



Neighbors Helping Neighbors



Annual Report 2015

Benefits of HomePorts Membership

Peace of mind
Convenience
Access to volunteers
Access to vetted service providers

Educational programs
Social events
Home safety inspection
Local transportation

Volunteer Services

Many services are provided by HomePorts' volunteers at no additional cost to the member. These include:

Local transportation
Errands – pharmacy, banking, grocery shopping
Small home repairs
Small gardening projects
Short-term pet sitting

Paid Provider Services

HomePorts maintains a list of local business providers whom members pay directly. Among these services are:

Out-of-county transportation
Home maintenance and repair
General yard work and landscaping
House cleaning
Non-medical home care
Nursing care (RN, LPN or GNA)

2015 Board of Directors

Jim Donaghy, President
Jane Hukill, Vice President
Jayne Heckles, Secretary
Bill Cameron, Treasurer
Jean Austin
Cindy Bach

Wayne Benjamin, MD
John Christie
Joe Harding
John R. Leek
Courtney Sjostrom

Staff

Karen Wright, Executive Director

Sally Campbell Powell, Volunteer Coordinator



Report from the President

To the HomePorts Community:

During 2015 we continued our efforts to increase citizen awareness of HomePorts' mission and services while growing the value of these services for our members.

In April, HomePorts and its 33 sponsors held a free Health Fair for the people of Kent County. Our volunteers were successful in contacting over 100 local businesses, introducing them to our mission and obtaining support for the Health Fair through their ads and exhibits. The University of Maryland Regional Health System was a Platinum Sponsor of this event along with the Kent County Government. In addition, ten medical experts generously gave of their time to lead seminars discussing medical issues such as pain management, memory loss and depression, among other topics. We are planning to follow up with an expanded Health Fair in the fall of 2016. Also in April we held a well-attended fund-raising dinner at Louisa's restaurant for our members and friends. We will have a similar event in 2016.

Our member monthly Dutch-treat luncheons at Fish Whistle continue to be very popular. If you have never joined us, you are missing a treat. Please don't hesitate to call the HomePorts' office if you need a ride. Bring a friend as all are welcome—we'll save a seat for you!

Our strategic plan for the next three years was completed and approved by the Board. The major action as stated by the Strategic Planning Committee report is "to expand [HomePorts'] volunteer program to increase the quality of life and health for its most vulnerable members, as a means to delay or prevent the need for institutional care. To establish the efficacy of the proposed expansion, [HomePorts] will implement a one-year pilot project to test and evaluate a service to match specially trained volunteers with elderly HomePorts members who may benefit from enhanced one-on-one services, such as regular calls and visits, increased socialization opportunities, and assistance to access needed services in the community. The goal of the pilot project will be to determine the impact of these enhanced services using qualitative and quantitative evaluations, such as participant surveys, level of participation, and increased access to community services. Based on the results of the pilot project, HomePorts may seek resources to transition the pilot project into a long-term Neighbor to Neighbor Program."

Year-end reports from our staff and committee leaders who plan, organize and implement member services are contained elsewhere in this report. Our balance sheet continues to be strong with operations near break-even.

John Christie and I are rotating off the Board as required by our By-laws. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with and get to know so many fine people and leave knowing a strong Board is in place. Thanks to you for your continuing interest and commitment to HomePorts.

Jim Donaghy, President



Report from the Executive Director

I always find myself in shock when it comes time to again write this report. Didn't I just do it last month? Where has the time gone?

2015 has been a busy year. We bid farewell to our long-time Volunteer Coordinator, Shannon Smulow, who moved on to pursue other interests; leaving us with some very big shoes to fill. Happily, Sally Campbell Powell stepped right into those shoes in what seemed to me to be a seamless motion. Sally was up-to-speed in a flash and has been my new right hand from the start. If you have not had an opportunity to meet Sally, I hope you will in 2016.

In April we hosted our Community Health Fair at the Middle School--an event that was very well attended. A full report follows. Our 2016 Fair should be an even bigger event and will be held in the fall. Stay tuned for more details.

We continue to have our monthly Dutch-treat luncheons (on the third Thursday of every month at 12:30) which have been gaining in popularity. This year we hope to branch out and try some different restaurants. If you have never attended one of these events, you should definitely mark your calendar. All are welcome to join us for a nice meal and good conversation.

We ran several surveys this year—our membership, our volunteers and our providers. The member survey showed that 97% of our responding members were extremely satisfied or very satisfied with their HomePorts membership. The volunteers updated their information and the provider surveys are still coming in. All in all, we are holding fast to a core group of happy campers!

2016 should prove to be an interesting year for Kent County's seniors. The threatened closure of our local hospital has put us in a lobbying position. We have first-hand knowledge here as to how difficult it is for our at-risk population to access transportation within the county, let alone outside the county. The repercussions of a hospital closure would be catastrophic—especially for our non-driving senior citizens.

Sally and I look forward to continuing to serve our membership and to welcoming new board members and new HomePorts members in the coming year.

Karen Wright, Executive Director

Financial Assistance Committee

From the time of its initial organization, HomePorts recognized that many people in our community could benefit from membership but would need some financial assistance in order to make it possible. As a result, Homeports implemented a financial assistance program. The program has been financed in part by gracious grants from organizations such as The Women and Girl's Fund and the Speer Trust. We have also sponsored dedicated fund raising events for this program and have set aside some of the funds which we have been able to raise by more general fund raising.

Members accepted in this program are charged an initial annual fee of \$35 for individuals and \$50 for households. These members, like all of our members, receive services from HomePorts volunteers for a variety of needs. In addition, limited funds are available to these members for the provision of financial assistance for emergency needs.

Generally speaking, individuals with incomes at or below \$33,500 and households with combined income at or below \$45,400 are eligible to participate. Eligibility is determined by the HomePorts Executive Director based on a review of income tax returns and/or other indicia of income and assets. All such information is kept confidential in addition to their identity as having received financial assistance. Applicants have been taken on a first come, first served basis.

The annual review of this program conducted by the Financial Assistance Committee concluded that the results of participation have been very favorable both for the participants and for HomePorts. However, this review also concluded that we would like to have greater participation in this program. As a result, the fee for renewals has been eliminated and the financial application forms for the initial application and for renewals have been simplified.

John Christie, Financial Assistance Committee Chair



Report from the Volunteer Coordinator

The success and growth of HomePorts is directly affected by the success and growth of our volunteer program. Homeports' volunteers are a vital part of this organization.

Upon joining the HomePorts team in May, I immediately became aware of how true this is. Our volunteers have gone above and beyond this year. Although we request that members provide 24 hours notice when requesting help with volunteer services, we occasionally have situations arise which are more immediate in nature. I am happy to report that we have been able to accommodate all requests.

With a total of 404 service requests in 2015, HomePorts volunteers booked nearly 500 hours of volunteer service. The majority of these requests fell under the category of transportation with a total of 320 rides provided.

With Transportation ranking highest in service requests, it isn't surprising that we are still in need of additional volunteers. In October we set up an information table at the Rock Hall Marine Restoration grand opening event. Rock Hall remains an area where we are still in need of volunteers. This was a great day. It was particularly enjoyable watching our members and volunteers getting to know one another outside of the short time they spend during volunteer service. With the assistance of several members and volunteers, we were able to provide information to potential new members and collected contact information from individuals who are interested in volunteering.

Sally Campbell Powell, Volunteer Coordinator

Services Available by Approved Providers

TRANSPORTATION:

Medical Appointments
Errands
Senior Center
Pharmacy
Airports
Special Events
Grocery Stores

INTERIOR

Home Maintenance:

Property Management
Home Sitting
Catering
House Cleaning
De-clutter
House Clean Out
Window/Door Install
Window Repair
Dryer Vent Service
Picture/Mirror Hanging
Install Medicine Cabinets
Sticking Doors
Plumbing
Heating/AC Repair
Appliance Repair
Winterizing
Built-Ins
Pet Doors
Assemble Furniture
Appliances
Storage Solutions
Trim or Molding Repair
Drywall
Painting & Color Consulting
Ceiling/Floor Repair
Cabinets
Remodeling
Railing Install or Repair
Finish Work
Home Adaptations
Upholstering

EXTERIOR

Home Maintenance:

Landscaping/Design
Gardening/Pruning
General Yard Work
Lawn Mowing
Power Washing
Gutter Service
Downspouts
Roofing
Ramps
Window Washing
Building Decks
Siding Repair
Window Shutter Repair
Pesticide/Fertilizer
Snow Removal
Decks
Patios
Walkways
Tree Removal
Tree Transplanting/
Irrigation, Planting
Turf Care
Hydro-seeding
Living Shoreline Work
Spring/Fall Clean Up
Christmas Decorating
Driveway Install/Repair
Landscape Lighting
Land Management
Soil Grading For Drainage
Septic System Install
Excavation Services
Upholstering

GROCERY AND MEAL SERVICES:

Shopping Assistance
Personalized Shopping
Home Delivery
Catering services
Home Meal Preparation

PERSONAL ASSISTANCE & TROUBLE SHOOTING:

Alterations
Money Management
Help with bill paying
Computers
Email
Home Electronics
Appliances
Remote Controls
Telephone Programming
Warranty Research
Internet Searches
Respite Care
Family History Projects
Notary
Piano Tuning
Pet Sitting
In-Home Vet Visits

Health & Wellness:

Geriatric Case Management
Skilled/Unskilled Nursing
-RN, LPN or GNA
Companion Care
Medication Management
Meal Prep
Light House Keeping
Foot Care/Pedicures
Friendly Home Visits
Respite Care
Travel Companion Service
Assist with Medical Records
Hearing Impairment Services

HomePorts Program Committee Report

During 2015, there were four programs given - two in the spring and two in the fall. This format seems to work well for our members taking into consideration the potential problems of getting out during the winter months.

The first program was presented on Thursday, March 19, at 10:30 by representatives from Compass Regional Hospice. The hospice facility is located in Queen Anne's County, but serves Kent and Dorchester Counties as well. It provides beds for six people with a staff of physicians, nurses, nurses' assistants, social workers, a chaplain and volunteers. The care which is given to the entire family was emphasized. There were many questions that were answered for the attendees.

Dr. Andrew Cumiskey, a local orthopedic surgeon, gave a talk on joint replacement on Tuesday, April 21, at 11:00. He explained the different procedures used, the advances made in materials and the rehabilitation necessary. He displayed and passed around replacement joints that are currently being used so the attendees would become familiar with them. The field of joint replacement is changing and, as an example, the procedure he previously used for knee replacement has changed to be less invasive and with a quicker recovery period. He stayed to answer many questions about knee, shoulder, hip and other types of replacements.

Identity theft was our next topic. Holly Johnson from Chesapeake Bank and Trust Company gave an informative program on Thursday, September 17, at 11:00. She explained ways to avoid identity theft and the procedures to take to recover from it. Information from the Federal Trade Commission was given out with free resources in the community. She gave examples of what had happened to some people within her own family that had been duped by people whom they trusted. It was enlightening and a bit scary to hear. Everyone left with a better insight about methods of protecting themselves.

The final program was given on palliative care on Thursday, November 12, at 11:00. Sam Ricketts and Sharon Stagg, who are RNs from the University of Maryland Palliative Care Program explained the difference between palliative care and hospice care. Palliative care is a specialty dealing with illness that is serious enough to require care, chronic illness that cannot be cured, or a life-limiting illness. Its purpose is to align care with the patient's wishes; increase the patient's control of his/her care; address side effects of medications; provide management of symptoms; collaborate with care providers and increase the quality of life. Currently, palliative care patients must initially be seen at an in-patient facility in Chestertown, Easton, or Dorchester. Beginning in January, 2016, palliative care will be covered by Medicare. Plans are underway for a local out-patient clinic. In the question and answer period following the program, things that the attendees could do to encourage a palliative care program were explained in addition to having other questions answered.

All of the programs were given at the HomePorts office on the second floor of the Chestertown Town Building. At each program, there was a sign in sheet to identify members and guests from the community. Publicity for the programs was provided in the local papers including The Chestertown Spy, on Facebook and with flyers and emails to our membership. Each program had some new guests and the attendance ranged from 10-16 at each program.

There are ongoing plans for programs in 2016 for the spring and fall during the late morning at the HomePorts office. Suggestions are always welcome for topics to be presented.

Courtney Sjostrom, Program Committee Chair

Health Fair Committee Report

To foster community wellness in Kent County, HomePorts, in cooperation with University of Maryland Shore Regional Health, organized a Health Fair on Thursday, April 2, 2015 at the Kent County Middle School in Chestertown. This event replaced the annual flagship symposium, which has focused for the last several years on educating older adults about healthy aging. The HomePorts Board sought to broaden the audience who can benefit from information about health and wellness, based on the fact that the aging population depends on an entire community that maintains positive health and well-being.

A two-hour workshop titled “Your Plan for Living the Good Life” was also offered (with a fee). Over 25 workshop participants prepared personalized plans for successful aging, led by invited experts on Master Aging Plans.

The Health Fair featured a variety of free health screenings, brief talks and demonstrations on topics such as pain management, hypertension, diabetes, depression, and incontinence. Extensive information from over 60 exhibitors helped attendees learn how to self-manage health, wellness and safety issues, and obtain knowledge to ultimately reduce the demands on the health care and social services systems.

The Health Fair was very well-received, but attendance was disappointing. A larger attendance from the community is needed in the future, but accomplishing this is a challenge.

Of the 53 attendees who completed an evaluation questionnaire, 100% rated the event as “Excellent” or “Good”. To the question “Do you plan any changes in the things you normally do as a result of anything you learned or participated in at the Health Fair, such as taking a class or stopping smoking?”, 67% replied “Yes”. An exhibitors’ questionnaire showed that 100% would like to return to an event the next year.

Muriel Cole and Wayne Benjamin, MD
Co-chairs

Home Safety Committee

In our continuing endeavor to keep our members safe and comfortable at home, we are increasing emphasis on fall prevention.

Falls are the leading cause of death by accidental injury among those over 65. More than one-third of all folks over 65 fall each year, and falls are cited as the most common cause of non-fatal injuries and hospital admissions among older adults. Often a fall or broken hip can set off a downward spiral of health or physical problems from which seniors cannot and do not rebound.

Slips and falls are one of the biggest fears for people in their 60's and beyond because they can easily become life changing events. How often have you heard the tagline "Help! I've fallen and can't get up" commercial for push-button alert systems? We know our bones aren't as strong as they used to be and it takes longer to heal. What we have done so many times before now isn't so safe or easy as our sense of balance may have deteriorated or muscles weakened.

While there are many causes and consequences, most falls are preventable. HomePorts' Home Safety Program offers our members free home assessments which will include an inspection of smoke detectors, lighting, stairs, bathrooms, and floors. We will offer to replace smoke or CO2 batteries and ceiling light bulbs, and do other simple tasks that require a ladder or stool. Need some nonslip tape in your shower or tub, or some rug tape to hold down the edge of that carpet that's easy to trip on? The HomePorts Safety Crew will be there to help and can also make suggestions for repairs or modifications that could reduce accidents in the home and options and estimated costs for completing them.

John Leek, Home Safety Chair

Editors note: We continue to receive positive feedback from members participating in HomePorts free home safety check ... *"John Leek did a complete home safety inspection and recommended some hand grips should be installed in one area. This is a great service that HomePorts sponsors and I wish that more members would take advantage of it. He is congenial, cooperative and efficient!"* Call for an appointment at 443-480-0940.

Grants Committee

Applications for grant money for the pilot project were sent to two foundations in December 2015 for possible support funds to support the Neighbor to Neighbor Pilot project. Several other sources have been identified and applications will be mailed in early 2016 to secure additional funding. The setting of a date for a fundraising dinner like the one held in 2015 at Luisa's Ristorante will be completed in January for a repeat of this highly successful event in April 2016. A fundraising committee is being established in 2016 to identify different and more innovative future fundraising events for HomePorts.

Jane E. Hukill, Grants Committee Chair

12:31 PM
01/15/16
Accrual Basis

Home Ports, Inc.
Profit & Loss
January through December 2015

	Jan - Dec 15
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
43400 · Direct Public Support	
43410 · Corporate Contributions	272.24
43442 · Gifts in Kind - Rent	3,000.00
43450 · Contributions	
43452 · Individuals	1,860.00
43453 · Annual Appeal Contributions	13,690.00
43454 · Sustaining Membership	5,600.00
Total 43450 · Contributions	21,150.00
43400 · Direct Public Support	24,422.24
43500 · Health Fair	20,905.00
45000 · Investments	21.21
46400 · Other Types of Income	325.00
47200 · Membership Dues	14,700.00
49000 · Special Events Income	4,201.00
Total Income	64,574.45
Gross Profit	64,574.45
Expense	
60300 · Awards and Grants	518.73
60500 · Health Fair Expenses	10,066.76
60900 · Business Expenses	120.96
61000 · Special Events Expenses	1,979.50
62100 · Contract Services	2,366.60
62800 · Rent	3,000.00
65000 · Operations	8,241.21
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	3,347.12
66000 · Payroll Expenses	38,527.85
68300 · Travel and Meetings	114.51
Total Expense	68,283.24
Net Ordinary Income	-3,708.79
Net Income	-3,708.79

11:36 AM
01/14/16
Accrual Basis

Home Ports, Inc.
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2015

	Dec 31, 15
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · Primary Checking	28,346.26
10010 · Money Market	27,708.25
10020 · PayPal	17.49
10030 · Financial Assistance Checking	4,706.63
Total Checking/Savings	60,778.63
Accounts Receivable	350.00
Other Current Assets	100.00
Total Current Assets	61,228.63
TOTAL ASSETS	61,228.63
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	1,846.13
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	43,559.98
31000 · Retained Earnings	16,558.12
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	2,973.19
Net Income	-3,708.79
Total Equity	59,382.50
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	61,228.63

2015 Donors

BOLD denotes HomePorts Member

\$1 TO \$99

Margie Baker

Frannie & Stuart Baldwin

Joan Blume

Anne F. Briggs

in honor of Evelyn Hughes

Mary C. Burns

in memory of Ken Burns

Anne K. Charles

Chestertown Animal Hospital

Pat & Ray Clarke

Computer Pro

Juliana Dulmage

Linda & Philip Dutton

Gerry & Guy Edwards

Robin M. Emling

in memory of Jack Matthews

F&N Roofing

Betta & Jim Fraccaroli

Nicholas Fritz

Cindy & Tom Fulton

Ginger Gregg

Linda Hague-Crew

Giesla & Kirk Hall

Margaret Smith Holmes

Anna Hurd

Internal Medicine Associates

Ruth Lichtenberger

James Lupis

Edmund J. MacLaughlin

Massoni Art

Jody McWilliams

in memory of Jack Matthews

Robert G. Norris

Susanne Nuttle

Gerard S. O'Connor, MD

Jeanette & Philip Parish

Zachary D. Parks

Rita & Daniel Premo

Carolyn Sabatini

William Starling

Anne S. Warhurst

in honor of Muriel Cole

Mary & David White

Kathleen & Harvey Wigder

Debra J. Woodruff-Capper

Karen & Jon Wright,

\$100 TO \$299

Frederick A. Alden

Allstate Building Co., LLC

Amazon Smile Foundation

Marie & Henry Anderson

Cynthia Anderton

Anthony's Flowers

Jean F. Austin

Cindy & Ken Bach

Joanna & Bruce Blackburn

Barbara Brereton

Rebecca A. Byrd

Bill Cameron

Chestertown Lions Club

Alexander Dick

Eastern Shore Irrigation

ExxonMobil Foundation

Margay Ferguson

Joan Flaherty

Herbert Friedman

Donna & Tony Gibbons Neff

Richard L. Goodall

Christian Havemeyer

KC & Bob Holland

Evelyn D. Hughes

Bonita & Richard Lankford

Charles Lerner

Susan & Thomas Mack

Men on the Move

in memory of Judy Cameron

Carole & Edgar Merkle

Frances Miller

Monsanto Company

Ann & John Murray

George Nelson

Ellie & Tom Noble

Ginny & Tom Parker

Alex P. Rasin

Alice Ritchie

Nancy & Gary Robson

Rock Hall Lions Club

Connie & Larry Schroth

Lois Sherry & Craig Damon

Chris & Jerry Smith

Jon Stine

Paddy & Rich Tobey

Tolchester Marina

Alexandra Totten

John C. Vail

Joan & Clifton West

\$300-\$499

Bunny & Frank Adams

Sheila & Jim Barry

Ginger & Tom Clark

Eastman Specialties Corporation

Marti & Charlie Hawkins

Jayne & Paul Heckles

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Jackson, Sandra

Judith Kohl

Luisa's Cafe, Inc.

Louise O'Brien

Grace & William F. Rienhoff

Brenda Rocconi

Courtney & John Sjostrom

Betty Spence

James & Suzanne Urda

Steven & Sybil Wolin

Over \$500

Peggy & John Christie

Muriel J. Cole

David A. Bramble Foundation

Anne & Jim Donaghy

Margery and Stuart Elsburg

Forde Family Foundation, Inc.

Patty & Doug Gates

Joseph J. Harding

Jane E. Hukill

Gayle & Bob Ingersoll

Michael R. Lawrence

John Leek

With special thanks to the Town of Chestertown for donating our office space.