist
  - Elizabeth Farnsworth
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  - Kevin Henry
  - Sherry Hellman
  - Morgan & Chris Holt
  - Shanda Homer
  - Charles Hylton
  - In honor of Bill Jackson
  - Bill Jackson
  - Ruth & Scott Johnson
  - In honor of Bill Jackson
  - Krista Johnson
  - Karla & Lucas Jones
  - In honor of Mark W. Maslow’s birthday
  - Patsy Jordan
  - Stephen Joseph
  - LaToya Kirkland
  - Sandy & Bob Knodel
  - Heidi Koring
  - Barbara LaFleur & Charles Morrison
  - Betty & Tom Mabe
  - Michael Maningas
  - Frances Marshall
  - Jennifer Martin
  - Luke Maslow & Justin Cullifer
  - In honor of Mark W. Maslow’s birthday
  - Marilyn Mates
  - Molly McCommon
  - Eleanor McKinney
  - Andrea Miller
  - Diana & Jim Nenwood
  - Beth Packert & Richard Burke
  - Ida Perkins
  - Eloise Poter
  - Ed Polkaway
  - Sarah Raaser
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  - Nancy & Anthony Salyers
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  - Jean Stewet
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  - Carrie Williams
  - Amanda Williams
  - Mark Wilson
  - In honor of Graham Blanks
  - Joan Woody
  - Karen & Hank Zylstra

**In-Kind Gifts**
- Stephanie Fees
- Ake Loper
- Nancy Marion
- Mercedes Moxby
- Persian Rugs & More
- Clay Talafarro

*Ruealso preserves 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.