

a tiny home
for good.

A Tiny Newsletter

Summer 2022



ANDREW LUNETTA
Executive Director

THE PRECIPICE

Katie, our Director of Development, often claims that “we are on the precipice.”

She isn't wrong.

Since 2016, we've slowly grown our housing inventory and with that, our team and community. We've learned hundreds of lessons about building, tenant support, fundraising, administration... everything. But, most importantly, we've learned, over and over, that our model works. We have a working, living, breathing model that isn't a temporary solution, but is actually ending homelessness.

In my estimation, our proverbial precipice lies in a sharp increase of public and private recognition that we are succeeding in our mission and it is *worth supporting*. When the funding and resources of a private business are paired with the grit and mission-driven focus of a non-profit, that's how real change happens. As a community, we get to decide what's important, what's worth fighting for. Obviously, at A Tiny Home for Good, we believe everyone deserves the safety and dignity of a permanent home. With years of tangible proof that our model works, it's starting to attract the attention of some pretty powerful entities.

As you'll read more about in this newsletter, one significant step towards our precipice is our emerging relationship with National Grid, a household name across the United States

and beyond. National Grid has committed to sponsoring the build of four homes for individuals facing homelessness in Syracuse. The homes will be energy efficient, and super sharp - smartly and carefully designed by students at the University of Buffalo's Small Built Works program. It is a prime example of two influential institutions recognizing a need in the community, the success of our model, and partnering accordingly.

Despite our best efforts, ending homelessness in our community requires more than just the resources our small, but mighty, team can muster. It's a collective and cohesive effort; a recognition that, together, we can make a real impact in addressing the issue of homelessness.

Our partnership with National Grid and the University of Buffalo are just two of the half dozen partnerships we have in the hopper, all in the pursuit of ending homelessness in our community. We're building a diverse and mighty team of supporters. A team that is only possible because the model is working and has been supported by this community. So, yes, I think we are on the precipice and it is fueled by powerful partnerships that will allow us continued growth, to strive to be able to respond to someone in need with a home that's available immediately instead of being added to a growing waitlist.

Thank you for being a part of the team and enjoy the newsletter.

POWERED BY project c | nationalgrid



*Renderings courtesy of University at Buffalo Small Built Works program

On Monday, June 6th we announced an exciting partnership with National Grid who is sponsoring the build of four energy efficient homes through its Project C initiative. We marked the occasion with a groundbreaking ceremony and were joined by County Executive Ryan McMahon, Mayor Ben Walsh, Senator Rachel May, and over 50 National Grid employees who helped us clear the lot of debris and start rebuilding fences.

The homes were designed by Architect Brad Wales' Small Built Works senior design-build class at the University at Buffalo. The students devoted their final semester to create attractive, durable, energy-efficient construction drawings specifically to meet the needs of our tenants.

As Andrew Lunetta noted, "How we build our houses is radically different from standard, status quo housing for the homeless around the nation. We don't try to pump as many people through our houses as possible. We don't aim for bed numbers. *We're not anything but permanent.*"

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF RESPONSIBLE AND THOUGHTFUL CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP. WITH THESE BEAUTIFUL BUILDINGS THAT ARE SOLAR POWERED AND ENERGY EFFICIENT, **WE'RE SENDING A MESSAGE TO PEOPLE WHO NEED AFFORDABLE HOMES THAT WE'RE NOT JUST HOUSING THEM, BUT ALSO VALUING THEM.**

Senator Rachel May



THIS IS WHAT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOOKS LIKE. THE COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER, RECOGNIZES THAT WE HAVE CHALLENGES, AND THAT **WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY.**
County Executive Ryan McMahon

JUST AS NO ONE SHOULD GO HUNGRY, **NO ONE SHOULD BE WITHOUT A ROOF OVER THEIR HEAD.** NATIONAL GRID, THROUGH OUR PROJECT C INITIATIVE, IS PROUD TO SUPPORT A TINY HOME FOR GOOD AND ITS INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO GETTING PEOPLE OFF THE STREETS AND INTO HOMES THAT ARE SAFE AND AFFORDABLE.

Alberto Bianchetti, Regional Director of Customer and Community Engagement
National Grid



IN THE COMMUNITY



A group of Boston College High School students joined us to prep several tenant gardens and start interior demo on a Land Bank property.



Le Moyne College's Dolphins for Humanity helped place concrete, haul stone, and install soffit at our Ostrander property.



A group from Leadership Greater Syracuse's Class of 2022 spent an afternoon at Ostrander helping with landscaping.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

If you're interested in having us speak to your group or organization, email Katie at kweaver@atinyhomeforgood.org

Please consider making a gift online at atinyhomeforgood.org, by scanning the QR code, or by using the included envelope. Checks can be made out to A Tiny Home for Good.

A Tiny Home for Good is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. All contributions are tax exempt. We appreciate your continued support.



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*Denotes a tenant of A Tiny Home for Good

HOMeward BOUND



James Sevigny, our site supervisor, has been running the show on our build at West Ostrander and we're almost ready to welcome someone home. This two bedroom home, that will be affordably rented to an individual facing homelessness and their caregiver, was largely made possible thanks to the Independent Potters' Association (IPA). It's a charming residence that's built to last with sturdy tile and concrete finishes.

A house is never fully dressed without its house number, and thanks to Peter Valenti, an IPA member (pictured above), 615 West Ostrander is now the best dressed house on the block!

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