

PROJECT PLASE

giving a voice, *finding a place*



 PROJECT
PLASE
PEOPLE LACKING AMPLER
SHELTER AND EMPLOYMENT

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

mission

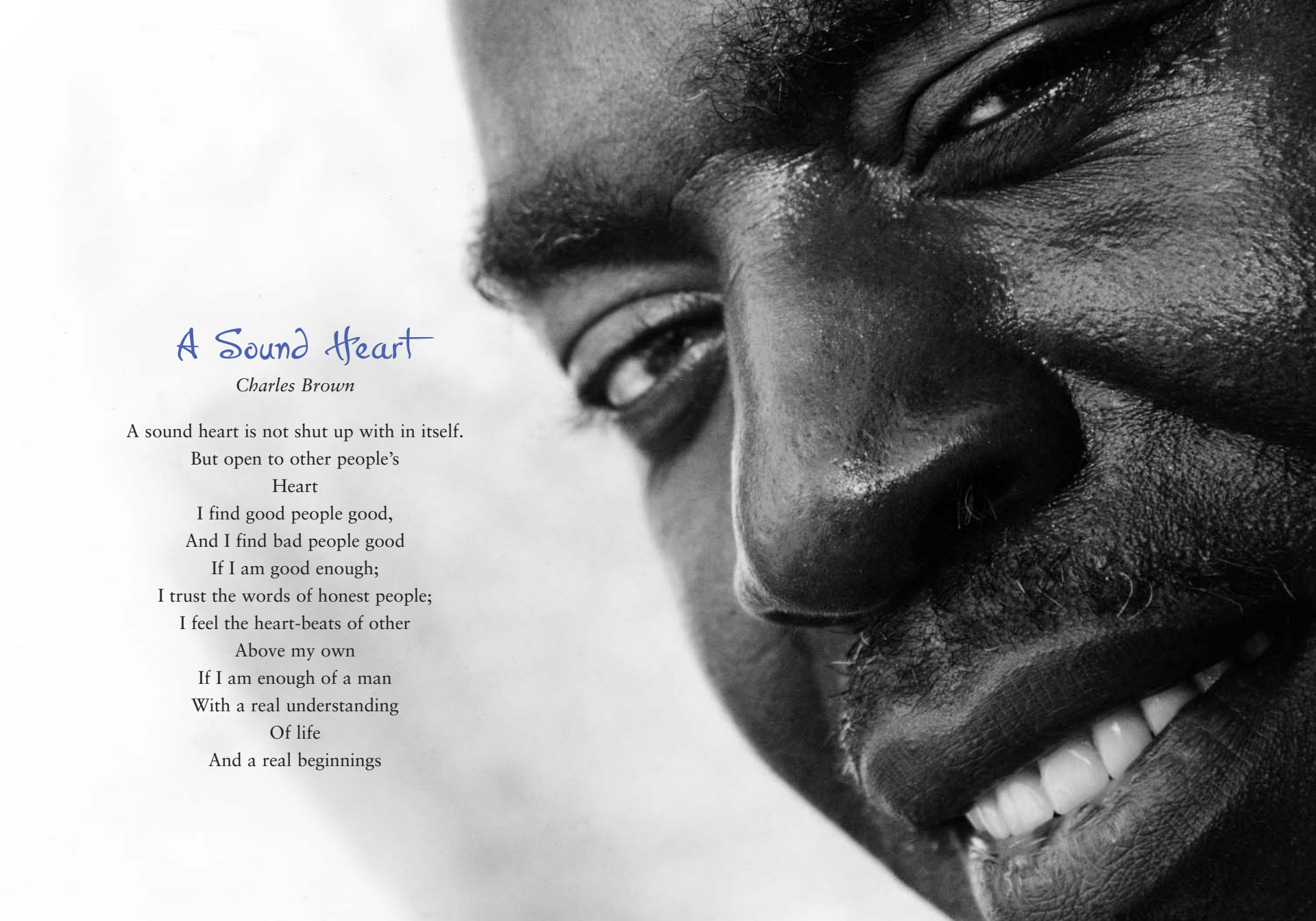
Project PLASE, Inc. addresses homelessness by providing transitional housing, permanent housing, and supportive services to homeless adults. We serve the most vulnerable and underserved, including persons with mental illness, HIV/AIDS, addiction, developmental disabilities, and ex-offenders, etc. We treat, restore and rehabilitate the whole person. We empower each individual to function at the highest level possible.

philosophy

PLASE's work includes direct work with homeless men and women in an attempt to first meet their basic needs, then to help them move to a permanent living situation and to assist them to live as independently and self-sufficiently as is possible. We provide a full-spectrum of wrap-around services to assist the men and women to overcome the barriers that brought them to Project PLASE.

vision

To eliminate homelessness.



A Sound Heart

Charles Brown

A sound heart is not shut up with in itself.

But open to other people's
Heart

I find good people good,
And I find bad people good

If I am good enough;

I trust the words of honest people;

I feel the heart-beats of other

Above my own

If I am enough of a man
With a real understanding

Of life

And a real beginnings

Love Is All

Gloria McBride

Love is a tear drop from my baby's eye

Knowing I'll be back soon

Love is when I say good-bye

Love is placing or putting a band-aid on his boo-boo

That heals the pain

When he fell from the stool

Love is knowing, the little arm that hugs me

Are as free as a dove

Love is all the unconditional love

sent from above



MESSAGE

A MESSAGE from the President and the Executive Director

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“...We say home is where we live as if we cannot live without one. Having an abode is what enables us to abide – to bear the difficulties and sufferings of life, to tolerate and endure and restore ourselves to the world. Lacking a home... We lack, finally, the identity that comes with having an address, which in some deep way serves to register formally our presence on earth.”

~ NATALIE ON THE STREET
by Ann Nietzke

Dear Friend,

Project PLASE marked its 33rd year of service to homeless citizens and their families. We continue to be inspired by our courageous residents who persevere and overcome the effects of years of poverty and neglect, even trauma, abuse, and serious health concerns. We are grateful to our residents who open their hearts and lives and struggles to us, allowing us to walk along

with them for a while, sharing our knowledge, resources and love as persons share their dreams and desires, strengths and struggles. Together.

We reaffirm hope and make possibility a reality. One hundred and thirty-one additional persons moved out of homelessness this year and into permanent housing, where they continue to grow their abilities. This is in addition to the 180 clients we previously supported who are already living in a community-based, permanent residential situation with 90 family members.

Please let the work, wisdom and spirit of our talented residents also inspire you. This report shows their beautiful faces and their talent through their poetry. They share through their lives and their words. They are the heart of PLASE. We know you will fall in love with them also.

Peace to you,



Dr. Gregory Branch
President



Ms. Mary C. Slicher
Executive Director



Happy/excited

Arthur Hammerman

I'm a new creature

I'm in Christ

I'm a new seed

That Christ has lived in me

Now I live through Christ

That strengthens me.

VOLUNTEERS

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VOLUNTEERS

Project PLASE was fortunate to have the invaluable service of over 100 independent, community volunteers in FY 2007. Our volunteers' time commitments ranged from spending one day of community service in groups to continuous part-time service as individuals over weeks or months. Their duties included administrative assistance in our offices, and clean up and painting of our facilities. We cannot overstate the value of their direct service to our clients from cooking meals to providing much-needed companionship. These volunteers frequently step out of their social comfort zone acknowledging the worth and dignity of all human beings.

In addition to the independent, community volunteers, Project PLASE is also grateful for the services of dedicated, year-long volunteers through various service programs such as Lutheran Volunteer Service, Brethren Volunteer Corps, Mennonite Volunteers, Ignatian Volunteers and Volunteer Maryland. These volunteers provided 12,000 hours of service. Additionally, our 50 nursing and social work/human services student interns from Johns Hopkins University and Coppin State University provided another 10,940 hours of service throughout the year.

“It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life, that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.”

~ RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Key Staff

Mary C. Slicher
Executive Director

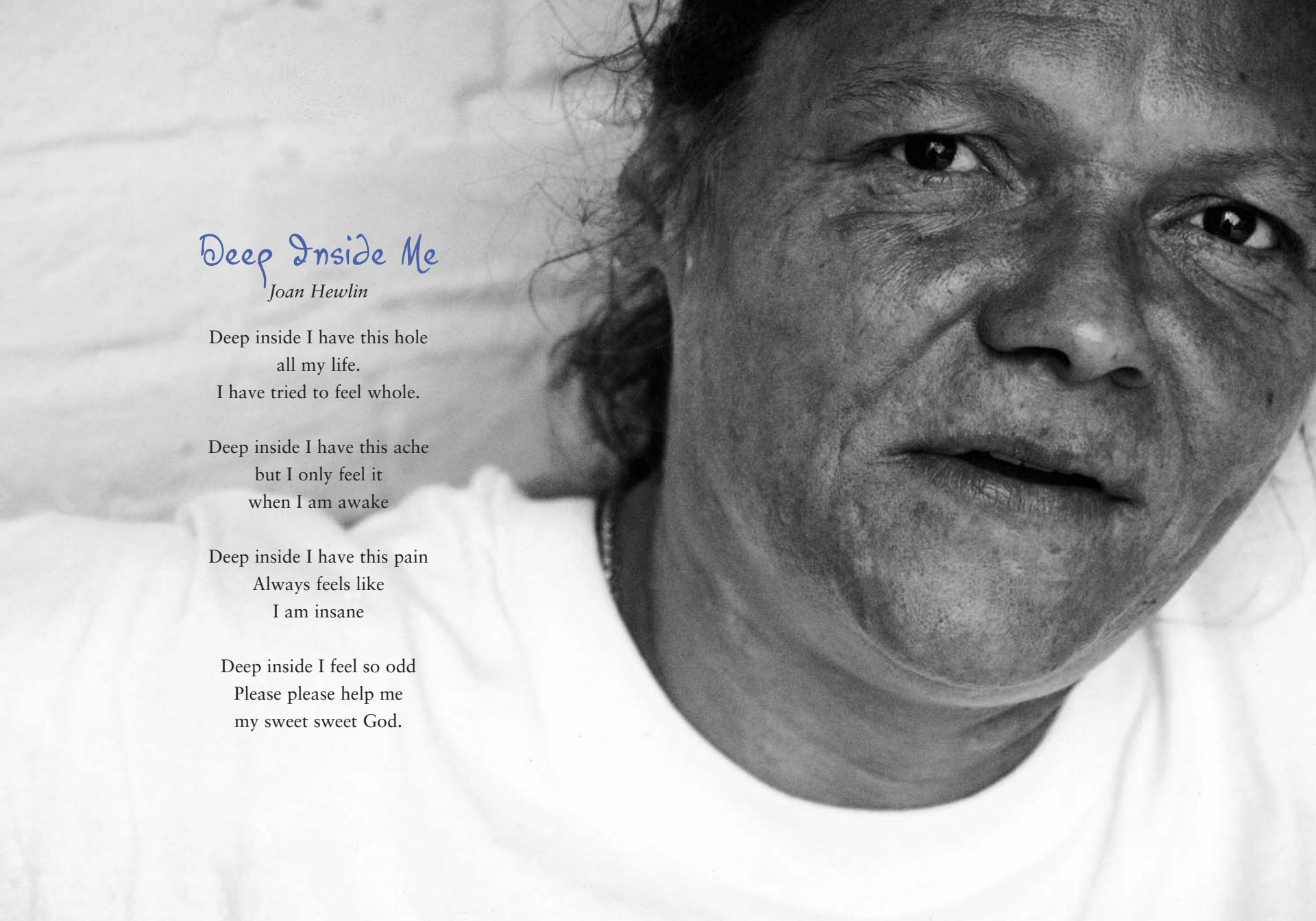
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*Director of
Transitional Housing*

Tobi Morris
*Director of Communications
and Development*

Michael LaBua
Director of Housing

Diana Hood, Troy Randall, Trevor Smith
Transitional Housing Managers



Deep Inside Me

Joan Hewlin

Deep inside I have this hole
all my life.

I have tried to feel whole.

Deep inside I have this ache
but I only feel it
when I am awake

Deep inside I have this pain
Always feels like
I am insane

Deep inside I feel so odd
Please please help me
my sweet sweet God.

HIGHLIGHTS

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The total number of clients served by Project PLASE during FY '07: **484**

The following supportive services are offered at each program:

- Medical Assessments by a Staff Nurse
- Case Management by either an Advocacy Counselor or member of the HIV Outreach Team—staff at this level have no more than five individuals on their caseload
- Peer Support from former residents
- Socialization Activities (Writing Group, Art Group, GED Tutoring)
- Enriched Life Skills Groups
- Addictions Assessments, Counseling, Contracts, Relapse Prevention
- Intensive Case Management as needed
- Psycho-social Services
- Mental Health Support, Assessment and Services by a Licensed Clinical Social Worker

- Resident Advisory Committee
- Active connection to permanent housing, including the Project PLASE Shelter Plus Care Program and Single Room Occupancy Program located on the premises of Project PLASE
- Outreach Counselors for continued support once permanent housing is obtained to prevent any recurring homelessness and help the person to function at the highest level possible

SUPPORTIVE SERVICE PROGRAMS

HIV Outreach Team

Intensive Case Management

Addictions Assessments

Nursing Services

Outreach Program

Socialization Activities

House Meetings

Enriched Life Skills Groups

Mental Health Services



Heroin

Charlene Reveley

Heroin was once the king of my life
He took over and abused me a lot
Abused me so much
that my husband thought
he was loved not
Oh!
Just to see that cute little powder
cooked up in the pan
made me think
I was the Queen of Zion

TRANSITIONAL

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TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

The mission of the transitional housing program is to house and serve homeless citizens who have special needs (namely AIDS/HIV, mental health/psychiatric needs, chemical dependencies, developmental disabilities, etc.), in a temporary housing situation with 24 hour supported supervision, case management and counseling. Our focus is on helping the individual function at the highest level. Sixty-two (62) persons are housed and assisted at any point in time. Two hundred and fifty-six (256) persons were assisted over the fiscal year 2007.

The following concrete services are provided at Project PLASE Transitional Housing Facilities:

- Transitional housing.
- Three meals a day, seven days a week for every resident. Special provisions will be made for people on special diets or nutritional restrictions.
- Linens (top and bottom sheet, blanket, towels and washcloth) will be provided by PLASE for each person. A supply of soap, shaving items, toothpaste, feminine hygiene items, and shampoo will be kept for all in need. Good hygiene will be reinforced and encouraged.
- Each resident will be assigned a counselor at PLASE's housing facilities for assistance and support. At a minimum, they will meet once a week.
- Active case-management is given to assist the individual to meet his/her needs, move beyond the crisis situation, and avail him/herself of all community-based services and resources as appropriate and necessary.

During FY 07, Project PLASE's Transitional Housing Program had an occupancy rate of 97%.

TOTAL RESIDENTS: **256**
Female: **102**
Male: **154**

BREAKDOWN BY RACE:
African-American: **212**
Caucasian: **36**
Native American: **2**
Asian: **1**
Other: **5**

- **51%** of the clients who left the Project PLASE Transitional Housing facilities moved into permanent housing.
- **62%** of the clients reported having a history of incarceration, yet only **1%** returned to jail upon disposition.
- **56%** of the clients we served were HIV/AIDS defined.
- **79%** of the clients who entered Project PLASE had some level of substance abuse.
- **64%** of the clients had some level of mental illness.
- **52%** of the clients had a dual diagnosis (substance abuse and mental illness).
- **35%** of the clients had a triple diagnosis (substance abuse, mental illness, and HIV/AIDS).
- **16%** of the clients were veterans.

Transitional Housing Facility Locations

139 E. North Avenue 2031 St. Paul Street
201 E. North Avenue 1814 Maryland Avenue

A black and white close-up photograph of a man's face, smiling broadly. He is wearing a white t-shirt and a silver chain necklace. The background is out of focus, showing what appears to be a bed with white linens.

Sit Here Alone

Waverly Luckett

I sit here all alone
Thinking about my baby Joan

I sit here all alone
with my hands over my mouth
thinking about my baby Joan

Here today it is alright
because she is home to stay
with her baby boy Luck Luck

Today as I say
I'll see four myself
It is alright forevermore

Love
Lucky Lucky

PERMANENT giving a voice, finding a place

PERMANENT HOUSING PROGRAM

Under PLASE's permanent housing program in FY 2007 we served the needs of 228 persons in long-term and permanent housing. The services included case management, housing subsidy, socialization, daily living skills and support to assure homelessness did not reoccur with active attention to individuals' health needs.

The following services are part of the permanent housing program:

Counseling and Case Managers

Outreach counselors follow PLASE clients as they move into community-based, long-term living situations. They provide support for more than 200 individuals each year to live as independently and fully as possible.

PLASE Apartments (Calverton Road)

Under the HUD 202 Program, PLASE operates four project-based Section 8 apartments as permanent housing for eight persons who can live independently, allowing those with low or even no income to live there. Persons serviced by the Transitional Housing Facilities are considered for occupation of these units, as available.

Single Room Occupancy (1814 Maryland Avenue)

Additionally, we opened a ten unit Single Room Occupancy Program, funded by HUD, to expand our permanent housing capability. The SRO units provide a comfortable move from a transitional housing facility to permanent housing for ten individuals. While each resident has their own bedroom unit, they have full access to and use of a common area designed to fulfill their

independent living needs. The SRO units are Section 8 project-based, which stays with the unit, not the resident.

Shelter Plus Care Program

Project PLASE operates as a sponsor for over 100 Shelter Plus Care units which marry Case Management and Rental Subsidy in that, as a condition of one, the client must participate in the other. This combination creates a system in which the client is able to be independent of a housing facility and free to be a productive member of society, yet supported enough to prevent relapse into homelessness. Additionally, because Shelter Plus Care has a term of up to five years, the client is encouraged and assisted in making preparations for a more independent living situation (Section 8, HOPWA, market-rate housing, etc.).

During FY 07, Project PLASE's Permanent Housing Program served 228 residents.

TOTAL BY GENDER:

Female: **109**

Male: **119**

BREAKDOWN BY RACE:

African-American: **192**

Caucasian: **33**

Native American: **1**

Other: **2**

- **42%** of the clients in permanent housing were AIDS/HIV defined.
- **79%** of the clients had histories of substance abuse.
- **71%** of the clients had histories of mental illness.



HIV

Elenora Robinson/Toni

When I first found out that I had HIV,
I was very angry and upset.
I went to the hospital for my health
and ended up with something I knew nothing about.

Sometimes I wanted to give up on everything.
But I stopped thinking that way
and started praying
and asking God,
why?

I knew I was still young and I didn't want to die.
I knew I had alot to learn if I wanted to live.

So now I have my good days and bad,
but I thank God for keeping me here this long.
All I can do is pray and try to keep myself healthy
each and every day.

The pain I once had
is no longer there
and I feel that
I am
blessed.

Prayer is the key to peace of mind.

FINANCIALS

giving a voice, finding a place

PROJECT PLASE FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION SUMMARIZED AT JUNE 30

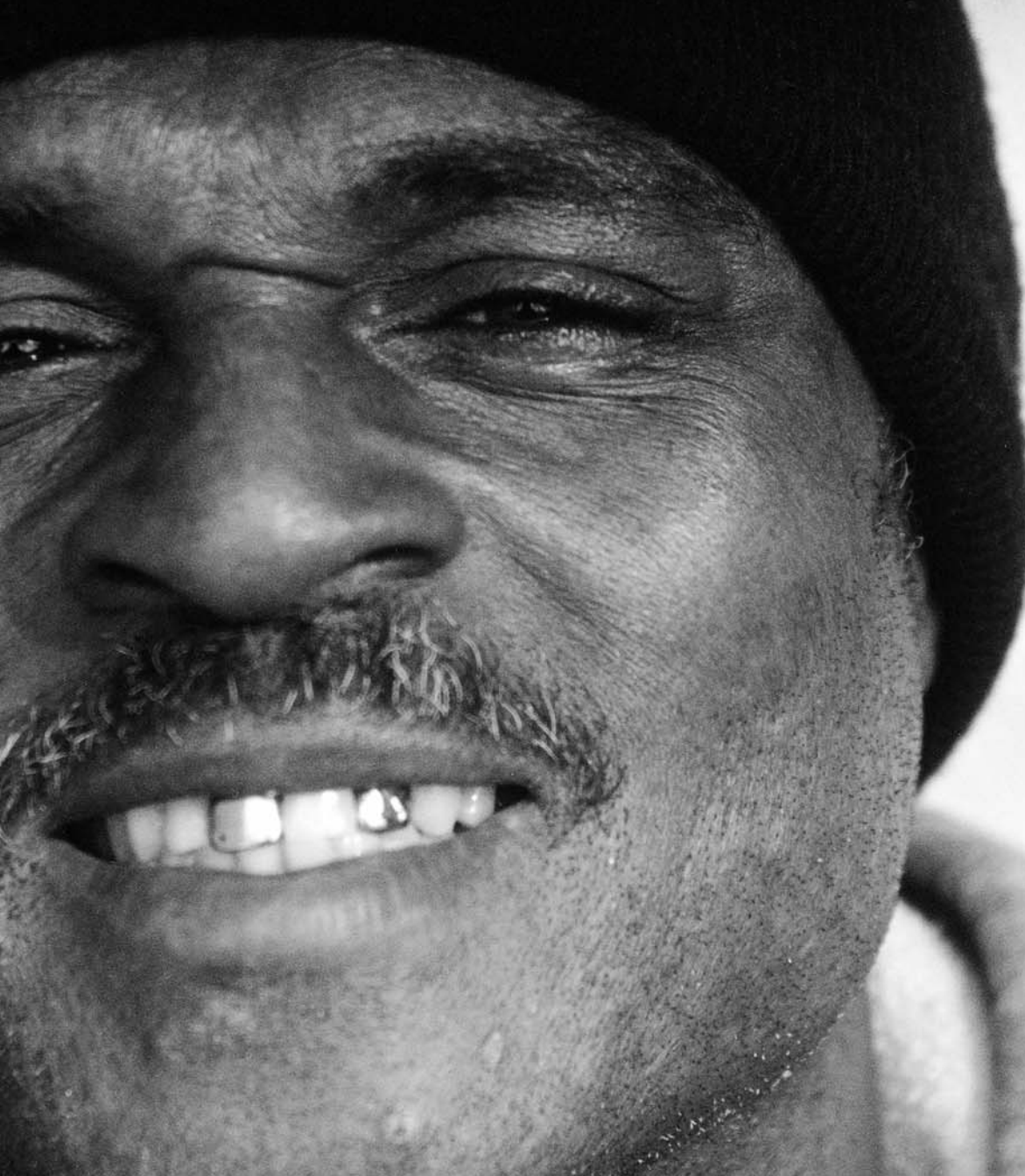
	FY 2007	FY2006
ASSETS		
Current Assets	1,118,478	965,053
Restricted Deposits	9,213	9,245
Net Property and Equipment	1,888,936	1,962,254
Total Assets	3,016,627	2,936,552
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities	288,787	236,370
Long Term Liabilities	357,382	373,481
Net Assets	2,370,458	2,326,701
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	3,016,627	2,936,552

Project PLASE, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, contributions to which are tax-deductible in accordance with the law. A copy of our latest financial statement is available upon request by contacting Project PLASE at 1814 Maryland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21201. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401 for the cost of copying and postage.

Project PLASE is registered in the State of Maryland as a charitable organization. This registration in no way serves as an endorsement of Project PLASE by the State.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS SUMMARIZED

	FY 2007	FY2006
CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
Public Support and Revenue	3,516,166	3,288,760
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	15,000	62,500
Total Unrestricted Public Support and Revenue	3,531,166	3,531,260
EXPENSES		
Total Program Services	3,132,806	3,082,663
General and Administrative	285,966	232,250
Fundraising	90,637	104,290
Total Unrestricted Expenses	3,509,409	3,419,203
(Increase) Decrease in Unrestricted Net Assets	21,757	(67,943)
CHANGES IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
Grant support	37,000	15,000
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	(15,000)	(62,500)
Increase (Decrease) in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	22,000	(47,500)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	43,757	(115,443)
Net Assets at beginning of Year	2,326,701	2,442,144
Net Assets at End of Year	2,370,458	2,326,701



Take Me

Albert Eugene Foote, Jr.

Lord take me and show me the way
And prepare me for another day
Because you're always the one I need
That's why every time I turn around, I always like to read
You know that book is so good
Everything in there, I knew he could
Taking away the bad and restoring with the good
Just like I always knew He would
It ain't nothing God can't do
Before you can turn around, He had made you brand new
Though now I know that is the way to go
Because any other way
No No No
I have to say I pray
Tomorrow will be a better day
You know I have another thought
I pray that God touches everybody's heart
In Jesus' name I pray
Because you said it would be another day

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Project PLASE is grateful to the many individuals, businesses, foundations, and organizations who made contributions between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007.

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