



2024 Forest Avenue, Suite 101
Des Moines, IA 50311
www.anawimhousing.org

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Anawim Housing recognizes that if families can quickly access safe, affordable and permanent housing, they stand a much stronger chance of reclaiming financial and family stability.



BIRDIES FOR CHARITY



The Birdies for Charity program through the Principal Charity Classic golf tournament is a fun and easy way to help raise money for Anawim Housing, and possibly win some prizes for yourself or Anawim! Last year,

Anawim Housing was able to raise more than \$5,000 for our critical services – help us beat that record!

Every birdie made during the Principal Charity Classic means bucks for charity! Make a pledge and 100% of your donation will go directly to Anawim! Support Anawim Housing by going

to www.principalcharityclassic.com/birdies-for-charity and select the “Make A Pledge” link. Choose Anawim Housing from the drop down menu to make a pledge of a one-time flat donation or a per birdie ‘penny pledge’ of \$0.02 or more for every birdie made during the Principal Charity Classic. We have raised just over \$2,900 so far. Help us earn a 25% match on donations and receive \$2,500 Bonus Bucks as one of the top 25 charities!

Donors are also entered in monthly prize give-a-ways provided by John Deere Financial which have so far included a new grill and push lawn mower!

25TH ANNIVERSARY Anawim HOUSING

1st Quarter Newsletter 2012

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



REVITALIZING A NEIGHBORHOOD

BY RUSS FRAZIER, ANAWIM HOUSING PRESIDENT

Turn west onto Forest Avenue from M.L. King and you will see a neighborhood changing before your eyes. Nearly three years have passed since Anawim Housing’s 9 Homes in 9 Days Project, our first project in the Drake Neighborhood, and we continue to add more high quality affordable homes.

Our commitment to the Forest Avenue corridor became very personal with the development of Anawim Housing’s multi-purpose building in 2010. This building houses Anawim’s offices and is also home to six families. In 2011 we finished 16 new townhomes at 22nd & Forest Avenue, which continue to improve the area by turning abandoned lots into livable, family-friendly buildings where families feel safe and comfortable.

Most recently, we broke ground on our latest project, Forest & Fields right across the street from our offices at 21st & Forest. These townhomes will have eight units for families and will be completed in the fall of 2012.

By developing homes in the same neighborhood, we are working to build a sense of community among our tenants, and to revitalize an area of Des Moines that has a lot of potential.

WOMEN EMPOWERING FAMILIES

Formerly known at the 500 Club, Women Empowering Families is a group of committed and compassionate women within Anawim Housing that believe everyone deserves a safe place that they can call home. These women are appreciative of the blessings in their lives and strive to give back to families that aren’t as fortunate. In honor of Anawim’s 25th anniversary, Women Empowering Families launched a second branch of the organization. Now made up of the 500 Club and the 2500 Club, these women are a dedicated group who pledge to support Anawim every year. A part of the donations these women give are put to work right away, while another portion are designated for future expenses, so we can continue to create affordable housing options in Des Moines. The support of the Women Empowering Families has helped many children have a safe place to play and grow! If you would like more information or are interested in joining, please contact Megan Milligan at 515-244-8308.

PROGRAM FOCUS: SELF SUFFICIENCY

Anawim Housing is more than just an “affordable housing provider.” We believe that housing is the first step to family stability. Through our supportive services, we help families maintain their fragile stability. Our services continue to evolve to meet the needs of our clients.

Anawim Housing’s Shelter Plus Care program provides housing for approximately 300 individuals/families who would otherwise be ineligible for housing due to previous problems stemming from their mental health issues, substance abuse and/or HIV/AIDS. Thirteen tenants have been identified as stable, ideal candidates for our Self Sufficiency Program. This new program provides them with one-on-one guidance, identifying issues preventing employment, like lack of training due to homelessness and creating an individualized plans with goals

focused on education and employment, such as job experience training and educational opportunities to help them succeed.

Enabling these individuals to become self-sufficient has a two-fold benefit – not only do the tenants become self-sufficient through gainful employment, it also enables us to assist more homeless families.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM FAST FACTS

13 individuals have been served from 7/1/11 through 12/31/2011 and several have made great achievements thus far:

- 1 has moved into her own unsubsidized housing.
- 2 have been participating in a 6 month work training program at Goodwill Industries since October.
 - One was hired for a permanent position with a local company
- 2 have enrolled in certification programs at DMACC Workforce Training Academy to pursue education in their industry of interest: healthcare & financial services.
- 1 has completed half of the required testing to get her CNA license.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF A STRONG LEGACY

It was 1987 and the need for affordable housing in Des Moines was growing. People were facing a variety of obstacles as they tried to move from shelter living to more permanent housing.

This challenge inspired a grassroots group of people to get the community talking. Fred Van Liew (formerly known as Fred Gay) was among that group of altruistic thinkers who saw the problem, and decided to form a nonprofit to combat it.

It was at one of the small community meetings they formed where he noticed a grey-haired woman in the back of the room. “She had this intense look in her eye, and I just knew she wanted to be our director,” said Van Liew.

And within a few months, she was. “With Stella we were very fortunate. She had a keen mind, and was extremely persuasive.” With a small Board of Directors, Anawim Housing began its mission to create affordable, safe housing for Des Moines.

“We were opportunistic,” reflects Loree Miles, board member since 1988. “We didn’t want to be the exclusive low-income housing partner. We wanted to be the catalyst.”

As other housing providers lost steam, Anawim stayed focused on its mission of helping families find stability through rental rehabilitation. “We have always been careful about not extending ourselves beyond what we could do,” said Miles.

Anawim has come a long way since its start in 1987. “Thanks to hard work of people like Fred Van Liew, Loree Miles, all board members and staff both past and present, and certainly Sr. Stella, Anawim has been able to build a legacy,” said Anawim President Russ Frazier. “We want to create sustainable housing options so that we can continue to make a significant impact on our community and give families a chance to get back on their feet.”

Our 25th anniversary kicked off with a number of recognitions throughout the Des Moines community.

Anawim was honored to be named as one of five finalists for the Des Moines Register’s annual Aurora Award, which recognizes a nonprofit organization that works to fulfill a community need while promoting self-sufficiency and unity.

The Women Empowering Families club gathered on February 16th to recognize these women’s generous contributions to Anawim Housing’s women and families. Thank you again for your support! For more information on the Women Empowering Families, see page 1.

Our communications campaign with Flynn Wright is starting off BIG! Billboards featuring Anawim Housing are raising awareness all over town, along many



major streets including Army Post Road, Grand Ave, Ingersoll and on Forest Ave, right outside our office! Look for our ad in the current issue of dsm magazine too! Events are being planned to celebrate our 25th year, including a groundbreaking ceremony at our newest location and our Spring Property Bus Tours.

25TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS INCLUDE:

- May 15, Forest and Fields Groundbreaking: Summersfield Site - Hubbell and NE 46th
- May 16 & 17, Anawim Property Tours (Bus Tours)
- May 16, Board of Directors Reunion

Please contact Kara at 515-244-8308 for more information or to RSVP for an event.



Anawim, along with Hubbell Realty, was honored at a recent Drake University basketball game. Hosted by Banker’s Trust, Anawim was

thanked for the positive contribution the townhomes at 22nd and Forest have been to the Drake community.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ANAWIM HOUSING BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mark Main Chairperson W.R. Main Contractor, Inc.	Thomas J. Mahoney, Jr. ITAGroup
James A. Beal Vice-Chairperson RSM McGladrey, Inc.	Loree Miles Miles Properties, LLC
Dotty Thurston Secretary/Treasurer Community Volunteer	Mary A. Nelson Kemin Industries
John W. Ahrold Ahrold Fay Rosenberg, Inc.	Kurt Rasmussen The Rasmussen Group, Inc.
Craig Damos The Damos Company	Patricia Shoff Belin McCormick
Liz Goodman Chapter 13 Trustee, S.D., IA	Rick Tollakson Hubbell Realty Company
Sue Kenny S.A. Kenny Interiors	Fernando Valdez Kemin Industries
Cecelia Kent Community Volunteer	Kevin M. Waetke Aviva USA
William J. Lillis Lillis O'Malley Olson Manning Pose & Van Dike LLP	Mark Wandro Snyder & Associates, Inc.
	Michele Whitty Tero International
	Kathleen Zimpleman Community Volunteer

ANAWIM HOUSING STAFF:

Kristi Baker Receptionist/Property Management Assistant	Megan Milligan Director of Fund Development
Carlos Berdellans Property Services Technician	Monica Muhammad Senior Housing Manager
Arwen Chaplin Pioneer Woods Housing Manager	Amanda Murphy Shelter Plus Care Senior Housing Manager
Roxana Chavarria Housing Manager	Leslie Onthank Office Manager
Tim Davis Director of Property Services	Miguel Segovia Property Services Technician
Butch Dennis Property Services Supervisor	Tiffany Ruch Accountant
Russ Frazier President	Bill Swanson Director of Property Management
Chantell Harris Shelter Plus Care Housing Manager	Francisca Tejada Maintenance Assistant
Robert Hawthorne Housekeeping	Kara Vaughn Fund Development Assistant
Tiffany King Family Advocate	Ken Veith Property Services Technician
Kristen Langer Housing Manager	Heidi Watkins Director of Accounting