To our beloved guests, volunteers, and staff at McAuley House,

I wish I could find the right words to express how grateful I am for your powerful support and loving energies that are truly helping me heal from the stroke I suffered this past June.

I have been working hard in rehabilitation to recover. I face a long road ahead, but there is progress and more rehabilitation to do.

In the meantime, the vital and inspirational services at McAuley House must go on with our wonderful staff working at full capacity. Barbara Haynes, our new Executive Director, and others at McAuley House have encouraged me to be a part of the Ministry in the future once my health allows. Some time in later months, I hope that will happen so that I may be available on a limited basis. Barbara has respectfully asked for my suggestions and ideas on how to sustain and advance our programs, which I happily shared.

There is one fact that I know for sure: Each beautiful life at McAuley House will always be a part of my soul.

The Administrators of McAuley House will soon be hiring someone to help with the daily duties that I must relinquish because of my health. But please know that I will help in whatever way I am able after my rehabilitation.

I fully support the need for other staff to carry out my part of the important services McAuley Ministries has provided to our cherished guests for so many years.

I send a warm hug to each of you for the extraordinary kindness and attention you have given me. That is better than any kind of medicine!

I thank you... I support you... I believe in you! And I love you with all the beauty and blessing within the Mercy Spirit! - Sister Joan
Executive Director’s Message

Our Community of Hospitality, Compassion and Dignity

I am both humbled and honored to write this, my first message to the McAuley Ministries community, and I’m proud to be the Executive Director of an organization that does so much to help the less fortunate among us. I am grateful to the Board of Trustees and to the Sisters of Mercy Leadership team for choosing me to lead McAuley Ministries.

In the last three months, I have witnessed incredible acts of compassion towards our guests, residents, and patrons by the many dedicated volunteers, partners, donors, and employees present throughout our Ministry. Every day, I witness the core values of the Sisters of Mercy that guide our work – Hospitality, Compassion, and Dignity.

In this newsletter, the beloved Sister Joan has announced her retirement from full-time work at McAuley House after 40-years of service. Sister Joan leads her life steeped in the Mercy Spirit, and thousands of people throughout the years have been blessed through her work and constant presence. It is beyond words how much she will be missed.

As new people take the baton from Don Wolfe, Mary Moore, Chef Stanley Moss, Sister Joan, and Donna Benetti, we appreciate the constant reassurance we receive from our volunteers, donors, and friends. There is immense strength in our community.

Please know that I will work tirelessly to serve our neighbors in need, and you can entrust me with the wonderful intentions and the resources you provide for the men, women, and children we serve at McAuley House, McAuley Village, and The Warde-robe. Together, we will provide for the most vulnerable in our community.

As 2018 draws to a close, I hope you will consider a gift to McAuley Ministries in your year-end charitable plans. To make a secure online donation, please visit our website at www.McAuleyRI.org.

Thank you for making it possible for McAuley Ministries to accomplish great works of charity.

With gratitude,

Catherine’s Corner

“The simplest and most practical lesson I know...is to resolve to be good today, but better tomorrow. Let us take one day only in hands, at a time, merely making a resolve for tomorrow, thus we may hope to get on taking short, careful steps, not great strides.”

Catherine McAuley

McAuley Ministries Board of Trustees

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McAuley Ministries is Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy — Northeast Community
**Taking Something Great and Making it Even Better: McAuley Works!**

*McAuley Works!,* our unique job-readiness program at McAuley Village, just got even better!

We recently welcomed Yolanda Enos as our new Job Developer. This position was made possible thanks to funding from our friends at Pawtucket Credit Union, who share our commitment for moving single mothers and their children out of poverty.

Yolanda has been hard at work with our moms, ensuring that they have professional resumes, are learning valuable computer skills, and have practiced for job interviews. She is also actively working with local businesses to recruit new employers, and will soon begin practicing one-on-one with residents as they prepare for their state licensing exams. Yolanda plays a critical role in connecting our moms with jobs that will move them out of poverty and into self-sustaining lives.

Over the past two years, moms entered our program under-skilled, under-educated, and unemployed. But they left as medical assistants, dental assistants, nurses, dental hygienists, and more. Look out world, here come the women of McAuley Village!

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**The Children’s Friend Learning Center at McAuley Village is Now Open!**

McAuley Village is the leader in moving moms out of poverty into sustainable housing...now, through our partnership with Children’s Friend, we are a leader in early childhood education!

The Children’s Friend Learning Center at McAuley Village offers expert, onsite childcare beginning at 6-weeks-old until kindergarten. Our Center opens at 6:30 a.m., and provides Early Head Start and Head Start programming for not only the children of the moms living at McAuley Village, but also for the children across the neighborhood of South Providence.

We are changing the lives of children most at-risk by helping them gain the skills they need to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. Watch for an invite to the ribbon-cutting ceremony and help us celebrate this growth in our Ministry.

Audrey Bright, Director of the Children’s Friend Childcare Center at McAuley Village (center), with Jeanalize, Louise, Jade, and Donald

Joseph and Jariel build with blocks

Keily prepares to enjoy a delicious snack
McAuley Ministries Celebrates its Wonderful Donors and Volunteers

Coming together to celebrate all that they have made possible at each of our ministries over the past year, more than 150 donors, volunteers, and staff filled the Roger Williams Park Casino on October 11th, when the McAuley Ministries Board of Trustees hosted its annual Appreciation Gathering.

Surrounded by colorful fall décor and a joyful atmosphere, Barbara Haynes, our Executive Director, Trustees, and Ministry Administrators greeted the many guests as they entered the Casino.

The evening began with guests enjoying wine and hors d’oeuvres while listening to the smooth jazz sounds of the La Salle Academy Jazz Band. The Jim Hummel “RI Spotlight on McAuley Ministries” was on display in the room, thanks to former Trustee, John Condon.

Following the cocktail hour, guests were invited to the second floor for a delicious dinner prepared by our Chef MaryEllen Leonhardt and Larry LoVerde, our Kitchen Manager. The Rev. Michele Matott, Administrator of McAuley Village, offered the meal prayer, and throughout dinner, the lovely sounds of a harp, played by Mary King, filled the room.

As guests enjoyed their meals, Shannon O’Brien, Chair of the Board of Trustees, took to the stage for a speaking presentation, which included a warm welcome and heartfelt gratitude to all who help to make the mission of McAuley Ministries possible. She introduced Barbara Haynes, who welcomed the President of the Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community, Maureen Mitchell, RSM, and thanked everyone for the kind welcome she has received since becoming Executive Director.

Barbara spoke about the recent changes that have taken place within McAuley Ministries, but that the greatest priority remains the needs of those served every day across our Ministries in the spirit of Catherine McAuley with Hospitality, Compassion, and Dignity. Also during this time, Barbara invited Stanley Moss, who recently retired as Chef of McAuley House, and Liz Neubauer, Development Coordinator, to the stage.

Liz thanked Stanley for his 14-years of dedicated service, and presented him with an embroidered chef’s coat, to a round of applause from guests. Barbara then asked Liz Morancy, one of the founders of McAuley House, to read the letter from Sister Joan that is reprinted in this newsletter. Not a pin drop could be heard while Liz read the letter, and many tears were shed by both volunteers and donors. Another loud and lasting applause followed. The evening closed with the drawing of several door prizes, and a package of M&M’s for every guest.

Thank you to all who joined us, and God Bless you for everything you do for McAuley Ministries. We hope to see you again next year!

Thank You!

McAuley Ministries extends its thanks to the many in-kind supporters whose contributions helped to make this year’s Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Gathering special!

- Aldrich Mansion
- Blooming Mad Florist
- Johnson & Wales College of Culinary Arts
- La Salle Academy Jazz Band
- Saint Paul Church Confirmation Program
- Saint Raphael Academy
Share Your Holiday Spirit with Neighbors in Need

If you’re looking to help brighten the holiday season for those who are less fortunate, we’re organizing our special holiday programs, and we have a number of ways that you can support our work.

We are looking for individuals to sign up to be a part of our Adopt-A-Family program, to join us at McAuley House and serve our guests Christmas dinner, and to donate festive clothing to The Warde-robe.

McAuley Ministries will benefit once again from the generosity of Gem Plumbing & Heating’s “Gem Cares” program. From December 1st through December 31st, Gem Plumbing will match all donations to our organization up to a total of $7,500, doubling the impact of your gift. And, if you’re an Amazon shopper, be sure to use www.Amazon.Smile.com for your purchases, and select McAuley Ministries as your charity of choice. Amazon will then donate a portion of your purchase to us!

If you would like ideas on how to spread goodwill to those in need this holiday season, please contact Liz Neubauer, Development Coordinator, at eneubauer@mcauleyri.org or (401) 941-9013 x308.

The Warde-robe: A Perfect Place for your Holiday Shopping!

As the holiday season quickly approaches, many people are gearing up for Black Friday, which is widely known as the biggest shopping day of the year. Some people will even line the sidewalks during the early morning hours, waiting for their favorite store to open.

At The Warde-robe, we’re also getting ready for our favorite time of year, and we want to capture the excitement of the season by hosting a special sale of our own! On November 20th and 21st, The Warde-robe will hold its “Thanksgiving Big Sale,” a major two-day event in which the store’s inventory, including warm winter clothing, will be available at reduced prices!

The Warde-robe is a great place to do your holiday shopping. Along with a selection of clothing for everyone in the family, patrons will find an assortment of children’s books and toys, small household items, jewelry and accessories, perfume and cologne, and so much more. And, of course, there’s an impressive assortment of festive Christmas decorations and ornaments to spread holiday cheer throughout your house.

In preparation of the big sale, The Warde-robe has been blessed by the help of student volunteers from Mercymount Country Day School. For months, these thoughtful young adults have been busy sorting through items, tagging merchandise, helping customers, and preparing our wonderful display of Christmas items.

So, as you begin to think about your Christmas shopping, please keep The Warde-robe in mind and stop by 1286 Broad Street in Central Falls to find that special something that will make the perfect gift!
Volunteer Opportunities

Would you or someone you know want to share your professional talents with McAuley Ministries?

We currently have the need for **IT professionals** to assist with our technology needs, including desktop management, software installation, and troubleshooting when necessary.

A **Graphic Artist** to share their talents with McAuley House, McAuley Village, and The Warde-robe to update our brand design for print, digital, and to create banners and signs.

**Website Designers** to build McAuley Ministries a WordPress site. We are currently on an Adobe platform and need to convert to WordPress in 2019.

A **Photographer** to help us update our image library with photos that can be used on our website and when creating collateral materials.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Barbara Haynes at bhaynes@mcauleyri.org.

Can You Help?

Ministry Needs

As we begin to prepare for the colder months and the start of the holiday season, our Ministries have the need for specific items to help those we serve.

**McAuley House:** Toiletries and personal care products, backpacks, and gift cards such as Stop & Shop, CVS, Walmart, and Ocean State Job Lot.

**McAuley Village:** Gift cards to Walmart, Stop & Shop, and for Uber transportation.

**The Warde-robe:** Seasonal clothing, accessories, perfume, men’s cologne, and lotions and candles for holiday gift-giving.

If you’d like to make a donation, please contact:

**McAuley House** – Yvette Kenner: (401) 941-9013 x302, or ykenner@mcauleyri.org.

**McAuley Village** – Rev. Michele Matott: (401) 467-3630 x10, or mmatott@mcauleyri.org.

**The Warde-robe** – Andrés Montoya: (401) 729-0405, or amontoya@mcauleyri.org.