



MOUNTAIN HOUSING
OPPORTUNITIES, INC.

64 Clingman Avenue
Suite 101
Asheville, NC 28801

Phone 828-254-4030
Fax 828-254-0120
www.mtnhousing.org

Dear Friends of MHO:

Mrs. Margaret Felder began her nursing career soon after her husband suffered a stroke and lost his income as a barber. She had worked in various jobs and spent years as a community volunteer, but now it was up to her to support the family.

She was a nurse at Mission Hospitals for nearly forty years. In her home today, Mrs. Felder proudly displays plaques from Mission recognizing her years of dedicated service. Not only did her nursing career provide for her family's basic needs, it helped her to put all four of her children through college.

One morning this past February, Mrs. Felder, now in her eighties, talked with us about her career and her volunteer work over the years, and about the help that MHO recently provided to her in a time a need. She spoke to us about her new handicap access ramp—a ramp built by MHO volunteers and paid for by donations from the local community.

We're telling you Mrs. Felder's story because we want you to know that when you send a contribution to support our **15th Annual MHO Ramp Festival**, you are sending it to a neighbor, a family member, maybe even a nurse who once cared for you during your own time of need.

I believe that those who need help in our community and those who volunteer and contribute are not two separate and distinct populations. We often find that those who volunteer and contribute for many years may later need assistance, and those who are in need often contribute generously as well.

There are others like Mrs. Felder in our community. They are elderly or disabled. And their families are worried for the safety of their loved ones, just as Mrs. Felder's family was worried. The handicap access ramps that we build improve the quality of life for those in need by making their lives safer and easier. Mrs. Felder's family and neighbors were relieved after seeing the ramp installed, because it eliminated their worry that she would slip and fall from her front steps.

On May 8-9, volunteers will gather to celebrate the **15th Annual MHO Ramp Festival** by building up to 10 handicap access ramps for people like Mrs. Felder. Please consider making a contribution to our **15th Annual MHO Ramp Festival**. Donations are used year round to offset the cost of materials to build handicap access ramps, which currently cost about \$1,500 per ramp. Volunteers make it possible for MHO to save on labor costs by donating their time to build the ramps.

Please mail your tax-deductible donation made payable to **MHO Ramp Festival** today. You will be providing safety, mobility and a better quality of life for your neighbors in need—neighbors like Mrs. Felder.

Thank you so much for your support.

Warmest regards,

Scott Dedman
Executive Director

MHO Board of Directors

Chair
Patrick Carver
*Area Executive,
First Citizens Bank*

Vice Chair
Trina Boyd
*Board and Residents Council,
City of Asheville Housing Authority*

Secretary
Paula Leatherwood
*Broker,
Keller-Williams Realty*

Treasurer
Stephen H. Watson
*Chief Financial Officer
& Senior Vice President,
The Biltmore Company*

Executive Director
Scott Dedman

Jessie Coleman
*Retired,
Head Start Community
Action Opportunities*

Patricia Ezzell
*Recruiter
City of Asheville*

Joseph Fioccola
WECAN Neighborhood Association

John Hayes
*NAACP Branch President
Youth Empowerment Program
& ERC-WRES*

W. James Johnson
*Attorney
Van Winkle Law Firm*

Dan Loizzo
*Director, Support Services
Eaton Corporation*

Janet Moore
*Director, Community Relations
Mission Hospitals*

Mary R. Ritter
*Retired
The Community Foundation
of WNC*

NeighborWorks®
CHARTERED MEMBER

