



# ST. ANN'S CENTER FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

*A Tradition of Caring Since 1860*

## FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER

### In her own words... **Tashia's Story**

My son and I moved into Hope House six months ago, when he was 15 months old. I had been living at the time with my mom. I had to leave my job and school to stay home with my son because I couldn't find child care for him.

One day my mom told me about St. Ann's. The church she attends has helped women and children living at St. Ann's before. I was excited to learn about the program because I felt like I needed more direction. It was such a relief to know that my son would be taken care of in the Child Care Center while I worked during the day.

Ms. Swain's classes [in the Education and Employment Program] have been really helpful. She has taught me a lot about budgeting and how to manage my savings. I have learned how much money I should be saving from my



paycheck. Now I can save up for a car and apartment for my son and myself.

Since I moved into Hope House, I have been meeting weekly with Mr. Justin, the Employment Counselor. He has helped me to write my resume, find better jobs and fill

*Continued on Page 3*

### Board Member Profile

#### **MARY BUTLER ARMSTEAD**



*Mary Butler Armstead joined St. Ann's Board of Directors in 2014 and currently serves as the Board Secretary.*

*Raised in the Brookland neighborhood of Washington, D.C., Mary is a graduate of St. Anthony High School, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Maryland. In 2013, Mary retired from a 35 year career with the National Institutes of Health, where she served in a variety of management roles, receiving numerous awards and honors. Today, she acts as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Butler Armstead Consulting Solutions.*

#### **When were you first introduced to the work of St. Ann's?**

I was first exposed to the work of St. Ann's in the summer of my 16th year, working as an intern in the daycare center.

While my job was limited to assisting the staff in maintaining cleanliness and orderliness in the area occupied by the toddlers, I had ample time to observe others at work. I was struck by the compassion shown by staff in nurturing and caring for the toddlers — it was as if they were their own.

That experience left an impression on me; I sensed that

*Continued on Page 3*

## STAFF LEADERSHIP

Sister Mary Bader, *CEO*  
 Shaneen Alvarez, *Director of Social Services*  
 Jeanette Chittams, *Director of Residential Programs*  
 Barbara Dubik, *Director of Child Care Center*  
 Beth Fromm, *Director of Development*  
 Matthew Haggerty, *Senior Director, Finance & Administration*  
 Peggy Howard Gatewood, *Administrator of Contracts, Licensing & Special Projects*

## CORPORATE BOARD

Donald Cardinal Wuerl, *Chairman*  
 Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout  
 Cynthia L. DeSimone, Esq.  
 William Gorman

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Hess, *President*  
 Steve Heidenberger, *Vice President*  
 Mary Armstead, *Secretary*  
 G. Thomas Borger, *Treasurer*  
 Gabriel I. Albornoz  
 Lynda M. Anderson  
 Susan Cartney  
 Mary Dee Clancy  
 Sister Ann Patrick Conrad, PhD  
 Michael T. Flynn  
 Michael Holliday, M.D.  
 John Magnolia  
 Timothy F. Maloney, Esq.  
 Barbara Ann Kelly Meyers  
 Christine Page  
 Elizabeth Perkins  
 Vernon Pizzi  
 Joseph L. Quinn  
 Tonya Sharpe  
 Kelli Stonework  
 Susan Timoney, STD  
 James A. Walker  
 Nicola Whiteman, Esq.  
 Elaine Baugham-Young (*Emeritus*)  
 Mary Lou Kretschmer (*Emeritus*)  
 Anne E. Schneiders, Esq. (*Emeritus*)

## MESSAGE FROM SISTER MARY

*In last year's issue of our Fall Newsletter, we told you the story of a young woman who was balancing motherhood, her senior year of High School and a position in a competitive work-study program. We had called her "Gabrielle" out of respect for her privacy, but she has given me permission to introduce her by her real name.*

*I hope you will find her story as inspiring as we do.*

Charde Battle arrived at St. Ann's three years ago, when she was just 16 years old, 9 months pregnant, and homeless.

On May 29th - surrounded by her family, classmates, coworkers and support team - Charde graduated from St. Ann's High School.

Just a few moments before she received her diploma from Principal Swain, something even more extraordinary happened. Charde's work-study supervisor from Providence Hospital announced that he would be offering her a full-time position, starting immediately.

Charde's classmates would tell you that this moment was about much more than the promise of a family-sustaining job. It was an acknowledgment of every early morning and late night she had spent caring for her son, every long walk to and from work, every improved test score, and every week of perfect attendance.

Your support makes moments like this one possible. Charde is just one of countless young mothers who will find healing, strength and inspiration because of your continued generosity. On their behalf, we thank you.



*Charde embraces two members of her St. Ann's support team, Ms. Tawanda Kenner (left) and Ms. Gayle Dicks (right) following her graduation from St. Ann's High School.*

*Sister Mary Bader*

## Workplace Giving



8180



29344

To request a St. Ann's staff member to speak at your workplace giving event, please call us: (301) 559-5500

## Make an Impact

Make a lasting impact on the lives of vulnerable families by considering one of our alternative giving options:

*Named Endowments*  
*Bequests*  
*Planned Gifts*  
*Gift Annuities*  
*St. Ann's Donor Trust*

To learn more, please contact us:  
 beth.fromm@stanns.org • (301) 559-5500



**BY THE NUMBERS**

CLIENTS SERVED IN FY 2015

**20** & **23**  
mothers children**7,606**  
days of care

Transitional Housing Program

**26** & **24**  
mothers children**5,329**  
days of care

Teen Mother &amp; Baby Program

**57**  
women

Education &amp; Employment Program

**80**  
families

St. Ann's Child Care Center

**Tashia's Story***(Continued from Page 1)*

out job applications. One day I would like to own my own business – maybe a clothing store. I would also like to help people in need.

I decided to return to my job at a restaurant while I work on my career goals. I used to work part-time, but now I am working for them full-time and the manager puts me on day shifts. If I ever have to work a night shift, my Hope House neighbor watches my son. I do the same for her when she has a night shift.

I love being a mom. I have always had a motherly instinct and just love taking care of my son and teaching him new things. We have so much fun. I hope that one day my son will be involved in his church and will help out in the community. I also hope that he will do well in school and be an athlete. I see so much in him.

*Update: Because of the progress Tashia has made since entering our Hope House program, Tashia's resident managers recently recommended that she and her son move into Faith House, St. Ann's*

**Are you a St. Ann's Alum?**

Did you ever live at St. Ann's as a child or young parent?

We want to hear from you.

Contact us to learn about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities organized for St. Ann's Alumni.

*alumni@stanns.org*  
*(301) 559-5500 x147*

**Profile of Mary Armstead***(Continued from Page 1)*

St. Ann's was a special place. I enthusiastically returned the following summer, and in addition to the duties held the previous year, I was assigned responsibility with others for engaging and interacting with the toddlers during their scheduled playtime.

**What is most the rewarding part about being a member of St. Ann's Board of Directors?**

St. Ann's mission is a noble one. I find it fulfilling to contribute my expertise, energy and resources to a mission that matches one of my primary areas of interest. I also enjoy the process of working alongside other highly competent and committed Board members, using our collective capacity to foster the continued vitality and progression of the organization.

However, I must say that the most rewarding part for me

has been serving as an ambassador, so to speak, for the organization – spreading the good word about St. Ann's and getting others excited about its mission.

**What was the best advice you have ever received?**

There are three pieces of advice that I received over the years that have served me quite well.

The first: "Do what you say you are going to do; deliver what you promise, on time."

The second: "Everything is in the relationship."

The third: (from my Dad): "Never give up."

**What is your favorite place to visit in Washington, D.C.?**

Freer Gallery of Art/Arthur M. Sackler Gallery

**What is your favorite book?**

As A Man Thinketh - by James Allen

**St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth & Families**

4901 Eastern Avenue  
Hyattsville, MD 20782

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
WASHINGTON, DC  
PERMIT #7609



“Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them.”

*Lady Bird Johnson*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**OCTOBER 7TH**

### **ROOFTOP CELEBRATION**

*St. Ann's Fall Social*

Join us at Urban Heights' rooftop bar for a festive evening with friends.

*Urban Heights  
Bethesda, MD  
5:30pm to 7:30pm*

**OCTOBER 17TH**

### *Seton Guild Tea and Basket Auction*

Join the women of St. Ann's Seton Guild for their annual Afternoon Tea and Basket Auction.

*Normandie Farm  
Potomac, MD  
12pm to 3pm*

**DECEMBER 5TH**

### **St. Ann's Christmas Open House**

Our annual holiday celebration for all those who make it possible for us to advance St. Ann's mission.

*St. Ann's Center  
Hyattsville, MD*

Keep an eye on our website for additional details about these events and registration information:

<http://www.stanns.org/events>