

OUR MISSION

Empowering people to improve their communities through collaboration and engagement.



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2019 was a Success!

It is hard to believe that 2019 has come and gone. It was a transformative year of meeting new community members, bringing new staff on board, forming beautiful partnerships, and so much more!

From vision boards to community gardening to community network nights, CTI residents have had an exceptionally empowering year.

CTI is very excited to welcome two new employees this year: Lili Spain Daniely and Molly Jamison Juarez!

Lili (MSW, MPS, M.Ed) started with CTI in October and comes to us after spending the past few years in pastoral counseling for hospice, helping seniors and families make the best possible choices for care.

Molly is the most recent staff addition, having joined us this month. She spent the last five years abroad working with a nonprofit to build a sense of community, particularly amongst elementary schools.





COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



- ❖ **Thanksgiving Dinners** were hosted at Laurel Lakes, Fort Washington Manor, Clinton Manor, Madison House, Mosby Heights, Mill Park Terrace, and Potomac Woods. Each resident was served a hot dinner and joined together in fellowship to give thanks for the season.
- ❖ Prince George's County Police hosted a hot Thanksgiving Meal distribution on Thanksgiving Day at the **Langley Gardens** substation. Property residents and the local community were invited to attend and enjoy a hot meal.
- ❖ A back-to-school event was hosted at **Friendly Garden**. Each youth was given age-appropriate school supplies based on what was required by each grade level. It was a fun community gathering celebrating the end of the summer season.
- ❖ **Mosby Heights Kids Club**, hosted by the local Presbyterian Church, engaged the youth weekly in fun activities including outdoor play, arts and crafts, and homework help.
- ❖ **Penn Mar, 3 Tree Flats, Metro Village**, hosted holiday get-togethers for residents to socialize. While these were small events, the managers were able to show their appreciation and interact with residents.
- ❖ **Fort Washington Manor** was awarded a grant from Crescent Cities Charities to help address healthy living choices for residents. The grant is being used to host an exercise class tailored toward seniors and those with differing abilities. The residents were actively involved in helping to make this class possible.
- ❖ In partnership with Camp Fire, CTI was able to provide books to our youth and families. Camp Fire received a grant from the National Home Library Association to fund this program. To start, 500 books were purchased and given as gifts to children on family properties as part of the Holiday Party event. The remaining books will be distributed to the properties to start on-site libraries. The books can be taken home or used at the community rooms. Each facility will have books from new release to adult reads, as well as a bilingual selection.
- ❖ **University Manor, Langley Gardens, Auburn Manor, Quebec Arms, and Queens Manor** hosted a Holiday Party at each property. Each child that came got a present from Santa Claus and got to take a picture with him. Additionally, youth wrote essays about why they like living on their respective properties. The winner of the contest was given a prize and their essay was shared.
- ❖ **Members of our board and work groups have been teaching nutrition classes to the children at CAFÉ.** The children are learning about the importance of good nutrition, exercise, and healthy living. They have had the opportunity to learn a few new recipes and had fun tasting new foods.

- ❖ **Nutrition and Food Programs are an important part of our overall goals in keeping our community healthy.** We have created partnerships with several local food banks, which help provide food for our seniors and families. During the holidays we were able to provide food baskets to more than 100 seniors and 30 families.

- ❖ **Community Network Building at 3 Tree Flats and Metro Village** has maintained a steady influx of residents getting involved in their community. Most recently, parents at Metro Village have initiated a monthly kids club to introduce kids in the community to their peers. Planning has commenced and the kickoff is set for this year.

Summer Youth Employment Program with Prince George's County: In partnership with Camp Fire and Prince George's County Summer Youth Employment Program, we are applying for staffing for our summer programs. This program will engage some of the teen and young adult residents on our properties and engage them in job and career readiness programs. When possible and when there is a good career goal fit, we plan to employ them in programs at our properties.



AT A GLANCE...

- ❖ DMV Home Therapy is joining our team and is bringing resources for healthcare to out senior properties in Maryland.
- ❖ Family movie/game nights continue at family properties with the help of Camp Fire Teens and volunteers. Residents share time together, watch a movie with movie-type snacks and share in a night of fun. We have seen an increase in attendance.
- ❖ CAFE: Cultural Academy For Excellence has 28 youth enrolled in the program at Queens Manor, CTI Board members have actively been engaged in helping to teach a healthy cooking and eating class to the youth.
- ❖ Camp Fire Interns continue to support our efforts and help us to achieve our goals.

- ❖ **2019-2020 Interns.** In partnership with Camp Fire, interns have assisted us with several programs on our properties. These have included assisting us in identifying resources that support residents, creating information packets, hosting events at properties with CTI staff, assisting with children's programs and sharing their talents to help accomplish our mission. During the next few months they will be helping to implement and plan events for spring and summer.



UPCOMING IN 2020...

- ❖ Community Network Building at Fort Washington Manor
- ❖ Monthly Community Days at family properties
- ❖ DMV Home Therapy Partnership at Laurel Lakes
- ❖ Stronger partnership with Residential One

Senior Property Highlights

Providing programs that help seniors age in place is key to the efforts of **Communities Together, Inc.** Programs that provide social interaction, support daily living and encourage engagement help seniors to age gracefully and feel as though they are part of a community.



❖ **Miss Alma turns 100!**
What a milestone! A resident at Potomac Woods recently turned 100 on December 11 – Congratulations Miss Alma!!



BY THE NUMBERS...

- ◆ More than 2,300 resident contacts* on family properties took place
- ◆ More than 5,000 resident contacts* took place on Senior Properties this year
- ◆ Staff from CTI participated in more than 200 activities with residents and helped managers with planning on many others
- ◆ CTI staff continued to conduct Community Network Building trainings for managers and partners
- ◆ Community Volunteers contributed more than 1,500 hours of service with an approximate value of more than \$50,000
- ◆ 150 youth volunteers assisted on family properties
- ◆ More than 100 programs had partner agencies participate

** a contact represents one resident participation in one activity*

- ❖ **The Maples:** We are working on a plan to engage teens from Camp Fire in service opportunities with residents at the Maples.
- ❖ **Volunteering at Senior Properties;** Lili Spain Daniely has been engaging with residents and reviewing surveys to come up with a beneficial volunteer program to better serve our residents. We have lots of interest from all of the senior properties.

OUR CORE VALUES

The success of society as a whole depends upon fairness and equal opportunity

All people have a right to live in healthy, holistic communities

Providing opportunities and tools to remove barriers and empower people in achieving their full potential

When people are comfortable in their homes they will engage in and contribute to their communities



Communities Together Inc



Network Night Training in progress



The CAFÉ performance is about to begin!

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CAPERS!



**THANKSGIVING
FEASTS
AND
HOLIDAY
HAPPENINGS!**

