POVERTY

Cogswell Hall took #PovertyTruths as its myth-busting communication theme in 2017. Our leaders discuss it below; the story of Cogswell resident Linda, right, is one example. See more online at http://bit.ly/PovertyTruths

LETTER FROM OUR LEADERS

Poverty is widely misunderstood. From the 1980s “welfare queen” myth to the “makers vs. takers” trope of today, stereotypes encourage Americans to imagine armies of poor people getting something for nothing. “It’s not fair,” the line goes. “I work and pay taxes. It’s hard enough for me to provide for myself and my family. I don’t want others freeload off my paycheck.”

At Cogswell Hall, we also value hard work and fairness, but we look at poverty differently. In 2017, we adopted the theme #PovertyTruths. We noted how our low-income residents defy stereotypes. They pay rent. Some work. Some worked in the past and now cannot. They initiate programs and activities. They volunteer here and in the community. They are survivors of abuse, homelessness and trauma. They have physical and intellectual disabilities.

They do so much while coping daily with conditions and memories more intense than most of us ever experience.

Perhaps you read about Linda, a former Cleveland police officer and Disney World security guard, who moved to Cogswell Hall after illness precluded her from working. Or Christine, whose career in nursing was cut short with the onset of a mental disability. Or Barry, who is the “Sage of Cogswell Hall” despite a traumatic brain injury. Or Lindsey, who has an intellectual disability and volunteers at a nearby nursing home.

All of them have a supportive home — and are able to give back, inside and outside these walls — because of gifts from you and many others. The pie chart in this report shows that funds from government sources account for a modest fourteen percent (14%) of Cogswell Hall’s operating budget. The rest comes from rent and fees paid by residents and charitable gifts from foundations, individuals, companies, civic groups and people like you.

Our residents, like most people in poverty, just need a hand up to overcome obstacles. Your gifts to Cogswell Hall are such a hand up. May society devote more, not fewer, resources toward ending poverty. May a generosity of spirit toward those in need prevail. Thank you for your generosity.

Diana Cygnovich
Executive Director

William Culbertson
President, Board of Directors
PEOPLE BEHIND THE NUMBERS

Linda Gaffney’s law-enforcement career included nearly 15 years as a police officer in Cleveland and Alabama and a stint as a plain-clothes guard at Disney World. She was on her feet most of those years, often on pavement and asphalt. Various ailments, including foot numbness and pain, eventually limited her ability to work. Linda moved back to Ohio and became a regular at Cleveland’s Magnolia Clubhouse.

At a social worker’s suggestion, Linda moved to Cogswell Hall in 2009. Giving up smoking and eating properly has been good for her health, she says. Occasionally she shares hard-earned street advice with other residents. On a recent shopping outing, she warned a friend about a con artist posing as a beggar. Her police career has left her skeptical about people asking for money. “Offer to buy them food,” she says, “or support organizations that can help them.”

HOUSING STABILITY

In December, melancholy can mix with holiday joy, especially if you miss your family or if shorter daylight increases your mental challenges. The blue naming tree offers residents a way to cope. Among those they named on paper snowflakes in 2017: “Mom,” “My birth father,” “My one and only real blood brother,” and “15 horses that lost their lives in that barn fire.” “I love you” and “I miss you” were common sentiments. In a ceremony, each name is read aloud, music is played and comforting thoughts are offered. “Residents appreciate this opportunity to express sadness and even anger, which are all too real but do not seem to fit with the hustle and bustle of the season,” says Program Manager Diane Kragt.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

In 2017, CogsMart helped our residents save a total of $15,557. 93% of our residents shopped at CogsMart and saved money using points they earned by volunteering and participating in activities both in and outside of Cogswell Hall.

OUTCOMES

48 individuals were served in 2017

93% of residents remained permanently housed

65% of residents developing an individualize services plan met at least one short-term objective

97% of participants in educational programs reported increased knowledge

68% of participants in behavioral and physical health programs made sustained progress

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STAYING ACTIVE

Residents attend a “Save Medicaid” rally at the Ohio State Capitol

Resident lunch outing at My Friends Restaurant
Only 14% of Cogswell Hall’s operating support comes from government grants. We are grateful to the following individuals, companies, foundations, and civic groups that made monetary contributions in 2017 to help house and support low income adults with disabilities. To join this growing family of supporters, visit www.cogswellhall.org/how-to-help or call Development & Marketing Manager, Hans Holznagel, at 216-961-1568, ext. 311.
Thank you, donors!

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Thank you, donors!
Funding from varied sources is a key to Cogswell Hall’s success in housing, feeding and supporting low-income adults with disabling conditions. Gifts from businesses, individuals and civic groups are an essential part of that mix. Thank you! To make a gift, discuss a sponsorship or partnership, or mention Cogswell Hall in your will or trust, contact Hans Holznagel at 216-961-1568, ext. 311, or at holznagel@cogswellhall.org.

### 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Culbertson</td>
<td>Baker Hostetler (President)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberly Smith Woodford</td>
<td>Cleveland Public Power (Vice President)</td>
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<td>Irene Patton</td>
<td>Retired (Secretary)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Bonhard</td>
<td>Crowe LLP (Treasurer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Bird</td>
<td>Forest City Realty Trust Inc.</td>
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<td>Gail Bisesi</td>
<td>MAGNET</td>
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<td>Kate Carden</td>
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<td>Lynette Collier</td>
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<td>Marilyn Coleman</td>
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<td>Nicholas DiCioccio</td>
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<td>Devan Carter Doss-DuPrée</td>
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<td>Makanya Smith</td>
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### Revenue

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<td>Corporations and Individuals</td>
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### Expenses

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