

April 2022

Honored to Be Chosen

Spring seems to be making its most welcome appearance in the past few weeks. There are many reasons why spring is associated with hope, and at House of Charity, we have one more reason this spring feels especially hope-filled.

HOC was thrilled to learn we are one of five recipients of a nationwide grant through the National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC). Grant dollars offered through this award will provide funding and technical assistance to enhance support in our respite program. Our respite program provides individuals experiencing homelessness a safe and healing place while recovering from an acute illness or injury. Patrons have an opportunity to rest, recuperate, and engage in needed services to get housed. Through this incredible funding opportunity, we will be able to add much-needed Behavioral Health support.

Behavioral Health relates to the connection between your behavior and the health of your mind, body, and spirit. Resources that fit within the scope of these services can include mental health support, substance use services, and factors like eating and drinking habits and exercise. This is a tremendous addition to our respite program as we have learned that it is essential to work to meet the needs of the *whole person*.

Working to support the body's healing only goes so far if we are not also working to support the behavioral health needs of the people we serve. Successful, long-term housing becomes much more tenable when we understand all the factors that might impact the folks we serve.

This grant will also allow us to hire a Behavioral Health Navigator and a Behavioral Health Peer Support Specialist. These positions will forge new relationships with community providers, open doors to needed resources, and create meaningful connections and systems of support. We are excited to dig into this work and are so grateful for the support offered by NHCHC. Stay tuned—I am sure we will see some great successes in the coming months from this program!

With great hope and gratitude,

Dena
Director
House of Charity

