

# VISIONS OF HOPE

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The monthly newsletter of New Vision House of Hope, Inc.

January 2020

## Commemorating World AIDS Day

New Vision House of Hope, Inc., held a World AIDS Day 2019 Commemoration on December 6, which was sponsored by the Baltimore City Health Department and Maxwell Enterprises.

Specialists from the Baltimore City Health Department, University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins Medicine spoke about breakthroughs in HIV/AIDS treatment, including new medications that make it easier to treat HIV.

The experts also talked about the impact of other health conditions such as high blood pressure and heart conditions upon HIV patients.

We were honored to have Victoria Cargill, MD, MSCE, Assistant Commissioner of the Baltimore City Health Department, as our guest

speaker. Dr. Cargill discuss the impact of the HIV epidemic in our city and what the city is doing to diagnose and treat residents who are



HIV-infected. Barbarajeane "BJ" Shaneman (pictured below), senior program specialist for the PATIENTS Program at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, gave us details about Hepatitis-C causes and treatments.

NVHOH Alumnus Gary Shaw, Executive Director of The Covenant, Inc., was the keynote speaker. Gary

shared his story of recovery and living with HIV. "An HIV diagnosis is not a death sentence," he said.

The program ended with a moment of silence and lighting ceremony for those who have been lost to AIDS.

After the program, attendees were served a hot lunch provided by Mission BBQ and Maxwell Enterprises.

They also visited learning stations with our partners: University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, PATIENTS Program; Mind, Heart, and Body, Inc.; The John G. Bartlett Specialty Practice (Johns Hopkins Medicine); University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenbaum Cancer Center, Baltimore City Cancer Program; and Ms. Michele Gilmer, Line Dance Instructor.



### Donate Now

New Vision House of Hope, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your tax-deductible contribution will support men and women in recovery, Veterans, and those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Two ways you can give:

1. By check, payable to New Vision House of Hope, Inc. Please mail to: 200 E. Lexington St., Suite 605, Baltimore, MD 21202.
2. Or, visit our website, [www.newvisionhouseofhope.com](http://www.newvisionhouseofhope.com).

For more information: 410-466-8558.

# Ryan White Program: Giving hope to those with HIV/AIDS

## Ryan White Program

New Vision House of Hope, Inc., is a proud partner with the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, the largest federal program providing HIV care and treatment services to low-income people living with HIV.

Approximately one million new cases of HIV are diagnosed annually in the U.S. among living patients, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Area is fourth in the nation in the number of new diagnoses. The Ryan White Program provides assistance to communities such as Baltimore that are most severely impacted by the HIV epidemic.

### The story

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program is named after Ryan White, the courageous teen who contracted AIDS from a blood transfusion given to treat his hemophilia. Ryan was diagnosed in December 1984 at age 13 and became a national symbol of the AIDS awareness movement when he faced discrimination in his community and school. Ryan died of AIDS in April 1990 at age 18. Months later, Congress passed the Ryan White CARE (Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency) Act, which now provides funding for such programs as New Vision House of Hope.



## Program Highlights

The NVHOH Ryan White Housing and Oral Health Services Program receives funding from the Baltimore City Health Department, Ryan White Part A and Minority AIDS Initiative programs to provide transitional housing and other services for low-income persons who have HIV/AIDS and a substance abuse disorder. Clients in our program receive:

- free transitional housing;
- free dental services with approved oral health providers;
- free transportation to dental appointments;
- gift certificates for keeping oral health appointments;
- referrals and placements for other services such as job readiness classes and permanent housing.

## NVHOH Alumni Spotlight: Gary Shaw



Gary-David Shaw is a graduate of the NVHOH Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) for substance abuse treatment. Gary is also HIV-positive and received services through the organization's Ryan White Program. He shared his story during our World AIDS Day 2019 Commemoration. In a moving speech, Gary spoke honestly about his struggles with accepting his diagnosis and maintaining sobriety. The audience applauded when Gary announced that his HIV viral load is now considered undetectable, the lowest level an HIV-positive patient can have. "I'm no longer afraid to say I'm HIV-positive," Gary said. "I have the support of my family and my peers at New Vision House of Hope who remind me that I am not alone."

Gary is a peer support recovery specialist and founder of The Covenant, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides support, education and resources for those affected by HIV/AIDS. Gary will be a contributing writer for *Visions of Hope* newsletter. "I continue to have hope," he said, "and I look forward to the day that it can be said of me, 'He was the last of their kind.'"

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HOUSE OF HOPE 

**New Vision House of Hope, Inc.**  
200 E. Lexington St., Suite 605  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
(410) 466-8558

**President & Founder**  
Charles Culver Sr.

**Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)**  
Victoria Wynn, Program Manager

**Behavioral Health Program**  
Tammy Elliott, Program Administrator

**Transitional Housing Program  
Ryan White Program**  
Charles Culver III, Senior Case Manager

**Visions of Hope Newsletter**  
Maria Morales, Editor  
Gary-David Shaw, Contributing Writer

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