**2018—Letter from Tim Larson**  
(Board Chair)

It was great seeing you at this year’s golf tournament. Morning clouds parted on June 25, and we had a wonderful event. The staff handled everything fabulously. Be sure to sign up for next year’s golf event. We will have a date for you soon. I will assume that all readers know about the 2018 campus refurbishing award and the Hall’s funded construction project that is just getting underway. The best days of Benilde Hall and its service to the homeless lie ahead of us, I’m sure of that. I would like to see us all of our two acre campus to house and help homeless. Right now, we are only using about half. We plan to apply for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines funding for 2019 to add another 25 beds for our city’s most-in-need. With seed money - less than $10,000—the Hall can pay for the survey required to split our 2 acre lot.

Think about what 25 more beds would mean for this city!

One hundred donors contributing $100 each will get us to our short-term goal. We will use the $10K to locate and mark all utilities and subdivide our campus into two lots. We have been assured that this work will move us into position to get funded for a new “west campus” facility for inpatient use and addiction therapy.

The need is clear. The time is right. The fundraising objective is doable.

Can we count on you?

Yours truly,

Tim Larson, Chair of the BHP Board

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**Open Letter from Executive Director William Kent Jewell**

Dear Reader,

Thanking you for your continued financial support of Benilde Hall is one of my happiest duties. You are the best friends our homeless clients have. Without you, the Hall could not continue, could not exist . . . Seriously; you are important. Without you, clients who are here right now would be back “out there.” With your help, the Hall keeps its doors open and its lights on.

With your help, clients have a chance.

Whenever you read this issue of the CROSSWALK, know this: Our beds were full last night. Our kitchen was busy last night. Know this too: Your donations pay Benilde Hall’s utility bills and help cover payroll.

The great news of the day is that our campus is being brought back to good shape. Campus buildings have needed attention for a long time. When this work is finished, there will be more to do. There always is, and you will continue to be generous, just as before.

Generous and steadfast; that’s who you are. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Wm. Kent Jewell, Executive Director

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**2018 - An Exciting Year for Benilde Hall**

Benilde Hall is thrilled to announce that work is underway on its first major campus revitalization in 20 years. Lytle Construction Inc. has been awarded the contract for this much-needed work. Both of the residential buildings on campus will be refreshed, and beds will be added. Inconveniences and inefficiencies that have hampered full utilization of campus structures for years are being eliminated . . . Right before your eyes!

All of this is happening because the Hall received a 2017 competitive award from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (FHLBDM). The application effort was led by Operations Manager, Tonya Gundersen and Chaplain Stephen King. The Hall was awarded the princely sum of $745,707 to refurbish its existing buildings on the historic 23rd Street Campus.

The award to Benilde Hall was one of the largest FHLBDM’s many awards for 2017. It was the only competitive award made this year to a Kansas City based organization. The Hall is working with Scott Associates Architecture and with Country Club Bank, a FHLBDM member.

FHLBDM conducts an open competitive Affordable Housing Program Plan annually. This is Hall’s second award. Its first award (2001) was used for development of the Hall’s campus. Bank awards are made in the form of loans. For a charitable service non-profit agency like the Hall, loan amounts can be forgiven, dependent on agency continuing to operate in a manner consistent with its charitable purpose.

Who is the Federal Home Loan Bank?

As you read this issue of the CROSSWALK, you will come across the name Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines. It’s not a familiar name in our community, but it is a name that Benilde Hall is proud to know. FHLBDM is one of 11 such regional, member-owned banks. Members include banks, thrifts, credit unions, and insurance companies. The Bank provides liquidity to members so that they can in turn provide financing to home builders and buyers.

Federal home loan banks were established by the federal government in 1932 and have operated continuously ever since.

It is practice of FHLBDM to annually set aside a portion of its profits to fund Affordable Housing Program loans. Awards are made on a competitive basis.
**Taking a Moment to Look Back at 2017 - A Year in Review**

Benilde Hall was the proud recipient of The Combat Treatment Award, The Department of Behavioral Health Outstanding Performance Award, and the KC SATRSC Unsung Heros Award. Congratulations to Kent Jewell and staff for their recognition in the Kansas City community for their efforts. Readers of this newsletter know that Benilde Hall serves a cross-section of Kansas City's homeless men recovering from addiction. Those same readers know that the Hall provides its clients with room and board and a whole lot more. For the Hall, the "more" is where the "rubber meets the road." For the Hall, "more" includes psychological assessment for all clients, addiction screening and counseling, working with landlords to house these individuals, and a hundred different other helpful efforts for Benilde Hall clients as they manage to return to normal society. Readers know that Benilde Hall has been consistent in refining and providing these essential, life-saving services since 1995. If these facts do not grab you or demand our attention, try this statistic: Over the course of the last year, Benilde Hall provided 15,480 bed-nights for its clients. We at the Hall are proud of this number...proud and willing to do more.

The most newsworthy campus event of 2017 was relocating the Hall’s Safe Haven program to the historic 23rd St. Campus. The Hall disposed of two houses on Hardesty Ave. that it had used to house the Safe Haven program, saving thousands of dollars annually due to the consolidation. It’s as simple as this: As the Hall attempts to meet an insatiable demand for its programs, the Hall’s directors and staff continue to explore possibilities for growth in numbers of clients served and for maximum efficiency in service to its clients.

**With a Little Help From Our Friends**

During 2017, a was built wall across the Benilde Hall campus. Close friends of the Benilde Hall program know the reason behind the "pallet wall." Two campus programs needed to be physically separated per VA contract requirements, and the wall was needed in order to comply. As usual, the Hall did not have necessary cash to build the required wall. Reardon Pallet Company (RPC) came to the Hall’s rescue. RPC filled a need for the Hall by donating wood pallets for the wall. The wall-building technique was simple and effective. Post and horizontal supports provided skeleton for the wall. The wall was assembled using posts, horizontal supports, and reclaimed pallet wood. Then corrugated metal doors were hung to serve as gates. Dan Reardon knows what he is doing. He has a great record, 23 years in business and a reputation for service. Thanks to Mr. Reardon for his support.

MMC Contractors and the Moulton Foundation reached out to the Hall’s clients at Christmas time. The Foundation stepped up with a 2017 holiday donation, $5,000, to provide Christmas gifts for all Benilde Hall clients. Staff, aided by MMC Contractors volunteers, turned that donation (supplemented with additional MMC Contractors dollars) into a personalized goodie bag for each client. Those bags contained all-season boots, lined sweatshirt jackets, warm socks, underwear, hygiene kits, and other much needed personal items.

MMC Contractors has a Kansas City office and other locations too: Omaha, Las Vegas, Reno, and Somerset, NJ. The firm builds and services large-scale HVAC projects for health-care and other facilitates nation-wide. Tim Larson, the Hall’s board chair, is an officer of employee-owned MMC Contractors.

**Tee Off Against Homelessness - a RECORD BREAKING Tournament!**

There is an ongoing need for funding for the treatment of addiction and alcoholism. Without participation in the tournament and contributions from donors like you, Benilde Hall could not continue to house, treat, and counsel the individuals who reside here.

This year Net income from the 9th Annual Tee Off Against Addiction & Homelessness Golf Tournament this year was a record $13,574.00! A big thank you to all who helped make it a success. The Hall is using the proceeds to supplement operating and payroll expenses.