Dear RCHP-AHC Family,

It's our 20th Anniversary as an agency! In May of 2006 the Reformed Church of Highland Park voted to allow the creation of a housing corporation called RCHP-AHC and then immediately voted to 'sell' for $10 the entire airspace above the administrative wing of the church. **This led to the creation of Irayna Court,** 7 apartments for young women aging out of foster care. RCHP-AHC was off and running.

For the first 10 years of our existence, our focus was on building housing and/or buying and refurbishing homes. We were averaging more than 1 new home/year. We have, in 20 years, added 26 buildings to the world of affordable housing in NJ.

The second ten years of our existence we started leaning into what we call our **"lease/sublease" programming**, and this allowed us to help the homeless, and the working poor, to access apartments that they otherwise couldn't qualify for. We emphasize renting homes on the 'low end of market rate,' and work with families to live into being able to fully pay rent (or to receive housing assistance they are eligible for). This program dramatically increased our ability to house refugees, victims of trafficking, re-entering citizens, asylum seekers and those with chronic health conditions. We have, at our high point, been renting nearly 300 units. We are, currently, around 200 units.

This year is our most challenging year for the lease/sublease program. This program is successful when *people are allowed to work and to move themselves toward self-sufficiency!*

So many of our clients have had their Work Permits (EADS) stripped due to changing rules for immigrants. Others have seen their factories reducing shifts, as the economy grinds to a halt. It's getting harder, for maybe 300 of the 1,000 people we house in 200 units, to pay their rent.

Might you be interested in supporting 1 family in our program? While we look for state funding to replace federal funding that is being discontinued, we know that what people need most is one-on-one support from neighbors with a stable financial situation.

Might your mosque, church, synagogue, family or organization be willing to be 'matched up' with a family facing unprecedented financial or vocational hardship due to the various crises created by the current Administration?

If you are looking for a way to support a family in need—refugee, asylum, family broken up by detention/deportation, re-entry, trafficking, domestic violence survivor, family of an unaccompanied minor…you name it—we would love to help that family in need make a connection with you, so that *together* you can grow.

Please reach me directly at seth@rchp-ahc.org if you are interested in this family-by-family approach to support.

Enjoy this newsletter that tells so many stories of beauty, success and possibility.

Peace, Seth