



B'NAI B'RITH HOUSING

Creating Places to Call Home

BBH News: October 2017



Exciting Funding Update for Sudbury Project

The Charles H. Farnsworth Trust has awarded us a \$150,000 grant to support the development of The Coolidge at Sudbury – Phase 2. We are thrilled to be a first-time recipient of these funds and plan to honor Mr. Farnsworth's legacy by advocating for and improving the quality and quantity of affordable housing and support services for older adults in the Greater Boston area.

Established in 1930, The Charles H. Farnsworth Trust serves to assist older adults in living with dignity and with independence. Mr. Farnsworth's philanthropic intentions and BBH's mission share a common goal of enabling seniors to age in place with the support they need to thrive.

This funding helps BBH get one step closer to Phase 2 of The Coolidge becoming a reality. The new development, which will be located next to the fully-occupied Phase 1 property, will include 56 affordable units, and common spaces such as a meeting room, library, and fitness center. BBH will continue to work closely with Sudbury area senior service agencies to promote wellness, health and educational programs for the building.

Thank you to the Charles H. Farnsworth Trust, and all of our partners who support BBH and this development.

[Click here to learn more about The Coolidge at Sudbury - Phase 2.](#)

Gen2Gen Brings Emerging Leaders Together

On September 12th, **BBH's Gen2Gen group** held their latest event, "Views from the Ground Up." This lively panel discussion, moderated by BBH's own Max Glikman, featured Jesse Kanson-Benanav (Somerville Community Corporation and A Better Cambridge), Cassie Mann (The Neighborhood Developers), and Elizabeth Marsh (Just-A-Start). Topics covered by these insightful and experienced nonprofit project managers included the challenges and opportunities of developing in high-cost versus low-cost markets and the pros and cons of preservation versus new construction. The panelists also shared their personal perspectives about their roles and responsibilities as project managers and took questions from the audience on a wide range of topics.



Gen2Gen is B'nai B'rith Housing's program for emerging leaders from both public and private sectors who are brought together by their deep commitment to finding innovative housing solutions for the Greater Boston area. Gen2Gen events feature networking opportunities, educational events, and roundtables with local thought and industry leaders. Supporting, cultivating, and collaborating with the next generation of affordable housing pioneers helps us bolster our mission to ease the housing crisis.

Want to get involved? Email Fundraising & Communications Manager, Naomi Levine, at naomi@bbhousing.org to learn more.

Neighbor to Neighbor: BBH Enhances Resident Services at Patricia White Apartments



In May of 2016, B'nai B'rith Housing began working with the Patricia White Apartments' Tenant Task Force to expand the services available to residents at Patricia White Apartments by extending the resident service programming already available next door at Covenant House.

Last month, we celebrated a new resident services office for Patricia White Apartments' Social Services Coordinator, Maureen Eldredge, along with an improved meeting space. An open house was held on September 13th to mark the occasion and was attended by BBH and Patricia White staff, members of the Patricia White Tenant Task Force, and many residents of the Apartments.

Ms. Eldredge holds a Masters of Clinical Social Work degree, as well as a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry/Leadership/Counseling degree. She brings over thirty years of experience working with individuals in various capacities to

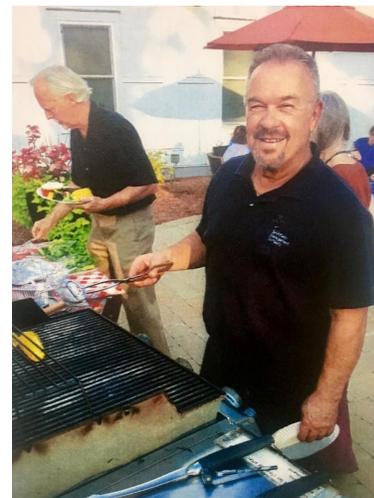
provide them personalized support to address their social and environmental challenges.

In addition to moderating weekly discussion groups and encouraging residents to participate in programming both on site and next door at Covenant House, Maureen has been assisting residents at the Patricia White Apartments with SNAP applications, Medicare and Social Security issues, transportation needs, human service referrals, personal counseling and much more. Join us in welcoming Ms. Eldredge and the continued growth of enrichment services at Patricia White Apartments.



The Coolidge at Sudbury Celebrates Summer with Live Music & Cookout!

On August 31st, the residents and staff of The Coolidge at Sudbury held a lively Summer Celebration. In addition to honoring residents with late summer birthdays (a monthly Coolidge custom), the community came together to pay tribute to one of their residents, Stewart Baird, who passed away earlier in the season. The rousing event included a cookout on the patio with grill master and Coolidge Maintenance Manager, Tony Albano, and beautiful decorations by Property Manager, Peggy Golden, and Resident Services Coordinator, Julie Benoit. Most notably, the festive evening featured over a dozen of Mr. Baird's friends; talented jazz musicians who honored Stewart's memory by entertaining the crowd, with a cameo on drums by Mr. Albano. A great time was had by all, and the summer cookout has quickly become a favorite tradition at the Coolidge.



Why Improving Transportation Systems is a Housing Issue



In the face of Boston's notoriously high housing costs, the limits of the current rail transportation system only exacerbate our housing problem. In her latest *Banker & Tradesman* op-ed, Susan explains why filling the North-South Commuter Rail gap is good for housing.

[Click here to read more Susan's full op-ed.](#)

Meet Our New Staff



Melissa De Oliveira Assis, Office Manager

In addition to IT and office systems, Melissa will be responsible for personnel and human resources, as well as financial management and cost control.

Melissa comes to us from the English Language Center (ELC), a for-profit school for international English language learners where she worked for eight years—starting out in a junior role right out of college and ultimately serving as the Director of its Boston branch.

Melissa can be reached at 617.731.5292 and by email at melissa@bbhousing.org.



Naomi Levine, Fundraising & Communications Manager

Naomi will be focused on building the communications and outreach platform of the organization, building on some of our strategic relationship initiatives, including but not limited to our Gen2Gen effort as well as donor engagement.

Most recently, Naomi served as the Development and Communications Manager for the New Art Center, a non-profit in Newton, for three years. Her previous experience includes marketing, sales, and customer relations in retail and a brief time in commercial real estate.

Naomi can be reached at 617.238.6087 and by email at naomi@bbhousing.org.

Keep Us in Mind!

BBH is always **on the lookout for new housing sites as well as opportunities to acquire and rehabilitate existing housing** – please keep us in mind! We have a successful track record working locally to invest in affordable housing resources to expand and serve specific housing needs. Having used a number of local and state tools to advance housing production, we are also a Chapter 40T designee and are excited about expanding our role in safeguarding precious community based housing resources.

BBH is growing and seeking new partnerships and new ways of expanding the positive impact that can be achieved at a time when the need for quality, affordable housing is ever growing. **Give us a call** to learn more about our areas of expertise and how working with BBH can help your nonprofit or for-profit organization.

Contact Max Glikman, max@bbhousing.org, 617-238-6088



[Donate Now](#)



B'nai B'rith Housing works with cities and towns to create economically viable, affordable housing options which respond to the needs and aspirations of each community.

Our housing, both rental and home ownership, is for young families and older adults regardless of religion or background.