

## From the Executive Director

David MacDonald

The Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association's mission is to empower and connect residents and stakeholders to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. Amidst all this uncertainty with the pandemic, however, our primary concern continues to be the health of our residents. This means that our August 3<sup>rd</sup> general meeting will be again via video/teleconference. If you receive our newsletter via email then you will receive an email with the link and phone numbers to join our virtual General Meeting. The agenda will include two important items;

- 1) a presentation and vote about the proposed purchase and renovation of 241 Sigourney Street
- 2) an update from NINA on their home ownership project at 80-82 Hawthorn Street and a vote on their request for a letter of support.

Also on the agenda will be an update from Knox about their programs and partnerships in the community. If someone needs to receive information about how to join our meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:15pm, please email me at [exdir@asylumhill.org](mailto:exdir@asylumhill.org) to join our email list.

The Stay at Home order and subsequent loss of employment has hit our neighborhood and city residents very hard. There is great need in our community. Two of our churches are providing take home meals. Grace Lutheran provides take home meals every Friday starting at 4:30pm. The Asylum Hill Congregational Church provided a take home fish fry dinner on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Our food pantries and churches have been very active providing food to those in need and we thank them for their assistance.

We again ask for volunteers to help stock the Mini-Pantry at 202 Laurel Street. This Mini-Pantry is being stocked by our former Board member Carol Padberg, and she reports that the need is so great it is difficult to keep this mini-pantry fully stocked. We are putting out the call for anyone who can help to help stock this mini-Pantry for our neighbors. You can simply drive up to the pantry and place your donations of canned goods for those in need. Thank you in advance for your help.

Hartford is home to many committed community leaders, passionate non-profits, and generous business partners. There are many people in Hartford who don't have access to the federal relief programs, so the people of Hartford have stepped up to help those in need. We are certain that when our residents come together to address challenges, even a pandemic, we all benefit. We know we will work together to meet this crisis with compassion, confidence and creativity. Above all, stay safe and help care for others whenever and wherever you can.