



# Cogswell Chronicle

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August 18, 2016

## Our lead story



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An Aug. 6 volunteer project with Foresters Financial included a memorial service for two beloved Cogswell Hall cats. It was an important day for a resident group known as the Cat Patrol, led by Patricia (pictured above).

[Click here to read more about the Cat Patrol and how much cats mean to Cogswell Hall residents.](#)



Patricia recalls fond memories of Cogs and Midnight. Photo by Katie Ramunni

[Click here to read more about the Foresters Financial visit.](#)

## Volunteer Spotlight: Calley Mersmann

Meet Cogswell Hall neighbor and dedicated volunteer, Calley Mersmann. Earlier this year Calley teamed up with our residents to form the Neighbor Night committee and received grant funding to pack even more fun into the now annual lawn party. Calley is an active member of the Emerging Ambassadors of Cogswell Hall (EACH) and has volunteered at key Cogswell Hall fundraisers each year. Our operation wouldn't be the same without Calley and that is why we have chosen her for our August Volunteer Spotlight.



Calley addressing the crowd at July 9 Neighbor Night. Photo by Christopher Schwartz

**How did you get involved with Cogswell Hall?** *I live down the street and always wondered what went on inside the big, beautiful building. One evening I came in for a Talks in the Hall on neighborhood history, learned more about the organization, and the rest is history!*

**If you could describe Cogswell Hall in one word, what would it be?**  
*Family*

**What has surprised you most about your volunteer experience thus far?** *I've been surprised at how many ways there are to be involved, from donating food for the Cogswell kitties to planning a Neighbor Night with residents and other volunteers.*

**What do you wish other people knew about Cogswell Hall?** *I think many people pass by the building daily and don't realize all the great work that goes on there. I wish people knew that there are many opportunities to learn more about Cogswell Hall and contribute to*

*this wonderful organization in our neighborhood.*

**What do you do when you're not volunteering at Cogswell Hall?** *I work for the Safe Routes to School program to improve walking and biking conditions so kids across Cleveland can get to school safely. I'm planning a new open street event called ciCLEvia along W. 25th St. this summer. I also enjoy reading, gardening, bike riding, and eating!*

**What's your life motto?** *Show up. It'll be worth it.*

## You've got mail!

Invitations to "Coming Home" (below) began hitting mailboxes this week. Please return yours soon or [click here to register online](#). A new, elegant venue and a great menu are two reasons to join us Sept. 24. But the best reason is to support Cogswell Hall's unique mission of providing permanent housing, food and help to low-income adults with disabling conditions. Proceeds from this event provide a key part of our budget each year. Help us hit our \$34,000 Coming Home income goal, and enjoy a great Saturday evening of food, beverage and music!



COGSWELL HALL CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND ITS

ANNUAL GALA

# *Coming Home*

In support of housing, meals and a helping hand for  
low-income adults with disabling conditions

Heavy hors d'oeuvres, open bar, silent auction, live music in a beautiful venue.

Cocktail attire. Valet parking included.

Saturday  
September 24, 2016  
5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Calfee Building  
1405 East Sixth Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

\$75 general ticket

\$100 VIP ticket  
(includes a week of dinners  
for one Cogswell Hall resident)

## #MakeRoom: let Congress hear your voice

Across America 20 million families can't afford homes. This leads to desperate tradeoffs between keeping a roof overhead and buying food or medicine. Too often a silent crisis plays out behind closed doors.

This problem is solvable – if Congress does its part to increase resources and improve policies. From now until Election Day, Cogswell Hall is joining the campaign to send 1 million messages to tell our elected leaders so.

Please join too! Sign the national letter and learn how you

can help to launch the campaign on Sept. 1 at:

<http://www.makeroomusa.org/take-action-organizations/>

List Cogswell Hall as the "Organization" as seen here and complete the rest of the form with your contact info.

Members of Congress need to hear that our nation is facing a housing affordability crisis of record proportions that demands their leadership. Let's make some noise and make some change.

## SEND A MESSAGE



Cogswell Hall	
First name*	Last name*
Street	
City*	State*
Zip*	
Email*	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I agree to receive email alerts from Make Room and CHCDF.
SUBMIT	

### Foresters Financial volunteer day



Ice cream social with Foresters Financial on newly built picnic table. *Photo by Heidi Sisson*  
Foresters Financial brought 13 members of its insurance and investment family to Cogswell Hall Aug. 6 to paint, garden and build an ADA-accessible picnic table. A highlight of the day came when residents gathered with the visitors to dedicate a memorial garden just west of the building for the pets of Cogswell Hall, featuring a butterfly bush for each of two beloved cats (see the lead story in this newsletter for more).

A meal and an ice cream social followed. All aspects of the day were generously funded by

Foresters Financial. "It was great to meet the people who will benefit from what we were able to offer, and to hear the stories of Cogs and Midnight," said Jena Olsen, Foresters Financial's Member Coordinator. "It was a special day." [Click here to see a photo gallery.](#)

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**Cogswell Hall Monthly E-Newsletter**  
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