

Exploring Asylum Hill - 129 Huntington St



Ms. Patricia McMahon first moved to Asylum Hill in 2005 into an apartment on Farmington Ave. shortly after arriving from St. Kitts. It was soon after that she got a job at The Hartford, and she's been walking to work ever since. It wasn't until the condo she was renting was sold a little over two years ago that she even thought seriously about being a homeowner. It was the person who was her landlady who suggested she might want to buy, and it was her daughter Jeannine who she had convinced to move to Hartford from Brooklyn, who found the house, so it's been a team effort from the start. So now mother, daughter and two grandchildren all live in the top half of this two family and she rents out the bottom. Both the children go to school in Asylum Hill, and both of them work

in Asylum Hill, Jeannine at Catholic Charities Family Center, and Patricia in her 13th year at The Hartford.

There have been a few struggles along the way, problems with her original tenants and some unexpected repairs, but then it wasn't until after she had bought the house that she found out about The Hartford's Homeownership Incentive Program (HHIP), which allows employees who purchase a primary residence in the City of Hartford an opportunity to receive a \$10,000 net payment from The Hartford toward the purchase of the home. So all in all, it's worked out very well. She really loves living in Asylum Hill and Hartford.

"One of my neighbors across the street saw me cleaning on Saturdays and he offered to help... and he helps when it's snowing." Patricia said, "once you work with people, they'll help."

While we talked I mentioned the Friday Night Gathering at Grace. "I've been meaning to go" she said. So maybe this week she will.

