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*Anawim Housing is building stability to rebuild lives through safe and stable homes for families.*



# ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT

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In April we will say goodbye to a valued team member and friend, Heidi Watkins. Heidi has been a tremendous asset to the Anawim Housing team for over ten years, most recently as Anawim's Vice President of Finance. We say a bittersweet goodbye as Heidi moves on to a new chapter in her life. Her chapter with Anawim, however, will never be forgotten. We would like to thank Heidi for the ten years she has given to Anawim, and we wish her well on her future endeavors!



*Heidi Watkins (second from the left) pictured with the Administrative Team.*

**capable of asking for help". John is now able to get his bills straightened out, and enjoy his own space.**

**John is one of the many residents here at Christ the King Senior Housing that I enjoy talking with. Sometimes I have a lot of paper work to do, but I have to put it aside because the humanistic side of me comes out and I want to be available to chat with those who need someone to listen. Even when I can't solve all their personal and financial problems, I can be here to listen and show them compassion.**

# Anawim HOUSING

Spring Newsletter 2014

2024 Forest Avenue, Suite 101 • Des Moines, IA 50311 • phn: 515.244.8308 • email: info@anawimhousing.org • www.anawimhousing.org



## COME SEE FOR YOURSELF

BY RUSS FRAZIER, ANAWIM HOUSING PRESIDENT

Seeing is believing, that is what we often hear at the end of our property tours. Anawim Housing regularly offers tours of our properties because it provides the opportunity to see first hand the impact that safe, affordable housing has on our community.



Whether walking through a home that was built in 1880 or one that was just completed in 2013, you are experiencing what so many of our families do not take for granted – a place to call home.

Anawim Housing manages 610 units scattered throughout the city of Des Moines. These include single family homes, town homes, apartments and duplexes; a variety of housing to meet the needs of many different households. In 2013, over 1,800 people called Anawim Housing home.

Please join us and see for yourself the impact of home.

Our spring home tour will be April 16<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in this tour or future tours contact us at 515.244.8308 ext.125

## CELEBRATING 42 YEARS

BY MEGAN MILLIGAN, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

Anawim Housing's Mission is to develop stable homes and strengthen communities. Two of the organization's longest serving and most dedicated board members, Mary Nelson and Bill Lillis, share that same mission in their personal lives. To listen to Mary or Bill speak is to hear their commitment to our Des Moines community resonate through everything they say.

Mary has played an integral role in seeing that Anawim empowers all 610 families that call us home each year. From co-chairing Anawim Housing's first Capital Campaign in 2007 with her husband, RW, and Dotty and Stan Thurston, to her attendance at more than 250 board meetings over her 21 years of service, Mary tirelessly gave of her guidance and her support to bettering the lives of thousands of parents and children who have turned to Anawim over the years.

For each of those 21 years of service, Mary could turn to fellow Board Member, Bill Lillis to share in her commitment to the Des Moines community. Also joining the board in 1992, Bill's expertise as a Real Estate Attorney with the firm Lillis O'Malley Olson Manning Pose Templeman, LLP became a tremendous asset to the organization over many years of acquiring properties and building new developments. To take a walk through an Anawim neighborhood with Bill Lillis is to experience a history lesson of the shops, businesses and homes that came before.

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Bill and Mary stepped down from the Anawim Housing Board of Directors in January, 2014 with a combined 42 years of service to Anawim Housing. While they'll no longer be expected at meetings, their opinions and expertise will continue to be sought. Mary and Bill's legacy with the organization runs so deep that there remains to be a meeting or an event where their wisdom has not been a focus of conversation. Their presence around the board table will be missed but their influence is eternal.

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## TENANT STORY: "LIFE HAS BEEN A BIT OF A ROLLERCOASTER" – JOHN PEARCE

BY ROXANA SIXTOS, SENIOR HOUSING PROPERTY MANAGER

John was born and raised in Mason City, Iowa. His first of many moves was to Des Moines in 1968 as a young teenager with his family. After high school graduation, John joined the service as a shallow water sailor in the United States Navy. After the Navy, John lived in Dallas, TX where he worked 60-70 hours a week with no days off. With the grueling work schedule and the fact that his father's health was deteriorating, John made the move back up to Iowa.

When John's father passed away, he and his mother moved to Slater, Iowa. He purchased a house for the two of them and worked as a traffic controller in



town. When budgets no longer allowed John to stay in his job, things got tough for John and his mother. They had to sell their home and move into a trailer home. Shortly after their move, John's mother began to develop Alzheimer's. John was able to afford to put his mom into an assisted living home for the last two years of her life. His funds were soon depleted. With no job, and his unemployment running out, John turned to his car as his "home". He fit a twin mattress into the back seat of his Dodge Caravan, and this became his home for the next two to three years.

John was then referred to a homeless program for veterans. Through this program he was assigned a caseworker and began working as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army. It was shortly after this that John began talking with me about moving into Christ the King Senior Housing. He was not happy with his current residence he was placed in. John put in his 30 day notice in May of 2013 with his current residence, and his paperwork to move into Christ the King didn't go through until August of 2013. Full of pride, John told no one, and made his car his home once again until he could move into Christ the King.

"Once I got in contact with Anawim, things finally started falling into place" says John. "I dealt with a lot of pride issues throughout my life; I grew up where if you wanted something, then you worked hard and went out and got it. It took me a long time in life before I realized I was

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## CHEERS TO A GREAT HOLIDAY PARTY

Anawim hosted its annual tenant holiday party this past December. Food was provided by Jethro's BBQ, and the party was put together by our amazing Supportive Services Manager, Tiffany King. All tenants that came received a gift and were invited to fill a tote bag up with as many children, teen or adult books they could fit.

Thank you to all our donors and Women Empowering Families members that donated a gift and helped make this party special for all who attended. A special thank you to Michele Whitty, Anawim's Vice Chair of our Board of Directors, for coming out to our holiday party and participating at our arts and crafts table.



**SPRING HOME TOUR** – Don't miss our Spring Home Tour that will be held on Wednesday, April 16th from 11:30am to 1:00pm; lunch provided. Come see for yourself the impact Anawim Housing has throughout Des Moines. Call or email Molli Kipp to reserve your spot on the tour at [mkipp@anawimhousing.org](mailto:mkipp@anawimhousing.org), or at 515.244.8308ext.125

**BIRDIES FOR CHARITY** – Anawim Housing is proud to be a part of the Principal Charity Classic Birdies for Charity program again this year! Please look at the announcements on our website ([www.anawim-housing.org](http://www.anawim-housing.org)) to access the direct link to donate to Anawim Housing through Birdies for Charity. You can also go directly to the Birdies for Charity website to donate or to find out more about the program (<http://www.principalcharityclassic.com/birdies-for-charity.php>). This is a great opportunity for Anawim Housing, as 25% of the first \$25,000 raised is matched! Email [mkipp@anawimhousing.org](mailto:mkipp@anawimhousing.org) for any further questions or if you would like the donation link sent directly to you.



Sponsored by SAMMONS FINANCIAL GROUP

### WOMEN EMPOWERING FAMILIES SPRING EVENT

– Look out for more information coming on our annual WEF Spring event this May!



### DONATE THE DIFFERENCE

– Be on the lookout for our brand new campaign this year. We will be asking you to participate in this exciting new initiative this coming summer and fall. We hope that you get excited to make a difference by donating the difference!

### ANAWIM RECEIVES DONATION FROM WHOLE FOODS!

– Anawim participated in Whole Foods' One Dime at a Time program through the months of October, November and December 2013. Through this time \$1,734.40 was raised Anawim Housing, which means that Whole Foods shoppers donated their 10 cent refund using over 17,344 bags! We would like to thank Whole Foods for this incredible opportunity!

### 2014 ANAWIM HOUSING OPERATING BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| James A. Beal<br>Chairperson<br>McGladrey LLP                           | Craig Damos<br>The Damos Company   |
| Michele Whitty<br>Vice-Chairperson<br>Tero International                | Mark Main<br>W.R. Main Contractor, Inc.                                  |
| Elizabeth Goodman<br>Secretary/Treasurer<br>Chapter 13 Trustee, S.D. IA | Erik Raker<br>Raker Rhodes Engineering                                   |
| John W. Ahrold<br>Ahrold Fay Rosenberg, Inc.                            | Kurt Rasmussen<br>The Rasmussen Group, Inc.                              |
| Ryan Andreini<br>R. R. Properties                                       | Patricia Shoff<br>Belin McCormick  |
| Shannon Cofield<br>Drake University                                     | Joel Templeman<br>Lillis O'Malley Olson Man-<br>ning Pose Templeman LLP. |
|   | Kevin M. Waetke<br>National Pork Board                                   |

### 2014 ANAWIM HOUSING FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Kevin M. Waetke<br>Chairperson<br>National Pork Board                   | James A. Beal<br>RSM McGladrey, Inc.      |
| Sue Kenny<br>Vice-Chairperson<br>Kenny Interiors, LLC.                  | Bob Douglas<br>Davis Brown Law Firm       |
| Elizabeth Goodman<br>Secretary/Treasurer<br>Chapter 13 Trustee, S.D. IA | Cecelia Kent<br>Community Volunteer       |
|   | Tim Sitzmann<br>Midwest Clothiers         |
|   | Kathleen Zimpleman<br>Community Volunteer |

### ANAWIM HOUSING STAFF:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Kristi Baker<br>Bookkeeper                              | Monica Muhammad<br>Director of Property Management              |
| Carlos Berdellans<br>Property Services Technician       | Amanda Murphy<br>Senior Housing Manager                         |
| Arwen Chaplin<br>Housing Manager                        | Leslie Onthank<br>Office Manager                                |
| Tim Davis<br>Director of Property Services              | Tiffany Ruch<br>Accounting Manager                              |
| Butch Dennis<br>Property Services Technician            | Miguel Segovia<br>Property Services Technician                  |
| Russ Frazier<br>President                               | Roxana Sixtos<br>Housing Manager                                |
| Chantell Harris<br>Housing Manager                      | Sindy Sixtos<br>Property Management As-<br>sistant/Receptionist |
| Robert Hawthorne<br>Property Services Technician        | Bill Swanson<br>Vice President of Operations                    |
| Tiffany King<br>Supportive Services Manager             | Francisca Tejada<br>Property Services Assistant                 |
| Molli Kipp<br>Communications Coordinator                | Ken Veith<br>Property Services Technician                       |
| Kristen Langer<br>Housing Manager                       | Heidi Watkins<br>Vice President of Finance                      |
| Cynthia Latcham<br>Shelter Plus Care<br>Housing Manager | Rose Zimmerle<br>Family Advocate                                |
| Megan Milligan<br>Director of Advancement               |   |