

Meeting Ground E-Newsletter

June, 2016



[About us](#) [Contact Us](#)

Graduating to jobs and homes from Wayfarers' House



"Nancy" (not her real name) came to the Mary Randall Center in early May while still trying to finish high school and working multiple jobs (Popeye's, Walmart, McDonald's). She lived at a local hotel, paying for it with her earnings. Her only mode of transportation was her feet, and she walked the circuit from hotel to school to work and back again. Nancy eventually learned about the Mary Randall Center, and the case managers there referred her to [Wayfarers' House](#). She became their fastest turn-around resident ever, staying only 17 days. Nancy has "graduated" from Wayfarers' to attend Job Corps. She is now part of the West Virginia site and will be taking classes to complete training as a Dental Assistant. Bravo, Nancy, congratulations and God Speed!

And here's another "graduation" success: A mom and her three children who came to Wayfarers' in February have just moved into their own apartment. Mom followed all her case manager's advice and counsel, took advantage of all available resources, and has reaped a great reward for her diligence. The family is enjoying a 2 bedroom apartment in North East with park-like landscape and lots of space for the children to enjoy. Well done, Mom!

The Word

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." - Ephesians 3:20-21

As we celebrate and commemorate the achievements of our guests and residents, we also marvel at the awesome work done by the Board of Directors of Meeting Ground and the Cecil County Men's Shelter. This month, three members of the Board complete their terms of service: Terri Lokey, Randy Sheaffer, and Sue Weissinger.

Each of the three came to the Board with a variety of gifts and graces and each served in very special roles: Terri as President of the Board for three years, Randy as Chair of the Finance Committee, and Sue as Secretary for many years. All three have led and shaped the organization by facing difficult challenges, discussing important issues, and making wise decisions.

Another graduation story!

In the words of Joycelynn, "I've been coming to the Mary Randall Center forever!" Of course, it has not been forever, but clearly it felt like that to



Joycelynn Ruggiero

her. She and her family were on and off housing insecure for many years.

Joycelynn has been housed for about a year, has a job, and is noticeably now a confident and positive young woman. Joycelynn and her parents all visit the MRC family regularly.

Recently, we talked to Joycelynn about her achievement - earning her GED and participating in Cecil College's GED Graduation Ceremony!

MRC: How did you feel when you first started your GED Program?

Joycelynn: Nervous! I was worried about whether or not I could do it, but I wanted to finish!

MRC: How did you feel after you completed the program?

Joycelynn: Fantastic! I felt like I accomplished something important.

MRC: What's next?

Joycelynn: Journey into life. I want to start college at Cecil College and later transfer in pursuit of a veterinary science degree.

MRC: What do you tell a person just starting the GED program and who is also nervous?

Joycelynn: "Keep going...don't stop...don't procrastinate...because if you do...(she tilts her head and gives a strong concerned look).

Her father and mother are bursting with pride at Joycelynn's accomplishments. We asked her mother, Eva, to share a few words about her daughter's achievement. She beamed, "I am proud of her, considering the various hardships. She was able to put all that aside and concentrate on her education...and graduate!"

It is exciting to see Joycelynn and her family celebrate such a wonderful personal accomplishment and be a part of the larger celebration of graduates across America.

Cub Scouts help spruce up MRC

All agree that the tasks they faced were more difficult and complex than they initially imagined when they accepted a seat on the Board of Directors. Each has been asked to "do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" and has risen to the occasion "according to His power that is at work within us." It is the prayers and the support of so many in the community that have sustained them and the organization, so that together we can all say "to Him be glory...throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen."

Terri is to be especially commended for her three years of faithful leadership, especially for the creation of Meeting Ground's signature event fundraiser: The Taste of Meeting Ground. The pairings of foods and wines at "stations" each representing a program of Meeting Ground was her brain-child. While others around her sometimes gave into fatigue and frustration, Terri remained tirelessly dedicated in her compassion and commitment. Because of her and the grace of God flowing through her, Meeting Ground is a solid, stable organization.



We thank God for Terri and her steadfast service.

Follow Pat's blog at www.meetingground.org



Check out the smile on this Cub!

Quick Links

Like us on Facebook 

DONATE