

Summer Celebrations!

This summer has us reflecting on community: the city of Detroit, the network that supports individuals experiencing homelessness, and our NOAH Project friends and followers. This summer has seen our community grow in exciting new ways, given us opportunities to practice equity, solidarity, and togetherness, and inspired us to reflect on the spirit of community!

NOAH at The Global Homeboy Network Gathering

In August, three NOAH staff attended the Global Homeboy Network Gathering in Los Angeles, California to network and learn from like-minded organizations implementing radical hospitality to widen the circles of compassion within our community. NOAH Community Center Manager, Paige Henson shared that a highlight for her was a case management session, which outlined a fundamental strategy of “consistency, transparency, and providing compassionate, individualized care to meet each person’s needs”, which she’s excited to implement in Community Center Programming. NOAH Project Director, Stacie Vaughn-Covington shared: “This experience recharged me for the ‘why’ of the work that we do. It was invaluable!”



Stacie Vaughn-Covington, Paige Henson, and Remington Devereaux at the Global Homeboy Network Gathering.

Client Success: From Mail Services to Permanent Supportive Housing



We’re excited to share the success story of Danielle! Danielle experienced homelessness for about three years. Danielle started her journey with NOAH in 2020 with our mail program. This program allows clients without a permanent address to receive important mail, like paperwork from government agencies, here at NOAH. She grew to know the case managers in 2021 and started her 6-month journey to housing with them in February 2023. Case managers met Danielle at her new apartment last month, where she agreed to let us feature her story.

She loves her corner apartment with two large windows and relayed that: “moving into this apartment is a dream come true!”

Stacie Vaughn-Covington

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Our vision is to be an anchor of hope leading the Detroit community in ending homelessness.

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The NOAH Project is a program of the Central United Methodist Church of Detroit Community Development Corporation, a 501(c)3 organization.

\$40K in 10 Days was a Success!

We're so grateful to report that our biggest fundraiser of the year was a success!

Thanks to the incredibly generous support of our community, we exceeded this year's goal and raised \$41,326 in donations. Funds raised were matched by an additional \$40,000 - totaling **\$81,326** to support NOAH's services!

Thank you to all who donated and made this fundraiser possible, including Danlaw, whose donated event suite at Little Caesar's Arena served as a raffle prize to incentivize donations over \$250!

Additional gratitude is extended toward the CDC Fund Development Committee, who planned, inspired, and mobilized our community to ensure we received our full \$40,000 match from an anonymous group of NOAH supporters! We couldn't have done this without you!



Sock-it-to-Me September is in full-swing! Contact ops@noahprojectdetroit.org to arrange to donate socks and underwear today!

New Peer Community Builder

As we shared in the spring, NOAH has a new position on staff made possible by United Way's Race Equity Fund. Elijah Earnest joined NOAH as our Peer Community Builder in May 2023 to amplify the voices of other individuals with lived experiences of homelessness. Elijah shared the following about his experiences:



"I experienced homelessness for almost sixteen years. Since I was born, my mother never had a stable place to live. We lived in shelters, abandoned houses, sometimes nowhere. Unfortunately, I didn't have a place to sleep comfortably until I was fifteen. Even then, I shared a bedroom with my two youngest brothers at a family friend's house. At eighteen, I found myself back in homelessness. I couch-surfed, I slept outside, and even began intimate relationships for shelter.

"My experience taught me a lot about how I wanted to be treated and didn't – how I wanted to treat others. It gave me empathy as well as taught me about taking responsibility for myself and those around me. It taught me to care for my internal community. It showed me what it was like to be on the other side of the system before I started working in the system. As an advocate, I'm often going above and beyond to be the person I didn't have for the sake of others. In my work, I value actively practicing care & compassion, being considerate, being honest about what I can and can't do, and showing up time and time again because clients need consistency like anyone else."

In this new role, Elijah will collaborate with NOAH clients to gather feedback and ensure we prioritize clients' perspective and input in our programming, operations, and initiatives. We're so excited to have him on board and looking forward to building community together!

