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### CHANGE SERVICE ADDRESS

### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## Don Mattran - Board Chair

Don Mattran is the newly elected Chairman of the Board for Marian House and has served on the board since 2015. Don has always placed a premium on giving back to his community and also serves in a variety of positions with other Baltimore non-profit organizations, serving as Co-Chair this year (with his partner and wife Marianne Mattran) of the Tocqueville Society of United Way. He also drives the church bus for his local parish, The Catholic Community of South Baltimore.

Don and Marianne founded their firm Foundry Wealth Advisors in June of 2011. Before forming Foundry Wealth Advisors, he spent 24 years with large regional banks, most recently serving as the Managing Director, Private Wealth Management, at SunTrust Bank.

Don's term as Chairman comes at an exciting time at Marian House as he leads the full Board with a 3-year Strategic Plan for 2020-2022. Don is enthusiastic about the Strategic Plan, and exclaims "I am proud to be working with an outstanding group of volunteers on the Marian House Board. Their commitment and compassion is extraordinary. The Marian House staff is also a super group of dedicated individuals."

Don has his B.A. in Economics from the University of Connecticut and his MBA in Finance from University of Hartford. In his spare time, Don travels up and down the east coast participating in car racing and High Performance Driving Events where he serves as Co-Chief Instructor.



Don's favorite activity at Marian House is the Thanksgiving Celebration, where the residents, board and staff share a meal together and state why each person in attendance is Thankful. "It is always a humbling experience to share in the Thanksgiving Celebration at Marian House AND it sure is a lot of fun," stated Mattran. "Being in a position to help the residents of Marian House is something for which I am very thankful."

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Thursday Tours - Dates below

*Hear from our Executive Director, one of our residents and tour the place our women call home!*

November 14, 2019 - 4:00-5:30PM

December 12, 2019 - 8:00-9:30AM

January 9, 2020 - 8:00-9:30AM

Please RSVP to [advancement@marianhouse.org](mailto:advancement@marianhouse.org)

#### Giving Tuesday - December 3, 2019

*Join a world-wide movement of generosity and give to Marian House on Giving Tuesday!*

#### SAVE THE DATES!

**Community Night at Gertrude's** - February 6, 2020 - Gertrude's Restaurant

**BLINGO!** - March 25, 2020 - ServePro in Sparks

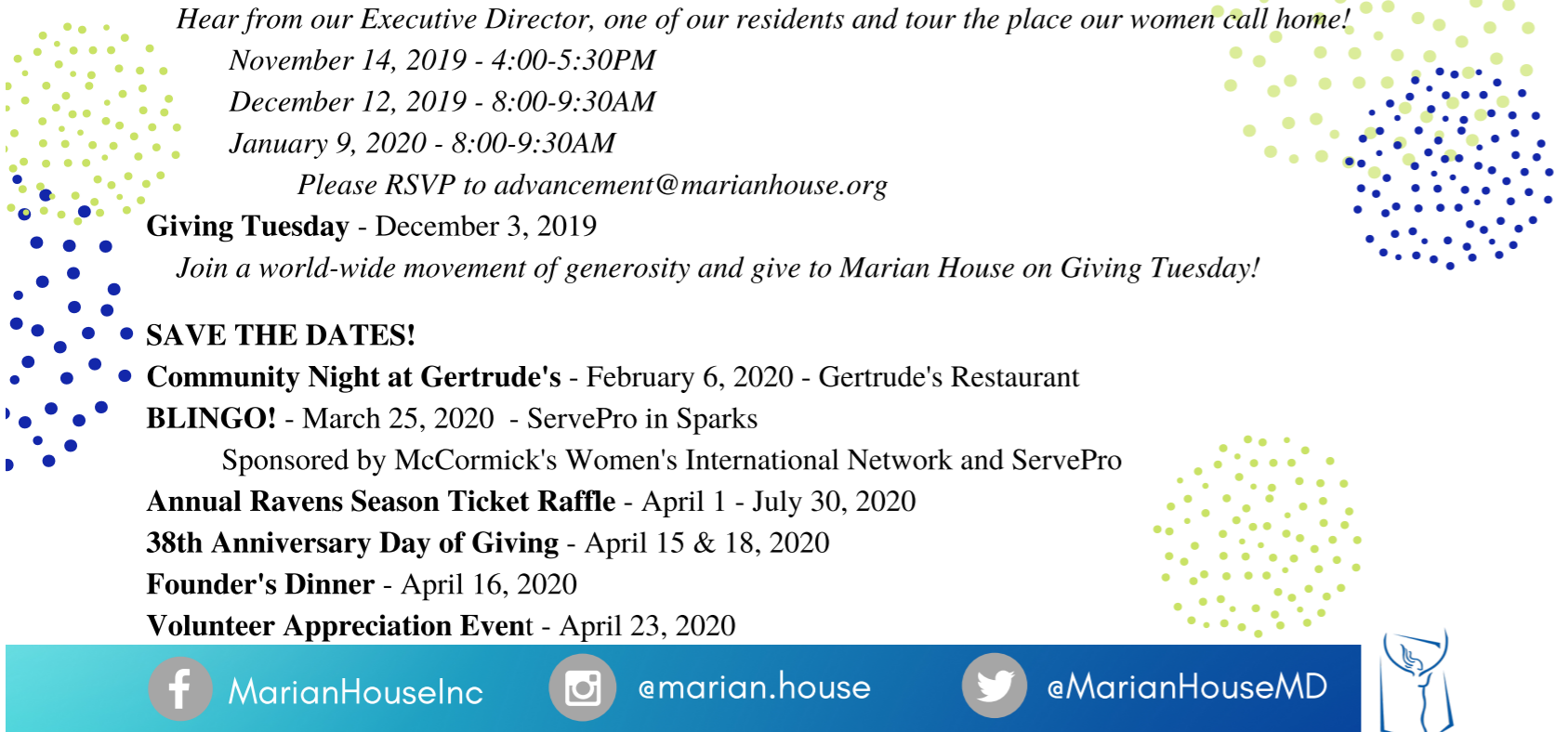
Sponsored by McCormick's Women's International Network and ServePro

**Annual Ravens Season Ticket Raffle** - April 1 - July 30, 2020

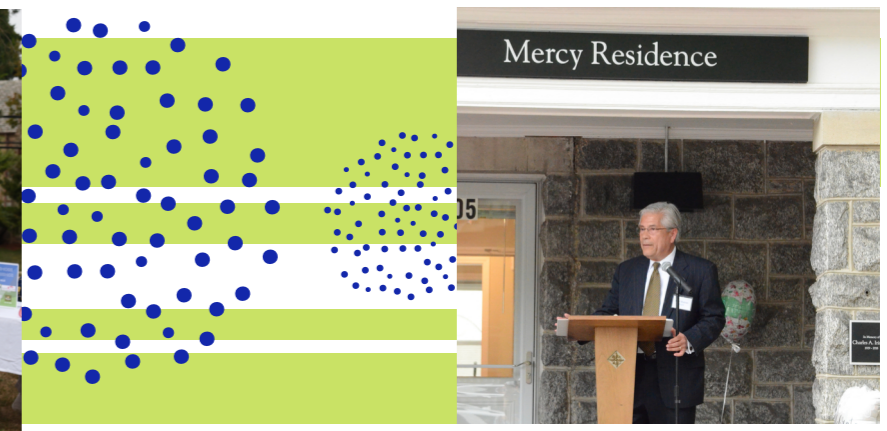
**38th Anniversary Day of Giving** - April 15 & 18, 2020

**Founder's Dinner** - April 16, 2020

**Volunteer Appreciation Event** - April 23, 2020



Don with Executive Director, Katie



Renovation Celebration



# MARIAN HOUSE HEART OF THE HOUSE

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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello friend and supporter! Thank you for helping us to further our mission each day. Marian House has served over 2,500 women and 800 children since our founding in 1982. As we reflect on our past success, we have one area in which we would like to increase our capacity and provide further support for the women in our program.

When a woman completes our Marian House I program (our residential program for single women), they have the option to go on to Marian House II or to housing in the community. Marian House II provides a private bedroom in a row house, where common living areas and bathrooms are shared with a small number of other residents. After a period of time in the Marian House II program, many women are ready for a place of their own. The challenge is then finding an affordable housing unit to move to.

Because of our strong financial standing, and with the help of our many generous donors like you, we plan to expand the housing rental options for our own women. The Marian House Board has just approved an expansion plan and set aside Marian House funds to enable us to increase our housing rental inventory. Over the next several months we will be pursuing the purchase of row homes. We will later raise money to renovate and use these homes to provide affordable permanent housing for women and families exiting our transitional programs.

We will focus our expansion efforts in the Pen Lucy neighborhood, within walking distance of our Independence Place campus on Old York Road. This close proximity will allow us to provide ongoing services as needed to the women exiting our program into this new housing once it is developed, while at the same time giving Marian House women safe and affordable housing based on their incomes.

You have heard the expression, “it takes a village”, and we know that to be true. We will seek your continued support as we work our way through our next stage of growth for Marian House. Thank you, as always for your caring and compassion.

In love and peace,

*Katie*

## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

*Jane*

Jane grew up in a decent home in Howard County. She started using drugs at 15, but was able to finish high school, went on to get a full-time job, had her own cars, and was functioning well, even in her addiction... until she lost everything.

Jane became homeless in 2016 and she spent the next two years couch surfing and bouncing from house to house. Eventually, she started living on the streets in early 2018.

*“I lost everything, but my life. I was miserable, depressed, and suicidal. The only accurate way to describe it was a state of drug psychosis. I would go two to three days without sleeping, eating once a day, then I would sleep for twenty-four hours straight, then wake up and do it all over again.”*

*The last two or three months before I was in jail, no one knew where I was. I didn't have a cell phone or any way to get in contact with me. My mom thought she was going to get a call from the city morgue any time...”*

In the fall of 2018, Jane was arrested and spent the next six months incarcerated. During her last three months there, Jane participated in a recovery program.

*“I was homeless before jail, and I was still homeless in jail. I had nowhere to go when I was getting ready to be released. Over the time I was in jail, I made a decision to stay clean this time. I was really scared, so I asked for help. I had seven days to find a place to stay and one of the ladies at the in-prison recovery program told me about Marian House.”*

*My first interview was on a Friday, the second interview on that following Monday, then I was released on Tuesday, and I came to Marian House on Wednesday. So now, to know how hard it is to get in here and how uncommon my journey to Marian House was, I'm even more grateful to be here.”*

Since becoming a resident, Jane completed our ten-week substance abuse treatment program, attends meetings regularly, got a 12-step program sponsor, began working the steps, completed the Job Readiness Program, and is now employed part-time! She celebrated her 1 year sobriety anniversary last August and is currently 13 months sober – the longest sobriety she's ever had! Jane is really proud that she was able to visit the Howard County Detention Center and share her story to give hope and encouragement to currently incarcerated women.



*“This time last year, I was sitting in a jail cell, and before that I was living on the streets and didn't really see myself living much longer. Today, I have hit all the goals I had for my first year in sobriety and in the past two days, I've gotten two job offers for full-time positions in reputable medical organizations.”*

*I wouldn't be where I am now without Marian House. There's no place like this. The structure helps me thrive and keeps me responsible. When I have anxiety, I know I can go anywhere in the house and receive services. I have respect and love for myself, and I'm learning to set healthy boundaries. I have dignity now. Everything I need is here, this is a safe place for me.”*



In the future, Jane is excited to start working full-time, save up for a car, and eventually, save up for her own place. She also wants to continue to serve women who are going through what she went through. Jane wants to continue speaking to women in jails and those living on the streets, letting them know that there is a way out for them.

We are incredibly proud of all that Jane has accomplished! Her calm, sweet countenance is a wonderful addition to our community, and we are grateful to have her in our Marian House family!

*Support women like Jane,  
DONATE TODAY!*



# MARIAN HOUSE HEART OF THE HOUSE

## LATEST HAPPENINGS:

### 11th Annual Race to Embrace Independence 5K

We are excited to share that the 11th Annual Race to Embrace Independence 5K Run and Walk had over 800 registrants and 50 volunteers! This family-friendly event brought the community together to raise awareness and funds for Marian House and the women we serve. With the help of our volunteers, runners, walkers, fundraisers, and sponsors, we raised over \$95,000!

We cannot thank you enough for your support of this year's 5K / Family Fun Run. Whether you joined us as a runner, walker, in-person, virtually, or as a volunteer - WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



BROWN ADVISORY - CHESAPEAKE EMPLOYERS INSURANCE COMPANY - FUTURECARE - JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT LLC - KELLY - MERCY MEDICAL CENTER - PROTIVITI - T. ROWE PRICE - EASTERN SAVINGS BANK - FAIRFAX STATION ENTERPRISES - MECU - TYDINGS & ROSENBERG LLP - ATLANTIC FINANCIAL INC - GORDON FEINBLATT, LLC - CANUSA CORPORATION AND CANUSA HERSHMAN RECYCLING - FRIENDS MEDICAL LABORATORY - HERTZBACH & COMPANY, P.A. - SERIOUS SECURITY SYSTEMS LLC - THE DENNIN GROUP AT MORGAN STANLEY - SIMPLE IT CARE - THE JAMES L. AND SUSAN G. WINTER FOUNDATION

To learn more about sponsoring the next Race to Embrace Independence, contact [advancement@marianhouse.org](mailto:advancement@marianhouse.org)



## Ravens Season Ticket Raffle Winner Announced!

What is better than being a Ravens fan? The answer is being a Ravens fan who just won 3 Season Tickets. Ron Griffin, our inaugural raffle winner, purchased tickets at a festival in Bowie, Maryland. As he was filling out the ticket stubs, he lamented, "I never win anything but I'm happy to support the charity." Little did he know that on July 30, his ticket would be the winning one!

When Marian House Advancement Director, Terry Weigel, called Griffin he couldn't believe it! He was so excited that he drove up to Marian House from Upper Marlboro the very next day to collect his prize. Pictured here is Ron Griffin, his wife and Goddaughter, and former Raven and NFL Hall of Famer, Jonathan Ogden.

The 2020 Ravens Season Ticket Raffle will commence on April 1, 2020.





# MARIAN HOUSE HEART OF THE HOUSE

## *Kudos to the Marian House Case Managers & Counselors*

In recognition of Case Management Week (October 6-12), and Mental Illness Awareness Week (October 6-12), we want to thank the case managers and counselors at Marian House. The residents have the privilege of meeting with any number of the staff members listed below, who provide the utmost care and compassion. We are so fortunate to have staff who are in the social work profession because they love helping people, and our residents reap the benefits.

**Denise Chambers, MSW**  
*Serenity Place Case Manager*

**Cynthia Jackson**  
*Intake Coordinator*

**Domenika Ringgold**  
*Case Manager*

**Deborah Davis**  
*Case Manager*

**Vonsetta Manns, LGSW**  
*Case Manager*

**Dana Stalling, LCSW-C**  
*Counselor*

**Maggie Donegan, LCSW-C**  
*Outpatient Therapist*

**Deborah Neal**  
*Case Manager*

**Gina Jenkins Weaver, LCSW-C**  
*Director of Transitional Housing*

**Amber Freeman**  
*Case Manager*

**Dillon Nestadt**  
*Child Therapist*

**Pastor Mary Wheeler, Ph.D**  
*Case Manager*

**Nancy Lynch Gibson, LCPC**  
*Counselor*

**Liza Palmes, LCPC**  
*IOP Coordinator*

**Phyllis Ham, LCPC**  
*Director of Permanent & Family Housing*

*many thanks*

## *Holidays at Marian House*



### GIVE THANKS GIVE BACK

Help us prepare holiday meals for the women and families we serve by donating turkeys, hams, canned string beans (#10 cans preferred), turkey gravy, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, sauerkraut, or stuffing! Drop off donations on Nov. 5 or 7, between 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at our building on 949 Gorsuch Avenue, Baltimore, 21218.

### ADOPT A WOMAN AND/OR FAMILY

Marian House is looking for individuals, families, churches, organizations, and/or businesses to adopt one or more women and/or families for the holidays! We will provide you with a wish list of items from our residents and you can drop off the items at Marian House by December 13.

Please contact us at [advancement@marianhouse.org](mailto:advancement@marianhouse.org) to learn more!

