

# BARTLETT HOUSE

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CHANGING PERSPECTIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

May 2017 Newsletter

**Outcomes Article & InfoGraphic**

## Need Title

Patrick Friend  
WVU Student Worker

Harry Houdini, Ella Fitzgerald, and Steve Jobs all lived out of a vehicle at some point in their lives. They were considered homeless and according to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, an estimated 549,928 people are homeless. But how do people become homeless? Homelessness is not discretionary. It has no bounds. Most homeless individuals lived paycheck to paycheck prior to having to move into a shelter or to the streets. The two biggest factors driving homelessness are poverty and the lack of affordable housing. These are caused mainly due to layoffs, illness, or catastrophe and without savings in the bank, they were forced into homelessness.

Many careers are not as stable they use to be and the pay is not as valuable as in decades past. In the 1960's minimum wage workers could support a family of three. However, today's minimum wage family come in just below the poverty line. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employees switch their jobs 10 to 15 times, or about every five years during their career. Sometimes this is a voluntary change, but more often than not an employee isn't given an option.

Illness, especially mental illness, and disabilities can prevent people from working if not properly treated. According to the National Coalition for Homelessness mental illness is the third largest cause of homelessness amongst single adults. When mental illness starts to effect physical wellness, many homeless individuals resort to drugs or alcohol that often leads to addiction. Mental illness makes everything from daily task to forming healthy relationships difficult and can lead to physical health deterioration.

Catastrophes such as tornados, flooding, or death of a family member can create financial instability. When a home is destroyed, or a house payment cannot be met due to a significate loss of funds or the cost of a funeral some family's only resort is the streets.

Of those homeless individuals, one in five (77,486) are considered to be "chronically homeless," but what is chronically homeless and how does is happen? Those who are chronically homeless find themselves living in a place not meant for human habitation, in emergency shelter, in transitional housing, or are exiting an institution where they temporarily resided over the course of months or years without signs of improvement. According to the National Coalition for Homelessness, "Many chronically homeless people have a serious mental illness like schizophrenia and/or an alcohol or drug addiction."

Organizations like the Bartlett House provide services to both recently homeless individuals and those suffering from chronic homelessness. Through the Bartlett House triage shelter and the bridge, permanent, affordable, and rapid housing programs offered, the people suffering from homelessness in Morgantown and the surrounding area have the ability to regain their financial security and their lives.

## HOUSING FIRST



MEANS LESS TIME IN:



HOSPITALS



JAIL



SHELTERS

**Saving Lives. Saving Millions. Every Year.**

## **Board Article**

Randall Trickett  
President, Board of Directors

## **THANK YOU...You Help Make It Happen!**

Article about March and April Fundraising

**THANK  
YOU!**





Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) **ends homelessness** for families and individuals.

## FIND LANDLORDS & APARTMENTS

Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

## HELP PAY FOR HOUSING

Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

## CONNECT TO JOBS & SERVICES

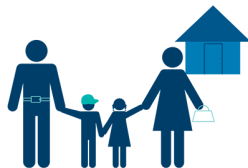
Help access services so people can stay in housing.

The **Core Components** of Rapid Re-Housing help people **find** housing fast, help **pay** for housing, and **connect** to jobs and services.

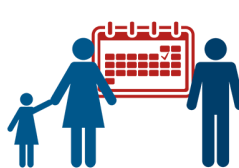
### FIND FAST HOUSING IDENTIFICATION



**Build** relationships with landlords to have access to as many housing units as possible.



**Find** and secure housing as quickly as possible after a person or family becomes homeless.



**Limit** the time a family or individual spends homeless. Move people into housing within **30 days or less**.

### HELP PAY RENT AND MOVE-IN ASSISTANCE



**Pay** for security deposits, move-in expenses...



... and/or rent and utilities.



Length of assistance varies, but often **4 to 6 months**.

### HELP CONNECT TO JOBS AND SERVICES

**Connect** families and individuals to services and supports in the community.

**Help** resolve issues that may threaten housing stability, including conflicts with landlords.



## Bartlett House Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Randall Trickett <i>Wesbanco</i>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>The Reverend</b> Al Prichard <i>St. Thomas a Becket Episcopal Church</i>
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	Ryan Stansbury <i>WVU Medicine</i>
	Chele Varner <i>First United Bank &amp; Trust</i>

## Bartlett House Staff

<b>Executive Director/CEO</b>	Keri DeMasi
<b>Assistant Director/COO</b>	Ryan Boyd
<b>Operations Manager</b>	Frank Goldsborough
<b>Sr. Case Manager</b>	Joe Senegwalt
<b>Case Manager</b>	Billy Bussey
<b>Case Manager</b>	Will Lewis
<b>Property Manager</b>	Rick Green
<b>Kitchen Manager</b>	Michelle Morris
<b>Kitchen Assistants</b>	Jaleah Fiers
	Tyrone McMillian
<b>Triage Coordinator</b>	Dean Roberts
	Rob Pettis
<b>Triage Assistant</b>	Jamal Rich
	Megan Traxler
	Richard Presock
<b>Accountant</b>	Donna Alley

**HOUSED PEOPLE ARE NOT HOMELESS**



Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)  
**ends homelessness** for  
families and individuals.

**RRH** HELPS

## **Restructuring Article**

## **Volunteer Spotlight — Fairmont Academy**

## Client Spotlight — Anne

Patrick Friend  
WVU Student Worker

"You're not visiting me. You're not on meds," Ann's daughter told her after landing at the Pittsburgh Airport on her way to visit her daughter in Maine. Instead of boarding her next flight, Ann decided to go to the bar in the airport. She tried to find solace amongst the brews, as so many do at the low points in their lives. Low on cash, Ann took a bus to Morgantown for \$25, spent the night in the bus depot, and found herself alone with nowhere to go.

A Westover policeman helped Ann get to the Bartlett House triage shelter. "I don't know what I would have done without him," Ann said. When she arrived at the shelter she was suffering from mental illness that was yet to be properly treated. Ann had a difficult time with her first stay at the shelter, "I stopped drinking for a while but it was overwhelming."

However, she was also still greatly affected by her mental illness, "I thought there were people after me," she explains. Ann had a difficult time with other clients and tried to keep to herself making sure she didn't get too close people. She often spent her days at the shelter alone at the library or working on crossword puzzles. She refused to speak with case managers because of the effects of her mental illness, "I was just so scared."

After staying downtown for six months, she moved in with friends that worked with the Salvation Army and lived with them over the summer. She started her second stay at the Bartlett House after she was kicked out of the apartment due to there being too many residents. Her second stay downtown had a rough start, "I got in with the wrong crowd and started drinking again." But Ann had hope and after a few months, she was asked to move to Permanent Supportive Housing at West Run.

While staying at West Run she got checked into the Chestnut Ridge Behavioral and Mental Health Service Center where she was properly treated for her mental illness. "I'd been to six different mental hospitals with no improvement, but Chestnut Ridge was wonderful," Ann explained. After her treatment, Ann took full advantage of the Bartlett House program and she got a job at the Holiday Inn. Ann was able to come to terms with her mental illness allowing her to hold and succeed at her job for the past three years.

After years of suffering from mental illness Ann is happy to say that she had overcome many social anxieties, has learned how to deal with difficult people, and she has frequent contact with her family on a weekly basis. "I'd say that I've done pretty well," Ann says about her success with overcoming homelessness. When asked what advice she has for other people suffering from homelessness, Ann says, "You can't let the public's opinion of homelessness define you. Sometimes you just have to hit rock bottom to learn how to be grateful."

# **BARTLETT HOUSE**

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

10 West Run Road, Suite 200  
Morgantown, WV 26505

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MORGANTOWN, WV

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## **Have Extra Furniture?**

Do you have furniture that you would like to donate to a great cause? We are in need of beds, mattresses, couches, chairs, tables, and other household items for our rapid re-housing program.

**Visit our website to find out more information!**



## **Interested in volunteering for Bartlett House?**

We are always looking for caring volunteers at Bartlett House! To find out how you can get involved, visit [bartletthouse.org](http://bartletthouse.org) and view our volunteer opportunities!

**Volunteers Make a Difference!**