

Community Women Against Hardship Summer 2023 Newsletter



“When Iron Sharpens Iron”

There is a significant strength when one nurturing organization uplifts and empowers another, especially when both share a focused mission to provide charitable services, create, and participate in evidence-based programs which build stronger and better communities. That is indeed the power of iron sharpening iron. The demonstration of power is in the form of a \$5,000 grant donation dedicated to Community Women Against Hardship (CWAH).

This divine connection was on behalf of Sports Hall of Famer Mel Gray, former wide receiver for the St. Louis Cardinals. What started off as a quiet game of golf among two significant humanitarians escalated into a high-spirited conversation boasting about the significant impact CWAH’s evidence-based programs continue to make throughout the St. Louis community. Afterwards, Rick Seratti, Elk board member since 2008, could not resist doing his own research and knew he had to make a special visit to CWAH.

“CWAH is so much more than just a food and clothing pantry,” expressed Seratti. “I was impressed with Gloria, the staff, educational, therapeutic, music, and seminar programs. I like the overall stability CWAH provides for families and especially the children,” Seratti said. He knew their missions interlocked, stating that the Elks’ main focus centers around veterans and youth. “The youth are the future of the country and veterans are why the country has a future. CWAH helps to provide a future for our youth,” Seratti shared. Therefore, he was prompted to seek out how their local chapter of Elks could use their iron to help sharpen the iron of CWAH.



Elk Lodge, Mel Gray and Gloria Taylor



Elk Lodge, Mel Gray, Gloria Taylor and Cynthia Clay

*“A successful team is a group of
many hands and one mind.”*

SAVE THE DATE!
3rd Annual CWAH
Virtual Auction Begins
September 1, 2023

Celebrating our Community Supporter PCs for People

PCs for People is a national nonprofit organization working to get low-cost quality computers and internet into the homes of low-income individuals and families. By recycling and then refurbishing computers, PCs for People provides a valuable service to businesses, families, and the planet by keeping computers out of landfills and repurposing them to bridge the digital divide. PCs for People has partnered with Community Women Against Hardship to donate 30 laptops to our families to ensure access to the internet and virtual learning.



**PCs for
People**
Greater St. Louis

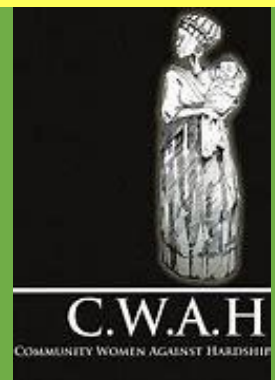
📍 100 Florida Ave.,
Belleville, IL 62221

☎ 618-215-3787

📧 greaterstl@pcsforpeople.org



Community Women Against Hardship
3963 West Belle Pl.
St. Louis, MO 63112
www.cwah.org
(314) 289-7523



Cardinal Ritter College Prep Outdoor Track with Kevin Potter and Al Brown (former NFL Player and Track Star)

As part of our continuing community involvement, we continued with work-out classes with ex-NFL players Kevin Potter and Alfred Brown. We continue to offer fitness classes to help with the health and well-being of the children in our programs. This class gives the children the opportunity to develop love for fitness and themselves by increasing their strength and endurance.



You're Strong, Smart and have a Can-Do-Anything Resiliency! Mental Health Class with Rhonda Adams M.A, LPC, NCC

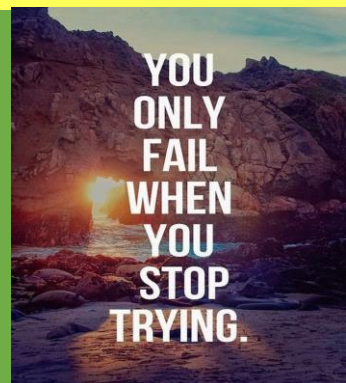
Mental health in our community has become a crisis in our nation. To combat that, we continue to offer classes to help with the health and well-being of our clients. We had several opportunities weekly with our families to teach them about various health initiatives and work on projects to build their self-esteem and confidence that will help them tremendously in their daily lives.



SAVE THE DATE!

17th Annual CWAH
Ambassadors Golf Tournament
Arlington Greens Golf Course
200 Arlington Dr.
Granite City, IL 62040
October 2, 2023

SAVE THE DATE!
35th Annual CWAH
Circle of Support Gala
at Sheldon Hall
November 5, 2023





Crutchfield Family First Time Home Buyers!

After being in our Transitional Housing Program in the 4-bedroom apartment for 2 years, the Crutchfield family has purchased a home. We are extremely proud of their success and the hard work to make their dream a reality.



New Board Member Antione Lawrence

Mr. Lawrence, as broker and owner, is responsible for sales and management of Hybrid Real Estate, a full-service real estate brokerage specializing in the sale of residential homes. He received his bachelor degree in Business Administration at Saint Louis University and his MBA at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He has several professional licenses including FINRA General Securities Representative-Series 7 and professional affiliation with the St. Louis Business Diversity Initiative. We welcome him to the Board of Directors with excitement and anticipation of his contribution to our organization.



Ready To Work to Make a Move?

- Reduce your rent, repair your credit and save for the purchase of your own home
- Take advantage of CWAH's Two-Year Transitional First-Time Home Ownership Program
- Let us prepare you to **transition from renting to home ownership**
- One unit available:
- Upper Level for \$550/month (4 bedrooms)

Do you qualify?

Low- to Moderate-Income Families

- ✓ Must have been working at least 2 years in the same job (will verify). ✓ Have a credit score of at least 600 (will verify/can be flexible).
- ✓ Must attend Financial Fitness classes and Home Ownership workshops to improve credit. ✓ Should be at least 2 years since you've been through foreclosure or filed Chapter 7 or 13.

If you meet ALL of these requirements, please call CWAH for an application or download the application at www.cwah.org and mail to:

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