At Cogswell Hall, 2016 was about the powerful impact of stories. Our theme, REACHSTORY, gave residents an opportunity to share some of themselves with the public, including you, our supporters. We thank each you who read stories, responded to them, and made donations that support those who live at Cogswell Hall.

Hearing residents’ stories reminded us that each one has a story. Some people write books about their stories. Cogswell Hall did not write a book, but we did share stories in the form of videos, in electronic and printed newsletters, on social media and at our websites. You can find any you missed at our YouTube channel or cogswellhall.org/news-media/newsletter.

Cogswell Hall succeeded in meeting its 2016 goals for housing stability, improved health and wellness, and creating a well-being community, as seen on Page 3. But the people behind these outcomes are the real story. Each person, each story highlights some aspect of the Cogswell Hall community. Each puts a name and face to our supporters. Residents who bravely share themselves, selflessly encourage each other and take bold steps toward a better life are far more important than “numbers” or generic descriptions of outcomes. We are so thankful for their willingness to share their stories and to you for listening and supporting them.

Lynette working the polls at Harding Middle School in Lakewood (November, 2016)

Linda, Maren and Lindsey cheer at the Lake Erie Monsters (January, 2016)

In August, Barry returned to his home at Cogswell Hall. Our permanent supportive housing gives him the stability he needed to regain a measure of independence while managing his medical challenges.

Some residents may have resonated with you more than others. Maybe that was because you know someone who struggles with homelessness or a traumatic brain injury. You might have a relative with a popular disorder or an intellectual disability. Whatever the story, Cogswell Hall recognizes that each person and each story is important.

For our residents, stable housing is just the beginning of the next chapter, not the end of the story. It is the base from which each can heal past trauma, gain new skills and set goals. It allows for space and time to address health issues. Permanent housing offers the opportunity to obtain employment, to become an active member of the greater community, and to reconnect with family and friends.

Cogswell Hall matters in the lives of residents and alumni, including Christa and Tyrone, pictured at left. View them at cogswellhall.org, on the Our Voices page under News & Media.

M.I.A. and Ver obese and healthy, and creating a well-being community.

68% of residents keep or increased their income in 2016, Cogswell helped our residents save a record total of $85,912. 99% of our residents (up from 98% the year prior) shopped at CogMart and saved money, using points they earned by volunteering and participating in activities both inside and outside of Cogswell Hall.

50 individuals were served in 2016 (more than ever)

75% of residents developing an individualized plans met at least one short-term objective

88% of participants in educational programs reported increased knowledge

50% of residents in behavioral and physical health programs showed improvements at least one domain

94% of residents remained permanently housed in 2016

80% of the Cogswell Hall community.

A man suffered a traumatic brain injury in 1986. He was homeless before moving to Cogswell Hall. His recovery over the years was remarkable, but Barry still struggled with short-term memory loss, high blood pressure and pulmonary challenges. In early 2016 Barry was training with a job-placement agency in hopes of rejoining the workforce. That May his progess came to a screeching halt when he suffered a severe stroke, landing him in the ICU at MetroHealth. Initially unresponsive, Barry remained medically compromised until June when he began in-patient rehabilitation at Metro’s Elizabeth Prentice.

Thank you donors!CONT.

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