

TRANSFORMING LIVES

It's been nearly a year since Maria lost her job due to the pandemic. Although she had some savings tucked away, these funds didn't last long. As the economic impact of the pandemic persisted, Maria struggled to maintain rent and other bills. According to Maria, "I was earning unemployment, but it wasn't enough to pay for everything. I was juggling bills; car payment one month, other bills the next month. I have never been so scared in my life." Soon, she was facing eviction and her fear became a reality.

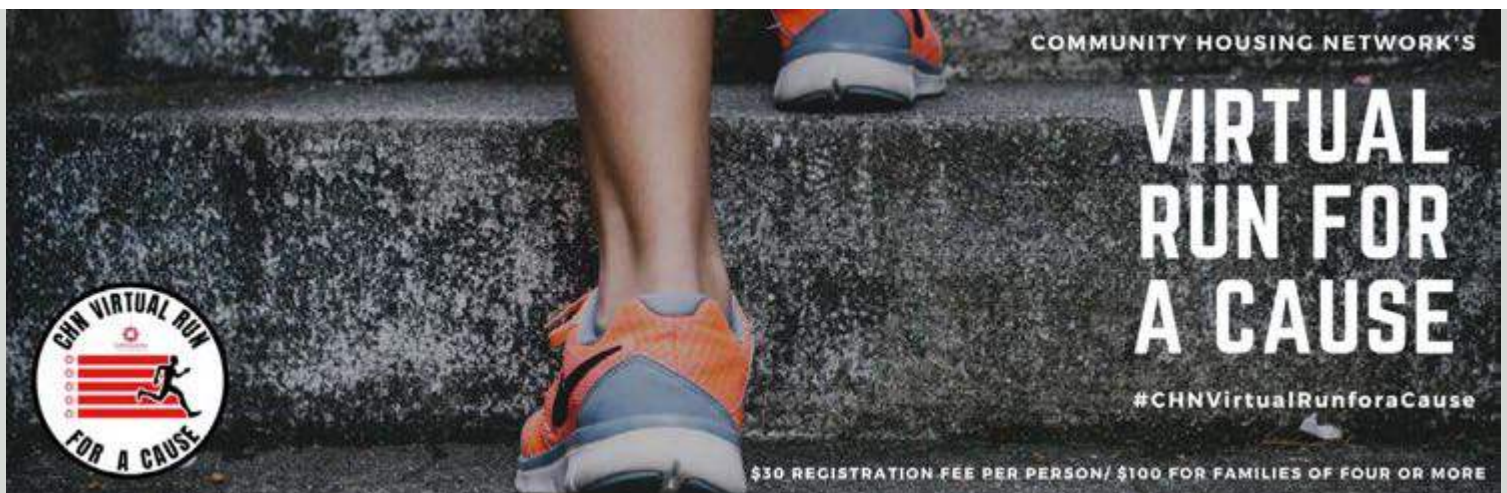
Maria's main concern was keeping things as normal as possible for her two children, Elijah, 8, and Christina, 6. "With so many uncertainties, I knew I needed help keeping a roof over our heads. Both of my children were going to school online and the last thing I wanted to do is move again," she said.



I never thought I would be calling to ask for help. I still can't believe that I almost lost everything!"
- Maria, CHN Participant

Maria learned about Community Housing Network from a neighbor who also was experiencing a similar situation. "I figured I had nothing to lose. Reaching out was really my last hope to save our home – I was desperate." Once connected with CHN staff, Maria was able to breathe a sigh of relief. "I didn't know what to expect, but luckily they were able to help me get me caught up on all of my utility bills and back rent."

We caught up with Maria recently and she shared that she started a new full-time job and her children are back in school learning. She shared, "I honestly don't know where we would be if it weren't for CHN. My caseworker was able to connect me to so many resources and most importantly, save us from eviction. I cannot say thank you enough!"



Calling All Runners! (And Walkers!) Join us for our Virtual Run for a Cause 2021 to raise funds and awareness about the important work we do in our communities. Everyone who registers as a participant will receive a finisher's medal! The great thing about a virtual run is that you get to choose when, where and how far you walk or run! For registration information contact Lisa Fuhr LFuhr@chninc.net

A message from our President...

Dear Friends,

One year ago, we could have never imagined what we were about to encounter with the COVID-19 pandemic and its devastating impact on our lives. While there's still so much work to be done, CHN continues to be a leader in southeast Michigan addressing homelessness and housing needs in our community. Our focus has been to provide reassurance because we knew our most vulnerable neighbors would need us now more than ever before.



At the start of the pandemic, we were determined to continue providing high quality, essential housing programs and services while keeping our staff safe and healthy, and working from home. We were fortunate to connect with many community partners such as United Way for Southeastern Michigan, Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, MI State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), and the Oakland County Community Response to quickly mobilize COVID relief funds and assist with eviction diversion. This funding became a lifeline for families seeking our help. Families who never needed our help before were now calling because they were afraid of losing everything.

Although 2020 was a tumultuous year, here at Community Housing Network we have a lot to celebrate because 2021 is our 20th anniversary! Over the last two decades, we worked hard to change lives and build strong communities, *and our work isn't finished yet.* To help us celebrate our mission and work in the community, we have planned several events this year. We hope you will join us for our virtual Bring It Home... At Home event to honor our 20 years of service featuring an exciting performance by the Detroit Youth Choir. Our 2nd Annual Drive In Movie Fundraiser in partnership with Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan and Virtual Run for a Cause events are both fun events to get the whole family involved. We hope to "see" you there!

In closing, I would like to extend my gratitude to all our community partners, donors, volunteers, and friends who supported us over the last 20 years. Your investment in our mission truly impacts the lives of the families we serve. For that, we are grateful.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marc Craig". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Marc Craig, President



Celebrating Holiday Cheer

While things looked a little different in 2020, the support of our Adopt A Family donors shined! We were able to provide **Holiday Gift Baskets for 180 people and 340+ Toys and Gifts for kids.** These gifts helped make the holidays a little brighter for so many!

In addition, we collected **50+ Welcome Home Baskets, Basic Necessities and raised more than \$19,700** through our Holiday Giving Campaign and Shop for a Cause! These items and money raised will help us to be able to provide resources, stable housing and other essential items beyond the holiday season.

Thank You!



Building A Better Future

Progress is coming along at our newest developments, Erin Park and Unity Park V. In late 2019, Community Housing Network was awarded tax credits for Erin Park in Eastpointe and Unity Park V in Pontiac.

Erin Park will include 52 high quality, duplex style, one-, two- and three-bedroom homes. All 52 homes will be long term, rent-to-own housing. Unity Park V will add an additional 12 units to the existing 67 units within Unity Park I-IV.

These new additions bring the total of CHN multi-family housing developments to nine and 263 units for low-income families and people with disabilities.

To learn more, visit our website at www.communityhousingnetwork.org.



Welcome To The Neighborhood

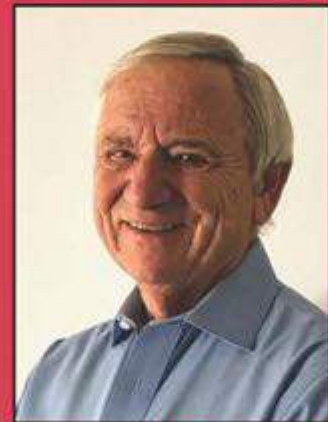
After partnering with CHN for their grand opening day on October 26, 2020, Buddy's Pizza of Troy presented a check for \$4,517 to support our efforts during Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week.

Thank you Buddy's Pizza!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Thomas Landry
Crain's Detroit 2021
Notable Nonprofit Board Member



Thomas Landry
Community Housing Network, Board Chair

Thank you for your commitment to our mission of strengthening communities by connecting people to housing resources.



Opening Doors • Transforming Lives.
communityhousingnetwork.org

Join Us Virtually!

BRING IT HOME...AT HOME

Celebrating 20 Years of Strengthening Communities

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021 AT 7 PM

VIRTUAL PROGRAM, SILENT AUCTION & CHEERS TO 20 YEARS!

Featuring...

A special guest performance by America's Got Talent 2019 Runners-Up... THE DETROIT YOUTH CHOIR

Event Emcee



Boop Saj
Anchor and Reporter
FOX 2 News Detroit



Special Guest



Anthony White
Choir Director
The Detroit Youth Choir

Tickets and Sponsorships Available

Contact Lisa Fuhr
LFuhr@chninc.net
248-824-7313



www.communityhousingnetwork.org/bring-it-home



THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2021

Gates open at 6PM;
Movie starts at 7PM

Freedom Hill
Sterling Heights, MI

A FUN, FAMILY-FRIENDLY MOVIE NIGHT FEATURING...

STAR WARS: The Empire Strikes Back
(RATED PG)

Screening is limited! Purchase tickets today!

https://communityhousingnetwork.org/drive-in-movie-night-fundraiser

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE!

FOOD TRUCKS!

POPCORN!

CANDY!

NON-ALCOHOLIC DRINKS!

\$60 - INDIVIDUAL TICKET
INCLUDES ENTRY FOR
ONE (1) VEHICLE TO DRIVE-IN
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

COMMUNITY HOUSING NETWORK and the FURNITURE BANK of Southeastern Michigan have joined forces for a family-friendly event. Join us as we work together to raise essential funds to continue the important work we do in our community and help create a sense of home for the people we serve.

For sponsorship opportunities or further information, please contact:

Lisa Fuhr 248.824.7313 | lfuhr@chninc.net | www.communityhousingnetwork.org
Barb Rogers 248.321.0537 | barb.rogers@furniture-bank.org | www.furniture-bank.org



Community Housing Network
5505 Corporate Dr., Suite 300
Troy, MI 48098
Phone: 248-928-0111
Fax: 248-928-0122
Toll Free: 866-282-3119

Web: communityhousingnetwork.org



CHN Management Team

- Marc Craig, President
- Dawn Calnen, J.D., Vice President of Programs & Operations
- Kirsten Elliott, Vice President, COO
- Carrie Mendoza, Vice President, CFO
- Shelley Brinkmann, Vice President of Real Estate



NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROYAL OAK, MI
PERMIT NO. 201