



Helping low-income seniors in Chicago remain independent for over 30 years.

Diana's Story: It's Truly A Moving Experience

In 2014, H.O.M.E. restarted our Moving Program with funding provided by The Retirement Research Foundation and The Field Foundation. Their funds have allowed us to provide help for seniors moving in Chicago at a rate of about one move per week.

A few months ago, our Moving Coordinator, Judy, shared this email from a woman we helped move.



"You literally saved my life! I would not have been able to survive under those conditions much longer with the many health problems I have. I am now able to have basic necessities like heat and hot water to bathe. I don't have to inhale mold and mildew anymore or worry about the ceiling falling in on my head. I did something in my new apartment that I have not

done in a while, I wash my hair...You help make my burden light and I sincerely thank you. May God return the blessings to you many times over.

-From Diana."

Moving is one of life's most stressful situations, especially for low-income seniors like Diana who have struggled to take the big step of changing their lives. Our Moving Program reduces the stress of moving for the elderly.

Judy is a very big part of making moves go smoothly. She helped Diana work with moving companies to prepare for her move. On the day of the move it was Judy who was there with Diana to make sure things went as planned and who gave her a ride to her new home.

Our moving clients often expect to ride in the moving truck to their new apartment. However, moving companies don't allow that, so Judy normally drives the senior to the apartment. She says, "They love the fact they can ride with me in my car to their new place!"



Because Judy offers hands on support and arranges the many pieces of the moving process for our clients, we like to describe the Moving Program as a concierge moving service.

As Diana and many of the other seniors we've served would tell you, moving assistance for seniors makes a huge difference.

For our clients, moving to a

new home is often essential to improving their health and safety, but it's not always easy to accomplish without help.

H.O.M.E. is the only organization in Chicago that helps low-income seniors move. We are truly grateful for our funders who have allowed us to start the program again. What we do is in many ways a truly moving experience. As Judy says, "Everyone is so happy we can help them!"

How to Support our Food Programs: Be a hero to Charlotte

You can be a hero to Charlotte by helping to put warm food on her table all year. Charlotte found a new home at Pat Crowley House two years ago when she was living alone and showing signs of health deterioration. Charlotte laughingly confessed that she was "never much of a cook" and that when she lived on her own she was constantly eating fast food or processed foods. Her wellbeing and pocket book took a toll.

Now that she lives at Pat Crowley House, she has home cooked meals every day and dines with the other residents in a family like setting. As a result, Charlotte now eats healthier food and lives a more active lifestyle.

Through our partnership with the Greater Chicago Food

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Our Mission

H.O.M.E. helps low-income seniors in Chicago maintain their independence by providing home upkeep and repair, a shopping bus, moving assistance, and three affordable, intergenerational buildings.

H.O.M.E. serves seniors in a warm and caring manner by focusing on the whole person, not just their immediate needs.

For more information about our services, contact:

Mike Laz,
Operations and Volunteer Coordinator at (773) 295-2709 or MikeL@HOMEseniors.org

Caren Arden-Tabani,
Housing Coordinator at (773) 465-3685

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Program Director

Sweet H.O.M.E. Chicago!

On Thursday, April 28th, nearly 300 people came together at Germania Place to celebrate H.O.M.E. at our Annual Celebration Dinner!



We were honored to have as our emcee for the night Robyn Golden, the Director of Health and Aging at Rush University Medical Center. Robyn is a well-respected figure in the aging field and brought a great energy to the evening.

Attendees enjoyed a Wine Grab and Silent Auction sponsored by our Young Professionals Board prior to dinner. After dinner, we premiered the video awarded to us by the Make It Better Foundation. Applause, laughter, and a few tears erupted in the ballroom, especially when Joann told them that

H.O.M.E. helps seniors "kick it like seniors should kick it." You can watch the video on our website now.

We also honored individuals and organizations who embody the spirit of H.O.M.E.:

- Memoona Hasnain, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Saint Clement Church
- Oak Street Health
- And H.O.M.E.'s very own Caren Arden Tabani!

A Legacy of Independence

Woodie Barce was a faithful donor to H.O.M.E. since at least 1995. Each year in December, we were delighted to see that he still thought our programs were a good investment. His very generous support each and every year contributed to helping thousands of seniors remain independent members of their community.

We heard that he passed away in November of 2014 when the executor of his will called us. A little over a year later, we learned that Woodie intended to leave the majority of his estate to nonprofits and that H.O.M.E. was one of the beneficiaries of his will. Even though he has passed away, his bequest will help serve

Thanks to your generous contributions, we raised over \$80,000 to provide seniors with essential housing and housing support services!

We want to extend a special thank you to our sponsors who made the evening a success: American Marketing Services, Barton Management, Big 'O' Movers, Brinshore, Chuhak & Tecson Law Firm, Cigna Healthspring, Fifth Third Bank, Joseph M. Wiedemann & Sons, JP Morgan, Lightengale Group, The Lombard Company, Magnum Trucking, MB Financial, McCarthy Ford, Morgan Stanley, Northern Trust, Oakstreet Health, Peoples Gas, Prime Publishing, Rush Health &



Aging, Urban Partnership Bank, US Bank, US Trust, ValueKnowledge.

Thank you also to the Board of Directors and Young Professionals Board who made the event go smoothly.

seniors for many years to come.

We spoke with a friend of his recently who told us that Woodie had long supported the needs of the elderly. He had been a volunteer with Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly at one time and had been closely involved with another senior-serving organization where one of his "best buddies" was on the Board of Directors.

Woodie was a private person who kept busy, but his heartfelt investment in H.O.M.E. over the years made a significant impact on the community and on the individual lives of seniors that our programs touch every day.

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A Legacy of Independence *(Continued from page 2)*

In remembering H.O.M.E. in his will, his passion for helping older adults in Chicago will go on. In fact, his bequest has helped H.O.M.E. establish a fund that will ensure that our programs can continue to serve seniors long into the future.

Have you considered what you want your legacy to be? Thoughtfully planned, any of the following giving options may provide important personal benefits while benefiting seniors for many years to come:

- Include a bequest to H.O.M.E. in your Will or Revocable Trust
- Designate H.O.M.E. as a beneficiary of your Retirement Assets - IRA, 401(k), 403(b) or pension

Join us in celebrating our staff!

Our staff is a big part of our H.O.M.E. family. Each day they work hard to provide services to seniors in a person-centered way. Having committed staff who are passionate about their jobs is how we provide quality services to seniors in Chicago. Meet a few of our staff who are celebrating work anniversaries this year.



25 years

Caren Arden-Tabani, Housing Coordinator. Over the years, Caren has raised her family at Pat Crowley House alongside people of all generations. Seniors who live with us have

referred to her as a daughter, a sister, and as "the boss" (in fact, at one point during her tenure, she was the interim Executive Director). We are thankful for Caren's expertise in caring for older adults, her resilience, and her passion for H.O.M.E.'s mission.



20 years

Candido "Oscar" Sanchez, Maintenance Engineer. Oscar was the first resident of the Nathalie Salmon House. He and his family moved into the family

apartment in the weeks before the building's grand opening to serve as security and maintenance staff. Oscar knows Nathalie Salmon House like an old friend, and keeps the 20 year old building operating smoothly for its residents.

- Name H.O.M.E. as a beneficiary of your Life Insurance policy

Go to www.homeseniors.org/Volunteer/Become-a-Donor.html for more information on the many different ways to support us.

If you have already included H.O.M.E. in your charitable plans and have not yet notified us, please let us know by calling us or filling out our declaration of intent form online. We would enjoy the opportunity to thank you and would like to make sure your intentions are carried out properly.

Please visit the "Legacy of Independence" page on our website that honors and thanks those individuals who have made a planned gift to H.O.M.E.



10 years

Janet Takehara, Program Director. Janet has described herself as a natural "connector." Whether she is working with our clients, interns, or community partners, she is

always thinking of ways to make meaningful connections. In fact, for the third year in a row, she has connected H.O.M.E. with the Glenwood Sunday Market, which helps to provide farm fresh foods to seniors who live at Good Life Senior Residences. This special connection combines particular passions for Janet: H.O.M.E., good food, and Rogers Park (her beloved neighborhood).



10 years

Kevin Horan-Bussey, Business Manager. Kevin's position includes managing human resources, finances, and technology for H.O.M.E. Kevin says, "I really enjoy

working for a place like H.O.M.E. that has such a worthwhile mission. We do a lot of direct service to seniors with the size of our budget. I also enjoy the variety in my position—I get to wear many hats, so it never gets boring."

Thank you Caren, Oscar, Janet, and Kevin for your dedicated service to our mission!

Volunteers are extraordinary!

Here are just a few ways you can help:

Guest Chef in Good Life Senior Residences

Interior Painting

Visit with seniors

Weatherize homes in the fall



To find out more, visit www.homeseniors.org/volunteer

How do you want to hear from us?

Visit www.homeseniors.org/signup.html to let us know!

For frequent updates, follow us on social media:

www.facebook.com/HOMEseniors

www.twitter.com/hou singopps

<http://tinyurl.com/homeseniors>



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Making an Impact... by the Numbers

You already know H.O.M.E. helps low-income seniors live independently by providing home repairs, a shopping bus, affordable housing, and moving assistance. But do you recognize all the ways H.O.M.E serves them, and, the impact of your support?

So far this year:

- The shopping bus program provided **1,662** shopping trips to grocery stores and pharmacies for seniors living in isolation or food deserts
- Upkeep and Repair Program performed **294** repairs in **79** low-income senior households

- Intergenerational Housing Program provided affordable housing to **61** seniors and **29** younger adults and children.
- The Moving Program moved **19 seniors** into their new homes within Chicago.
- **Over 200 volunteers** weatherized 28 senior homes, painted our buildings, served as guest chefs, and sponsored senior activities for our residents.

Thank you for your generous support that helps seniors to maintain their independence and remain active in their communities.

How to Support our Food Programs *(Continued from page1)*

Depository, you can provide nutritious, tasty meals to seniors like Charlotte who live at Good Life Senior Residences at Pat Crowley and Nathalie Salmon Houses. Any donation that you make to the Depository can be allocated to H.O.M.E.'s account to help us purchase food for seniors who live at Good Life Senior Residences. All you have to do is include our

agency code A00841 on your check or online donation at <http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/>.

Already a donor to the Greater Chicago Food Depository? Just remember to include Agency Code A00841 to direct your gift to H.O.M.E.'s account and help Charlotte have healthy meals on her table every day.