



September 2012

What's Going on At Nick's Place

Since our last newsletter, we've been able to celebrate the one year anniversaries of former residents Jim A. and Wes V. Believe me (and other recovery statistics) when I say that achieving 12-months of continued sobriety is a **Really Big Deal.**

Other News

Our first ever official alumni picnic was September 8 at Greenbelt Park. This event was put together by our five member alumni committee which was formed to help connect and inform former residents about what's going on in their own community. There was food (of course), games and fellowship.

The really neat thing about it was that the guys all represented different years at Nick's Place which is the spirit of unity we have cultivated through the years. The alumni committee has created a Facebook page to keep everyone in touch.



We tell our alumni that the future of Nick's Place belongs to them and that we value their input and ideas. That's why we formed the alumni committee earlier this year. We hope to learn more about the events and topics that are important to them and Nick's Place can help them in their future endeavors.

Our bowling event in May coordinated and sponsored by PMG of Columbia, Maryland was a huge success. Through the sponsorship of their network of suppliers and a terrific turnout of friends, supporters and Nick's Place guys we occupied 20 lanes and raised \$3,000!



I can't thank Rick Powell and the team at PMG enough for the commitment to Nick's Place. My contact Letitia Jones went above and beyond to make this first time ever event a success.

Just a few weeks ago, we attended the [wedding of Andrew M. and Cristen C.](#) at Swan Point in Havre de Grace Maryland. Cristen was beautiful and I've never seen Andrew more handsome.



Andrew's groomsmen included four Nick's Place guys and all told there were about 10 of our guys in attendance. One of the wonderful things about Nick's Place is that residents don't need to have been from the same house to become friends. Their common bond is Nick's Place.

Current Residents

Three new residents joined us at the end of August. New residents present both opportunities and challenges. The opportunities are that they are starting out together and they get to craft the personality of the house. The challenge is helping them find jobs that meet with our specifications and curfews.

Our current residents of course attended the alumni picnic and we also just sent them to a huge 12-step recovery Crab feast and picnic in Laurel, Maryland where they had the opportunity meet lots of people who are pursuing the same goal.

How You Can Help Us Meet Our Goals

There are many easy ways in which you can help.

- A monetary donation (you can sign-up for a one-time or monthly gift through Network for Good on our website www.nicksplace.org).
- Gift cards for supermarkets, Costco, Target, Walmart
- Volunteering to take residents to appointments; cooking a meal
- Sponsoring a workplace fundraiser and taking advantage of employer matching gift programs
- Telling your friends and family why you support Nick's Place and urging them to do so
- Introducing us to your faith community's community service/action team
- Use GoodSearch as your search engine and GoodShop for your on-line purchasing (especially with holidays right around the corner) and "free" money will come our way. Just follow the prompts and choose Nick's Place!

To make a donation, you can send your check to:

Nick's Place, c/o Rhea McVicker, 4604 W. Caroline Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705 or you can go to www.nicksplace.org to make a donation on-line and choose Ways to Help; it only takes a minute.

Thank you for your love, prayers and support for Nick's Place and our guys.

P.S. If you'd like to discuss a volunteer opportunity please call me or send me an e-mail. I can be reached at 301-937-0455 or rheamcvicker@verizon.net.

With gratitude,
Rhea McVicker