



Celebrating beginning our 14th year

Here is wishing you and your family a happy, healthy holiday season from all of us at Nick's Place. I know that many of our Nick's Place families are grateful to have their sons, brothers and nephews with them this year. Thanksgiving was Nick's favorite holiday. This year, with the help of one of our generous Nick's Place moms, our guys will celebrate Thanksgiving at Nick's Place. We hope this will be the last year they need to spend apart from their families. But, I can promise they'll be well fed and stuffed full!

The original vision of Nick's Place was inspired by my Nick. Our goal was simple; give young men a chance to begin recovery in a safe and sober home with other people their age. You know the saying that a picture is worth a thousand words and the one above speaks volumes. Every part of our original vision has come to pass.

As we reflect on 2013 and our last 13 years, it heartens us to know that we have played a role in helping many young men liberate themselves from the disease of addiction. Their addiction sometimes forced them into homelessness, jails and institutions. It robbed them of self-esteem, self-confidence and self-worth and the trust of their family. Now, they and their families are able to rebuild relationships.

A little bit of resident news Let's talk a minute about **Matt M.** It was just this time last year that Matt joined us after experiencing a relapse. He made a commitment to stay for a full twelve months. During that time, **Matt** has consistently held a job and has overcome some challenges that could have affected his recovery. It is our pleasure to let you know that Matt celebrated his one year clean and sober anniversary in early November. His family and many of our alumni were in attendance.

Matt will be joining two of our most recent residents **Nick S.** and **Matt H.** at a sober living home about one half mile from Nick's Place. It's good to have the guys close by.

Both of them are employed by Overhead Door Company here in Beltsville, MD. **Austin H** has also joined the Overhead Door team. I can't tell you how much we value the relationship we have developed with them through the years. It's been a win-win.

Matt H recently purchased a car with the money he saved during this time with us. Nick and Matt H have both returned to Nick's Place to watch the ballgames and participate in pizza night once a month. And now, they can give our current residents rides to their 12 step meetings.

Justin C. is working at our local Best Buy and WaWa, combining two part-time positions. **Justin** loves working with technology and electronics, so Best Buy is a perfect fit for him. **Jason S.** is working at District Photo in a seasonal position and **Jeff O.** is working in his plumbing trade.

A former resident **Jeff T.** is having his first house built. It should be ready in February. We had a total of three Nick's Place alum weddings this summer!

We are proud and blessed that Nick's life has helped **save and change dozens and dozens of young lives.** This is why we are so, so very grateful for all of the belief, prayers, donations and good wishes that we have come our way during the past 14 years. Because without your support and the support we receive from private foundations, we could not be here year after year for our guys and their families.

I hope that you will once again choose to support the young men of Nick's Place during this holiday season. Our guys have accomplished so much this year. We've had marriages, promotions, first houses being built and multiple clean and sober anniversaries! We continue to look forward to many more and sharing those successes with you throughout the next year.

If you'd like to make a tax-deductible donation on-line, visit our website www.nicksplace.org, choose how you can help and follow the easy prompt. By mail: Nick's Place, c/o Rhea McVicker, 4604 W Caroline Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705. Please remember us in your workplace giving and matching gift programs. And, if your family or organization is looking for a local charity to support this Christmas, please let them know we will use their gift wisely.

Many thanks to you.
From Rhea McVicker and all of us at Nick's Place.

P.S. If you are shopping on line, check out GoodShop and choose Nick's Place to receive a percent of your purchase.

Pizza Night
November 2013

