

many voices,
ONE COMMUNITY





Dear Friends,

This 2015 annual report is about all of us—people in the community, Hope residents, staff, partners and donors. It is told in the words of people who are active in the community. We celebrate the power of an engaged community.

Many people know Hope for our beautiful buildings—places and spaces where people feel safe and welcome. The opening of the Rose in 2015 completed our vision for the South Quarter* development that has quality mixed income housing on all the corners of the intersection of Portland and Franklin Avenues. Along with more renovated buildings with affordable rents, gathering spaces and gardens there is a healthy new energy where there was devastation not so long ago.

The buildings are wonderful, but the real energy at Hope is from the hundreds of people who are involved as they create stronger lives and a stronger community together. We keep finding new ways to do this work and reach more of our neighbors. Where there is work left to do, we take action and lead for change. The work keeps getting stronger and our impact grows even beyond this neighborhood.

Thank you for lending your voice, your time and your energy.

With gratitude,



Mary Keefe,
Executive Director



Heidi Barajas,
Hope Community
Board Chair

"It's a bunch of individual voices first, and then you get a groundswell, and then you can take it to a bigger thing. Our work is reflective of what we hear from the people."

— Dhop Hopkins,
Organizer and Community
Outreach Manager



*The South Quarter is a partnership between Hope Community and Aeon.

OUR CONVERSATIONS TRANSFORM NEIGHBORHOOD PLACES AND SPACES.

"I live here. Everything I need is close by. I have a good neighborhood. It's about what our individual wants and needs are. It's about coming together as a community for the future."

Community places and spaces are important to us—hundreds of affordable rental homes, community gardens, playgrounds and other gathering spots tell us we are welcome here. At one time, our vision for beautiful buildings to fill the four corners of the intersection of Franklin and Portland Avenues was just a dream. This year, we realized our vision when the Rose* opened, providing homes for 90 more families to join our community. The Rose also created space for a new community gathering space—a 5,000-sq.-ft. teaching garden.



- 47 affordable apartments located in small Hope-renovated buildings
- 210 mixed-income rental homes in the South Quarter
- 7500 square feet of community gardens
- 650 residents live in healthy, affordable homes and benefit from Hope's Community Center, parks, playgrounds and other community assets

*The Rose is a partnership between Hope Community and Aeon.

neighborhood. But, this is not
what we can—and will—do



“We use Community Listening to build a foundation of community connection. What we built was about something bigger than us.”

—Betsy Sohn,
Director of Community
Health and Resilience
Initiatives



“At Hope we got more than we bargained for, we got a family.”

—Muna Abdirahman,
Board member and past
Hope resident



“The community garden brings people together... brings the community together. We expect others to take care of things for us. But in reality we have to be a part of that, find out what’s going on in our community and how we can make it happen.”

—Glenda Criss,
Food Leader



Ifrah Warsame works with children at Twin Cities Childcare, located in the Wellstone Building, and leads the Zumba classes for community members twice a week at Hope. Her children attend Learning in Community to build their literacy skills and connect with caring college students and adults from the community. Now, Ifrah is bringing neighbors together as a leader and facilitator in Community Circles, a new series of conversations about health and living in the Phillips Community.

"Hope helped my son be more comfortable in his own skin. He's more engaging. It helped him be a better student. Your interactions will spark in a young person."

We love this community and we want to stay here. Every year, hundreds of us come together at Hope to lift up what is great about our neighborhood and to solve problems where we have more work to do. In 2015, we led new initiatives like our Community Circles conversations, a summer leadership training for African American girls, a project that explored the connections between food and health, and more. We know we are stronger when we learn, lead and act together so all of us can all thrive.



- 169 learned, led and took action with Hope last year
- 150 people joined in year-round work to create better access to healthy foods and advance food justice
- 80 people gathered for Community Circles to surface ideas about issues most important to them
- 415 people participated in listening sessions about food justice, which resulted in our **Feed the Roots report**
- 16 young adults graduated from the 8-month SPEAC Civic Action Training
- 15 African American girls learned what type of civic leader they want to be in an 8-week Leadership Training
- 170 youth built advocacy and leadership skills while learning about art, literacy, gardening and healthy foods
- 979 people received tax assistance at Hope that returned \$1,894,078 to the community*

*Partnership with Prepare+Prosper

I can see it in his expressions.
I never know what those life



“Hope is a lot of things that encompass love. I gravitate toward those things. People doing things for other people, with other people to enhance their lives. I can see the fruits of my efforts here.”

—Joe Banks,
Food Leader



“Political leadership means that you have goals and that you believe you can create change.”

—Asata Wright, Age 15,
African-American
Youth Leadership
Training Graduate 2015



“Community Circles are a way to give residents an opportunity to lead projects they want to see... This is about people feeling ownership. This is one of the many ways we listen, build capacity and develop leaders.”

—Khusaba Seka,
Lead Organizer for
Community Circles



Thirteen-year-old Kameron Courtney attended Hope's Summer Leadership Camp last year. For many of the kids who go to summer camp through Hope, it's the first time they've been away from home. We use the opportunity to connect youth to skills that will benefit them into the future. Kameron's dad Gary said Kameron practiced leadership, increased his confidence, and improved his ability to communicate with peers and adults. "It helped him be a better student, a better person."

OUR VOICES BRING ABOUT CHANGE IN OUR CITY AND BEYOND.

"...Tons of different folks with little to no degree of organized their issues. We are not telling people what issues to work on. We develop a shared language, a shared analysis framework with

We are loud and clear—you can hear us working for racial equity at the Minneapolis Parks Board, voicing our opinions about the future of Franklin Avenue, and sharing our expertise about community engagement. We are entrepreneurial—the Bush Foundation awarded us the 2015 Bush Prize for Community Innovation for constantly evolving our work, our approach and our impact. We expand our reach and our power by challenging unfair systems and offering our solutions for a better future.



5000 people joined Hope and our partners at Franklin Open Streets

139 parks and power leaders spent 656 hours working for park equity in Minneapolis in 2015

Dozens of community engagement experts learned new strategies from Hope and our partners

40 partnerships with other organizations strengthened our initiatives

izing skills are pushing up
on as much as how we can
with a racial justice lens.”



“First it starts with personal power and that individual power and you recognizing it...I went through the organizing training and I’ve taken it back to my neighborhood where I live. Now I am a full-time organizer in Saint Paul.”

—Tia Williams,
SPEAC graduate



“We are pushing out into the world where the connection between people’s health and community health intersect with our roads network, bike lanes, transit network, and pedestrian access around the neighborhood.”

—Will Delaney,
Real Estate Strategy and
Asset Manager



“I love that Hope is willing to go into the streets and talk to people. Hope brings in people who are part of the community and who are leaders in the community—let’s bring them in and get their opinions on what’s happening in Minneapolis.”

—Ashley Fairbanks,
Community member
and organizer



Chaka Mkali is Hope’s lead community organizer and an influential artist. He created SPEAC, our training and organizing program through which dozens of young artist/organizers—primarily people of color—develop their leadership. Chaka said Hope’s systems change work moves people to understand and exercise their own power. “We really want to advocate for people to advocate for themselves,” he said. “You have to have a genuine love of people and have a belief in their ability to win.”

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* Executive Committee



HOPE STAFF (left to right)

Front row: Dhoph Hopkins, Char Madigan, Chaka Mkali, Khusaba Seka, Mary Keefe, David Gilbert-Pederson

Second row: Shawna Fankhanel Chavez, Brandon Bagaason, Alisa Hoven, Jake Virden, Gwen Jenkins, Betsy Sohn, Malyun Yahye, Oduabaa, Will Delaney

Not pictured: Jackie Blakey, Bonita Ruiz, Eliza Severson, Anthony Emanuel

STAFF, INTERNS AND WORK STUDY STUDENTS

Hope recognizes the deep commitment of talented people who contributed to our work in 2015 and the partnerships that connected us to them.

Special Projects



Irina Landrum



Dylan Kesti,
Land Stewardship Project

Front Desk Staff

Hattie Reed

Interns

Bonita Watkins and Pablo Garcia,
Hope Community Interns
Madison Tomony and Amanda
Hess, HECUA
Eva Metz and Gwen Jenkins,
MNGreenCorps members

STEP-UP Interns

Chaleiah Henderson
Amina Mohamed
Marwa Mohamed
Mohamed Omar
Erica Viola Atsons

University of Minnesota

Work Study Students

Kiaria Taylor
Esther Okelola

HOPE COMMUNITY FINANCIALS



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Support and Revenue:

Individuals	\$ 300,081
Foundations and Corporations	1,515,627*
Special Fundraising Campaign	73,000
Grants from Governmental Agencies	34,000
In-Kind Contributions	172,521
Rental Income	409,630
Other Revenue	198,786
Total Support and Revenue	2,703,645

Expense:

Personnel Costs	808,726
Contracted Services	157,634
Professional Fees	104,429
Professional Development	20,756
General Supplies	37,408
Communications	23,003
Insurance	39,823
Program—Other Costs	234,617
Rental Properties	331,105
Facilities Costs	29,501
Loans Interest	118,254
Depreciation and Amortization	244,175
Total Expense	2,149,431

Change in Net Assets 554,214

Net Assets and Equity—Beginning of Year 6,143,989

Net Assets and Equity—End of Year \$ 6,698,203

*Includes a one-time Bush Prize Award that will be used over three years for special projects.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2015

ASSETS

Cash	\$ 1,212,485
Grants and Other Receivables	269,134
Due from Related Entities	102,612
Prepaid Expenses	10,521
Investments	566,453
Notes Receivable	2,987,698
Property and Equipment, Net	3,302,823
Construction in Progress	233,754
Other Assets	238,522
Total Assets	\$ 8,924,002

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS AND EQUITY

Liabilities:

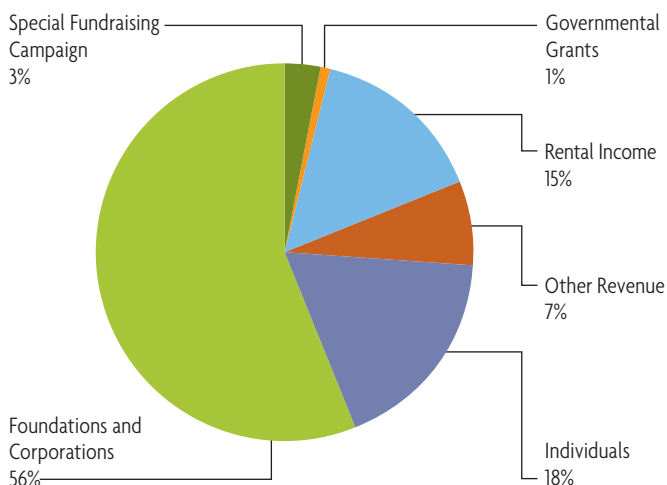
Notes Payable	\$ 28,508
Accounts Payable	109,472
Accrued Liabilities	57,783
Deposits Held for Others	64,258
Deferred Revenue	15,000
Long-Term Debt	1,950,778
Total Liabilities	2,225,799

Net Assets and Equity:

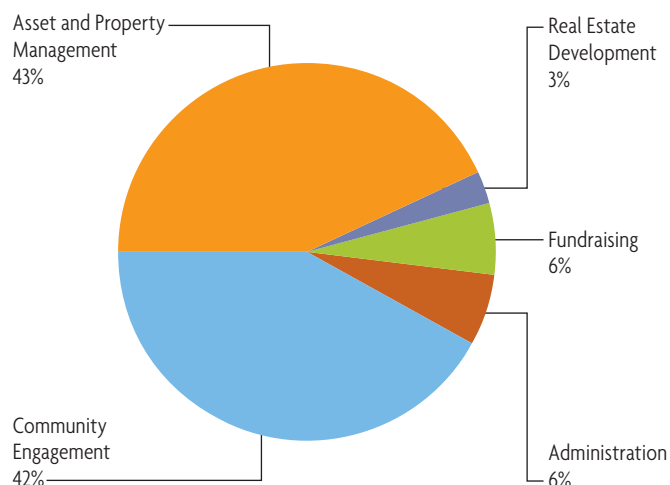
Unrestricted	5,865,259
Temporarily Restricted	742,944
Permanently Restricted	90,000
Total Net Assets and Equity	6,698,203

Total Liabilities and Net Assets and Equity \$ 8,924,002

SUPPORT AND REVENUE



EXPENSE



VOLUNTEERS AND IN-KIND DONATIONS

A dedicated team of Hope staff and over 220 volunteers are part of a continuum of opportunities that keep people engaged, inspired and rooted in community. We honor the contributions and impact Hope's volunteers have had on our success this year. In 2015, the volunteers' work equaled \$172,521 in monetary value.

Delano Lee
Maria Lee
Kirsti Lilja
Asha Long
Jessica Lopez Lyman
Virginia Lowell
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Zenaïda M
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Carolyn Shriver
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Nancy Xiong
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Lao Yang
Yumnah Youngmark
Ladan Yusuf
Nimo Yusuf
Lillian Zaborowski
Arlene Zamora
Sidonia Zinky



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Mahdi Abdi
Nimo Abdirashid
Muad Abdulkadir
Fayise Abraham
John Paul Achumbre
Austin Adams
Muad Aden
Jennifer Arsjad
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Tianna Barker
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Nura Beyan
Tieram Bickham
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Renee Copeland

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McKenzie Dale
Mai Dang
Lauryn Daniel
Shoshana Daniels
Beth Daniels
Fred Davis
Kirsten DeHaven
Jennifer DeJongle
Afton Delgado
Molly DeVore
Jeremiah Ellison
Kristen Estvold
Rachel Loren Estvold
Andrew Fahlstrom
Ashley Fairbanks
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Julio Fernandez
Quan Finklec
Sherry Forman
Katherine Franzel
Steven Fuller
Chelsea Gabrielle
Pablo Garcia
Madeline Gardner
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Mariah Geyen
Aubrey Giardana
Alycia Gibbs
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Christina Moran

IN KIND DONORS

In the past year Hope has received **generous donations of goods and services** that support our organization. In Kind donations vary from plants and flowers to beautify our neighborhood, to professional services to support our staff. One thing that doesn't vary is how much we appreciate them.

Catholic Heart WorkCamp
Roger Helgeson
Alisa Hoven

Bruce Silcox
Sara Van Allen

HOPE COMMUNITY DONORS

With deepest gratitude we thank the donors here for believing in possibility. Because of you, a neighborhood once in despair is renewing and a strong community is growing. We honor you—our friends and partners. If you are one of our supporters and you do not see your name on our list, please contact Brandon Bagaason at (612) 435-1695 or bbagaason@hope-community.org.

\$25,000 OR MORE

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HOPE COMMUNITY KEEPERS

The Keepers are Hope Community donors who have made a commitment to leave a legacy to our organization. They are supporters of Hope Community's work and vision, standing with us for many years. Keepers are visionaries and committed to keeping Hope Community moving into the future. For more information about becoming a Keeper or other Planned Giving options, please contact Brandon Bagaason at (612) 435-1695 or bbagaason@hope-community.org.

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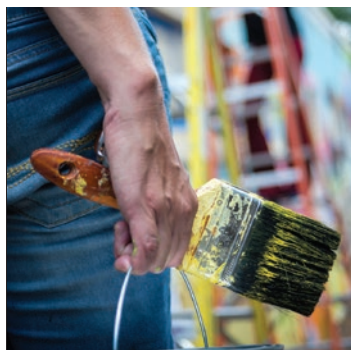
*Deceased

HOPE COMMUNITY SUSTAINERS

The Sustainers are Hope Community donors who give monthly or quarterly to ensure stability and growth. These donors provide a steady flow of funds throughout the year, allowing Hope to provide the same level of high quality programming and affordable housing that is expected. For more information about becoming a Sustainer, please contact Brandon Bagaason at (612) 435-1695 or bbagaason@hope-community.org.

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HONORARIUMS

Hope has received many gifts given in honor of birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, graduations and simply for someone's amazing presence in the world

IN HONOR OF

2015 Twin Cities
Rotaract Speakers
Karen Baumgartner
Jackie Blakey
June Bouye
Anna Breiger
Marcia Cartwright
CSJ Jubilarians
Pat Cummings
Will Delaney
Bob Devereaux
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Leah Honsky
James Horsman
Sam Karnis
Mary Keefe
Andrew Lansbury
Paul Leighton
Matt Lewis
David M. Lilly, Sr.
Char Madigan
Matthew Manning
The Wedding of Amy
McClurg to Tim
Junko
Wes Meier
Christina Milanowski
Majra Mucic
Father Bill Murtaugh's
Birthday

Tricia Nelson
Ashley Peterson
Andrea Pritchart
Beth Ryan
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The Shriver God
Daughters
The Shriver's
Anniversary
Jelena Sing
Mrs. June Smith
SPEAC
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Rosemary Stevens
Emily Torgrimson
Chris Vaneck
Lee Wallace

MEMORIALS

Donors made gifts to Hope in memory of the people they have loved and who have held an important place in their lives. We thank all of you who gave.

IN MEMORY OF

Alice Byers
Ann Callaghan
James J Cashman
John Corcoran, Jr.
Sr. Helen Coughlan
Mary Dann
Alice deMeurisse
Marilyn Devereaux
Susie Dougherty
Clare Doyle
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Jim Travis, MM
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Westby
Michael White
Dorothy Widstrom
Eugene Widstrom
Jean Widstrom

A Tribute to Andrew Thomas

By Chaka Mkali



Andrew Ronnell Julian Thomas was a shining black angel smiling in the face of oppression and injustice. A dynamic, deep, compassionate, gentle soul far beyond his years who impacted everyone he came in contact with. His bright smile and deep joyous laughter put us at calm ease. He was a selfless warrior who yearned for the liberation of self and his people. Organizing, art, and culture were his weapons and means for freedom, justice, and equality.

He left us a guide map to the heavens. A glimpse of infinity, the strategies to win and the courage to fight. For him I will work much harder and smarter, and love and care as deep and grounding as the hugs he gave.

He will be remembered for his pure, light, warmth, humility, self-exploration, curiosity, and genuine love of people.

Mission

Hope Community creates connections that strengthen the power of community members and communities. We cultivate community leaders, build community capacity, care for the housing and community spaces we develop, and pursue equity and diversity in all we do.

Core Values

Respect. We believe in people. We relate to youth and adults as people, not clients.

Connection. We build relationships, the cornerstone of all our work.

Listening. We listen to all who engage with us. The realities we hear drive our planning and activities.

Co-creation. We encourage people to co-create projects, programs, places, opportunities—with us.

Equity. We pursue racial and economic equity in all our work to achieve equitable power, access, opportunities, treatment, impacts and outcomes for all.

Stewardship. We are responsible and accountable stewards of the natural, human, material and community resources invested in our work.

Hope Community
www.hope-community.org
612-874-8867

All photos in this report are by Bruce Silcox, except the photo of Andrew Thomas on page 17, which was shot by SPEAC.

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"As I look at the seasons of my life, and take time to see what has come to maturity, I am filled with gratitude for Hope Community and Soul Food Monologues—for helping me bring my story to maturity, and hopefully, to have helped and healed other people who are still struggling with the past, and to help them share their stories too!

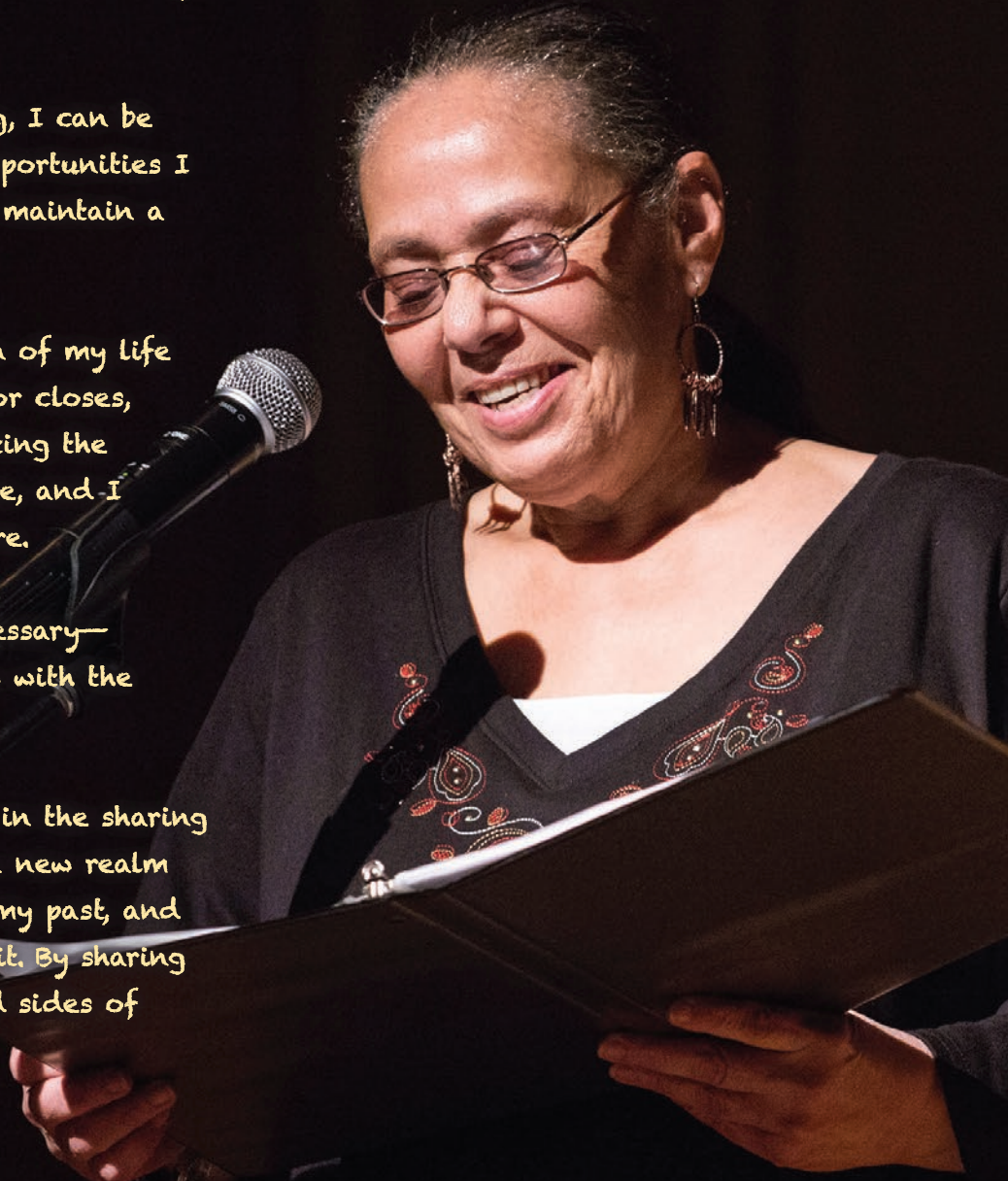
As I look in the mirror of aging, I can be honest about the lessons and opportunities I have been given, and begin and maintain a balance in my life.

I ask myself: What is this season of my life preparing me for? When one door closes, another one opens! I am harvesting the lessons for the time ahead of me, and I know it will be better than before.

Transitions and change are necessary—without change one cannot flow with the never ending river of life.

I grew from inward to outward in the sharing of my story. It forced me into a new realm with a better understanding of my past, and the people, places and things in it. By sharing I was also given peace—I found sides of myself I didn't know I had."

So, Thank you, Everyone!



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