

Hale House

BARNARD SERVICES

273 Clarendon Street Boston, MA 02116

www.halebarnard.org

Dear Friends of Hale House and Barnard Services,

In the past 20 years Boston has undergone an amazing transformation! So many neighborhoods now offer luxury condos, shops, entertainment, and employment opportunities. People are flocking to enjoy a **glittering** urban lifestyle. **But if you're elderly, living on a fixed income, and dealing with disabilities, it can seem like Boston has left you behind.**

We at Hale Barnard Corporation are dedicated to ensuring that low-income elders can age with dignity—but dignity is getting hard to maintain. **At our Residential Program, Hale House, 60% of the elders admitted over the past two years have been homeless when they arrived.** Our residents are too independent and active for a nursing home, but their incomes are too low to accommodate both gentrified rents and rising health care costs due to age and disability.

That's how Deahdra became homeless. A lifelong Boston resident—and severe diabetic—Deahdra had always taken care of herself. But when we met her she was sleeping on her friend's sofa.



"For me, Hale House became a blessed port in a homeless storm. Having bounced from losing my apartment that I could no longer afford to moving in with my daughter in Vermont in a situation that became untenable, I had no place to call home. I wanted to be back in Boston--my home--and resorted to friends' sofas, homeless shelters and such to try and find a safe place to lay my sixty-four-year-old head. A dear friend suggested Hale House. I had not even thought of that possibility. Yes, I have been dealing with chronic illness but had not made the mental adjustment to a caring facility. A few phone calls and visits later, I became a resident of the "Back Bay", quite a feat for a girl from Roxbury."

Hale House can provide "a port in a storm" for 56 elderly residents at a time. We offer private bedrooms, three healthy daily meals, housekeeping, laundry, engagement activities *and* on-site nursing—24 hours a day, 365 days a year. **Hale House's commitment to licensed on-site medical care makes it different from most other residential programs. Hale House can serve people with serious and chronic illnesses that other residential homes can't serve.**

But...Hale House's ability to support people like Deahdra depends on people like you. Hale House pays its staff with reimbursements from state and federal funding programs. These programs have not kept pace with the true cost of care.

Would you please take a moment to return the enclosed envelope or contribute online at www.halebarnard.org?

U.S. census estimates tell us that 20% of Boston elders are living in poverty. Boston provides no glittering lifestyle for them. But with your help, the "golden years" can still be golden for many elders in need.

Thank you so much for your consideration, generosity, and concern, and best wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Reverend Stephen Kendrick
President, Board of Directors

Tracey Cravedi
Executive Director