



May 2015

Dear Community Partner,

In your own neighborhood an older adult is struggling. You can make a difference in their lives by sponsoring the 1st Annual *Gift of Home Gala to benefit the Housing Bureau for Seniors*. **We are asking for your support.**

The Gift of Home Gala will take place on **Thursday, October 1, 2015** at the **Morris Lawrence Building at Washtenaw Community College**. Our goal for this inaugural event is to raise funds to support partnering 25 older adults with a housemate in the HomeShare program and to support 50 older adults through the Foreclosure Prevention and the Eviction Prevention/Housing Counseling programs.

How you can help:

- We have several opportunities for you to sponsor this event. Please see the attached Sponsorship documents outlining the options and benefits of your contribution.
- Spread the word and attend the event with friends and supporters.

Americans continue to live and work longer than previous generations. However, there is a point where the aging process catches up with all of us. For some, it occurs well after the 65 year mark, but for others it can occur years before. For many older adults and their families, this period of time takes a toll physically, emotionally, and financially. As health care costs continue to climb and deplete savings, many older adults and their families don't know where to turn when the need for expert advice arises. It is usually a crisis – a fall or sudden illness, or the inability to pay for medical care or hospitalization which results in action being taken. Often by this point, assets are depleted past the point of recovery, interventions have not been pursued, and family is not ready or can't accept financial responsibility for oversight and care of their aging relative. For many of our clients, the staff and programs at the Housing Bureau for Seniors (HBS) are their last available resource for solving the housing issues of their final years.

Since 1983, the Housing Bureau for Seniors has been a resource for those seeking sustainable housing for seniors. HBS honors the independence of the individual, ensures that safety is a priority, provides guidance and support, and works in partnership with others to ensure successful housing outcomes.

As a community-supported program of the University of Michigan Health System, about half of our revenue comes from external sources. **Your sponsorship is crucial to helping us fulfill our mission.** Please join us to help provide much needed assistance for our older adult clients and their families.

On behalf of our staff, volunteers, and the clients we serve, thank you.

Warmest regards,

Janet M. Hunko, LMSW  
Director

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**Event Contacts**

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