



Maryse Wirbal, CEO

In this issue we’re highlighting the beginning journey of two young women in our Transformational Housing Program. While they haven’t “graduated” from our program yet, your support has already played a big part in their progress.

Meet Chelsea

Chelsea was in her senior year in college when she faced an unplanned pregnancy and had to delay graduation.

After having her daughter, she had very little financial support from the baby’s father or from her own parents—so she struck out on her own, taking all the right steps to become

Taking the First Steps to Financial Independence

independent. She got a full-time job in a pre-school, rented an apartment and arranged child care.

But with only sporadic child support payments, she struggled to pay the rent and other expenses. Then her car died and she had to replace it so she could get to work.

When Chelsea finally reached out for help, she says, “I was failing at paying my bills and failing at being the mother I knew I could be.”

“The day I met with [Housing Advocate] Kristy Besada changed my life.

I was feeling like a failure, but she helped me to see everything I was doing right and gave me hope.”

Chelsea is now living in one of the Agency’s “below market rate” apartments while she finishes her

bachelor’s degree online and continues to work full-time. Her long-term goal is to earn a master’s degree and become a clinical mental health counselor.



Meet Trisha

Trisha and her four-year-old son Patrick spent three months in a domestic violence shelter on the NH Seacoast before entering our Transformational Housing Program.

While staff at the shelter tried to encourage her to move to transitional housing sooner, she admits, “The idea terrified me.”

Eventually, Trisha was drawn to the Front Door’s program because of our emphasis on

education. “Going back to school was a long-term goal of mine, so I thought this might work,” she says.

Her move to Nashua has been challenging since her son struggles socially and needs speech and occupational therapy.

But he is now receiving services and Trisha is pursuing a degree full-time in business marketing at Nashua Community College.

Her case manager is helping her to set goals weekly and manage her time better since she struggles with ADHD.

“I’ve found a community of moms here and I think we’re going to be okay,” says Trisha.

[Read more about client successes at frontdooragency.org/about/success stories](#)

Holiday Santa Program in Progress

The Front Door Agency is in the process of registering families who need assistance with toys and warm clothing for their children during the holidays.

With strong community support, we are able to assist about 800 children each year. **If you are willing to “adopt” a child or a family, please contact Nancy at npaige@frontdooragency.org.** Each adopter is provided with a detailed wish list and clothing sizes.



THANK YOU to the Courtyard Marriott for providing much-needed storage and distribution space!

Please consider a gift to the Telegraph Santa Fund online at tinyurl.com/SantaFund2018.

Welcome, Maria!

We are pleased to welcome Maria Finnegan to our Development team. Maria joins the Agency from Harvard Law School, where she worked to raise funds for the school’s public service initiatives.



**Maria Finnegan
Chief Development Officer**

She comes on board just after the Front Door Agency received a major bequest from Nashuan Maria Kiratsos — the largest individual gift in our history.

“Ms.Kiratsos clearly valued our work and wanted to secure her legacy for future generations,” says Maria. “I’m excited to meet with donors to discuss the impact they can have through personalized giving options.”

Suite Sponsors, Foundation Partners Transform Lives

It's no small task to offer housing for up to 22 families in crisis at a time. The Agency currently maintains the Norwell Home with 8 family suites and shared community living spaces. In addition, we have 14 other apartments in mostly-aging buildings throughout the city.

We are so thankful to the generous businesses and organizations who have come forward to "Sponsor a Suite," or to provide program grants. Their support helps to

defray some of the maintenance and other costs for our families.

Become a Sponsor
Suite Sponsorships are available for 2019 at several levels, from \$1,000-\$2,500 per year. Each sponsor receives recognition and a quarterly update on the progress made by our families.

Learn more at [frontdooragency.org / events](http://frontdooragency.org/events) or call us at (603) 886-2866.

Thank You Recent Grantors

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Thank You to Our Current Suite Sponsors

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At a Glance
Our Housing Stability Programs

Security Deposit Loans	Rapid Re-Housing	Prevention	One-Time Assistance	Shattuck Place
<p>No fee, interest-free security deposit loan program for very low-income households.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can include first months' rent for homeless households only.• Paid back over 2-3 years	<p>Up to \$9k grant over 9 months for extremely low income, homeless households.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes case management• Security deposits• Rent & utilities• Moving expenses, past evictions.	<p>Up to \$9k grant over 9 months for extremely low income households who are in crisis and can become sustainable with help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case management• Rent & utilities	<p>Once yearly assistance to low/very-low-income households in crisis who can become sustainable with help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case management• Rent & utilities	<p>Affordable apartment building for very-low-income households.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four 2-bedroom units• Two 3-bedroom units; one handicapped accessible

Platinum Partner Spotlight:

BAE SYSTEMS

BAE Systems may be one of the largest defense, security and aerospace companies in the world — but its corporate philosophy is filled with heart! They are committed to giving back in a big way to the communities where they do business.

We are so grateful for BAE's strong support over the last decade and pleased to acknowledge them as a dedicated partner in our mission. Their support goes well beyond corporate funding. Each year, BAE employees generously "adopt" so many families in need during the holidays that

they need a six-wheeler truck (filled twice!) to deliver all the toys and warm clothing to us. Learn more about BAE's work to keep us all safer and their commitment to the community at www.baesystems.com.

- Platinum BAE
- Bronze Bellwether Lowell Five So. NH Health Triangle Credit Union Media The Telegraph WMUR Community United Way of Greater Nashua

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TO TRANSFORM LIVES!

Your support plays a big part in stabilizing families in crisis. We hope you are inspired to continue to give generously when our Annual Appeal reaches your home later this month. You may also make a gift online at frontdooragency.org/giving.