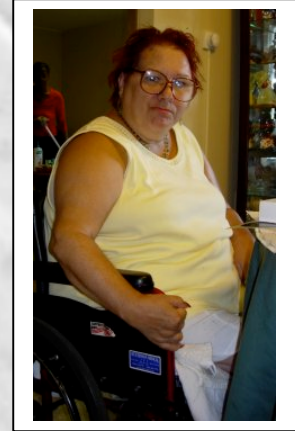


Save Our Homes: How it works

Ellen Murphy was paralyzed due to a stroke and living in elderly/disabled public housing. When Ellen was found ineligible for Medicaid, she had to pay \$40.00 per day, out of pocket, to her personal care attendants. As a result, she was unable to pay her rent and was threatened with eviction. The Save Our Homes Walk funds were used to assist her in paying her back rent until she could get approved for Medicaid, which would then pay her personal care attendants. She is now fully financially stable and no longer facing eviction.



Save Our Homes: Preventing and Ending Homelessness

As organizers, service providers, and neighbors we know timely, direct assistance to individuals and families can be the most cost-effective way to prevent and end homelessness. We also know that funding for this valuable solution is scarce.

**The average
Save Our Homes grant
is less than \$500;
the average cost of
shelter and services
for a year is \$37,000.**

Last year the Save Our Homes Walk raised \$41,000 *with your help*. Grants were used for security deposits, rent arrearages, utility bills, and moving costs associated with stabilizing housing. These grants kept families in their homes, adults at their jobs, and kids in school. These grants helped preserve the affordability and diversity of our Somerville community.

Save Our Homes: Help us Reach our Goal

Our goal is to raise \$45,000 to be used for approximately 75 grants to help secure stable housing for individuals and families. You can help three ways:

- **Walk!**
- **Support!** Make a tax-deductible gift to Save Our Homes!
- **Organize!** Introduce Save Our Homes to your business, political organization, social group, or faith-based community. Rachel Bedick and Annie Ross are our Team Organizers and are happy to help you organize a walk team. Contact Rachel at rbedick@caasomerville.org or 617-623-1392 ext. 141 and Annie at aross@gbls.org or 617-603-2740.

Save Our Homes: Logistics

The 6th Annual Save Our Homes Walk will be held on April 26th, 2009. The 5K (3.1 mile) walk route begins at Somerville High School, passes affordable housing landmarks, and ends at Somerville High School. Registration begins at 1:30 pm; the walk begins at 2:00 pm. Back up transportation is provided for walkers needing assistance.

**Save the Date for
Save Our Homes!
April 26, 2009**

Save Our Homes: Organizers

The annual Save Our Homes Walk is organized by the Somerville Affordable Housing Organizing Committee (AHOC). AHOC is an advocacy coalition comprised of Somerville residents and community organizations including Somerville Community Corporation (SCC), Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services (CSLS), and Somerville Homeless Coalition (SHC). Organized in 2001 by SCC, *AHOC continues to pursue the vital mission of preserving affordable housing, increasing affordable housing opportunities, and stabilizing Somerville's existing communities.*

For More Information:

For information about joining AHOC or participating in Save Our Homes contact Danny LeBlanc, Somerville Community Corporation at 617.776.5931 (x223) or dleblanc@somervillecdc.org. Information is also available on our website at <http://www.somervillecdc.org/walk>.



To Make a Gift:

Donations can be made on-line or mailed to:
Save Our Homes
c/o Somerville Community Corporation
337 Somerville Ave., 2nd Floor
Somerville, MA 02143

All gifts are tax-deductible.