November 2019

Dear Friend:

Lidia wants you to know her story.

The MERCY COMMUNITY

Development Office

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SAINT MARY HOME THE MCAULEY

Tradition.

Mission.

Compassion.

Mercy.



She arrived at The Frances Warde Towers Apartments (FWTA) four years ago. Lidia was homeless; she had stopped taking her prescribed medication and ended up in a mental health rehabilitation facility. When she no longer needed to be in the facility, Mercy Housing & Shelter in Hartford assisted Lidia in finding placement at FWTA. She went through the Mercy Housing & Shelter Residency Program at Saint Mary Home, which is two years in duration, then graduated; today, clinicians and case workers continue to support her. Her goal is to eventually transition back to independent living. Her dream is to find work in customer service. "I want to do something where I'll be helping people," Lidia explained, "especially the elderly." Until then, she is happy to be living at FWTA, where she feels safe, secure, and *known*. "I like it here," Lidia says. "It's nice here. The food is good and the staff is so patient. I felt hopeless before; now, I feel hopeful."

Inspiring hope and confidence on life's journey is what our colleagues in FWTA, Saint Mary Home, and The McAuley do every day as they administer excellent clinical/therapeutic care, dining, housekeeping, and maintenance services, and life enrichment activities. Naturally, the cost of this standard of care challenges us as a not-for-profit organization. Our expenses far exceed the reimbursements we receive from Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance. It is for this reason that we are so grateful for the generous support of friends like you.

You know Lidia's story. Lidia is one of more than 500 people who make their home at The Mercy Community. Your contribution to our 2019 Annual Appeal matters to every single one of these individuals entrusted to our care. Please consider a gift within your means, knowing that your investment in our high-quality care allows us to compassionately transform lives.

On behalf of those who live and work at Mercy Community Health, I thank you for your generosity. We know that in this economic climate, you face challenging decisions with regard to charitable giving, and we appreciate your commitment to the residents and clients who depend on The Mercy Community.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Dana Executive Director The Mercy Community

> The Maureen M. Reardon, RSM, Ph.D. Labyrinth at The Mercy Community