

# TaborTalk

A publication of Tabor Community Services | Rebuilding Lives & Community

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## Our Mission

*To help strengthen the Lancaster County community by giving people the tools and inspiration to meet their housing and financial challenges and by revitalizing our surroundings.*



**HUD Approved**  
Counseling Agency

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## Understanding My Privilege

As I write this piece for Tabor Talk, my wife and I are getting ready to leave for a vacation in Colorado, where we'll spend 10 days hiking, biking, swimming and enjoying the beautiful scenery of the Rocky Mountains.

As I look forward to our trip, I find myself thinking about the good fortune that allows us to take a vacation like this one. We have jobs that make it possible for us to afford it. We had the professional experience and education that enabled us to get them. And before we did, we grew up in families and environments that encouraged and helped pay for those educations and supported us as we gained experience.

Working at Tabor provides for me the experience of seeing people every day

who did not have the good fortune in their lives I have had in mine. They may not have grown up in families or environments that supported them in the ways mine did. They may not have had the role models I had. Perhaps they didn't get the opportunities I did or have the stability in their homes I was fortunate to have. Indeed they may have grown up without decent housing or even enough money for nourishing food and health care when they needed it. These are things I could take for granted.

I am very grateful for the good fortune I've had in

See **Privilege** on page 2.

-Bob Thomas, *President*



## Goals Becoming Realities

Sophia, a single mother of a 9-year-old daughter, is about to purchase her own home. By her own admission, Sophia was an unruly child. In 8th grade, she was expelled from school and never went back. Living on the streets during the day, working at McDonald's and staying with friends at night, she decided it was time to take responsibility for her life, so she earned her GED. After working for a period of time, her daughter was born. She returned to work shortly thereafter.

Her employment history includes working as a tire technician at a service center at one location, an inspection mechanic at another, and she is now a store manager in training with the company where she has worked for two years. In September she will interview and test to become a certified manager. She is studying

hard and is determined to achieve this goal. A future goal may be to open her own inspection station.

Sophia learned about Tabor from her mother who had attended one of Tabor's financial workshops. She also contacted LHOP (Lancaster Housing Opportunity Partnership) who requires first-time homebuyers to receive budget counseling in order to receive assistance. They referred her to Tabor's Ann B. Barshinger Financial Empowerment Center for Lancaster County, where she met Diahann, a financial counselor at Tabor. When

See **Goals** on page 2.



## GET TO KNOW TABOR

COMMUNITY SERVICES



Please join us to learn about Tabor's services and how they help Columbia residents and everyone across Lancaster County

**Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017**

### LOCATION:

**Columbia Life Network**  
336 Locust St  
Columbia, PA 17512

**7:30-8:30AM**

**continental breakfast provided**

**RSVP** to Phyllis at  
717.358.9383 or  
pstacks@tabornet.org

Tours of Columbia Life Network  
will be given after the event

## Goals *continued*

they met, Sophia had a great deal of debt. Diahann helped her create a plan to reduce her debt and made suggestions to implement the plan. Sophia was asked to return in three months to share her progress. During that time, she could call whenever she had any questions or concerns. Upon returning, Sophia had reached all the goals, and says "Diahann was so proud of me."

What Sophia likes best about Tabor is that the financial counselors have helped educate her, motivate her, and helped her stay positive. "They keep in touch, ask how you're doing, are you getting things done, how can I help you? They are available for whatever you need. Tabor has so many different programs, services and workshops that helped me."


Sophia's hopes for her daughter are to get a good education, be independent, work hard and be successful. She plans to help her on this journey.

One of Sophia's biggest obstacles in her life was fear, fear of failure, but that was the past. At the time of this writing, she is purchasing a home for herself and her daughter. The closing date is the end of August. Her mother is coming back to Tabor in a few weeks and has also purchased a home with a settlement date 7 days prior to Sophia's. They plan on attending Tabor workshops together.

Sophia would recommend Tabor to anyone who needs help pursuing their dream of becoming independent and buying a home. She says, "Go to Tabor. They will help you."

To Tabor donors, she says, "I appreciate your help. Please continue supporting Tabor so you can continue changing lives, the way you helped me change mine... one person at a time. I am so blessed, and I thank God for every day."

## Privilege *continued*

my life from the very beginning and conscious of the ways in which I have benefitted from that fortune. Yes, I've worked hard to have the life I enjoy today, but I know too that without the support and opportunities I enjoyed from a young age, my life could have easily been very different than the one I've had. And that knowledge helps me see that at our cores there is not much difference between me and the people Tabor staff serve. What I see too is that the admirable determination and persistence so many of them demonstrate in overcoming problems and meeting challenges are what distinguish them not only among clients, but all of us. 

## 50 for 50:

Ensuring Tabor's Future



Please consider following Paul and Pam's example in the story on the right by making arrangements for a planned gift to help ensure Tabor's future.



- ☐ **I would like more information about planned giving.** Please call or email me to set up an appointment to discuss my planned giving options.
- ☐ **I have already made arrangements for a planned gift to Tabor** and would like to be included in the Grace Wenger Society.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please cut out this section and return it in the enclosed envelope**

# From **blessed** to **blessing** others

Paul Currie was on the board of Harb Adult before they changed the name to Transitional Living Center (now TLC Lancaster). As TLC board vice president he led the organization through a successful merger with Tabor Community Services and has continued to serve on Tabor's board.

Being on the board, Paul was among the first to hear about Tabor's 50 for 50 campaign to obtain 50 planned gifts by Tabor's 50th anniversary in April 2018. Paul and his wife of 30 years, Pam, chose to give their planned gift from their will. Paul says, "It was a very simple form to fill out. Phyllis [Tabor's VP for Development] was great. It was very easy to do."

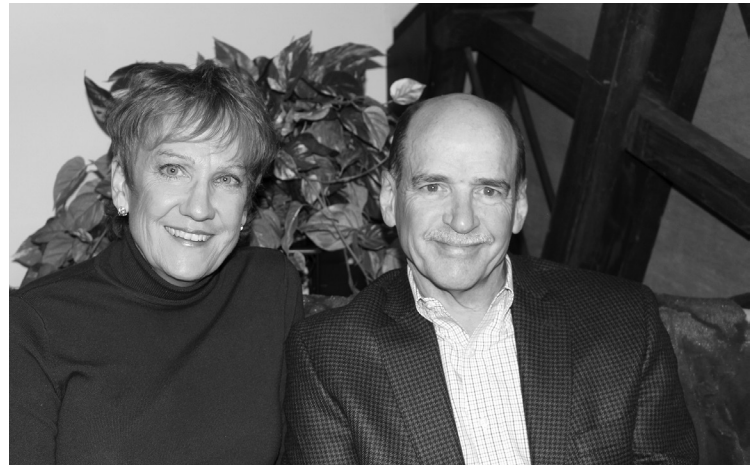
"We have both been blessed with good family, a network of friends and we've both had good careers and enjoyed financial security," explains Pam, who works as a nurse practitioner. "And I'm aware that there can be a fine line between abundance and need."

"Because we were not blessed with children, we feel like this is our chance to make a meaningful contribution to a cause that we feel pretty passionate about. And I also feel that my faith teaches me to share what we have with our brothers and sisters."

"I remember that my first introduction was through TLC, and what I was impressed with is that they really worked hard to keep families together, and not only did they meet the critical need for housing and life skills, but also the emphasis of providing a place for families."

Paul adds, "Since I am on the board and know the programs and services that are offered at Tabor and TLC, I am not just hopeful, but have a great belief that these will continue. Tabor does such a great job managing the money that they receive that this is a safe place to share our wealth with and to really have an impact on the community. An impact on the community for people who are trying to get ahead, who are trying to move from a place of struggle to a place of, hopefully, abundance."

"If you want to really help the community, if you want to leave a legacy for yourself or as a couple,



▲ *Paul & Pam Currie*

a family, this is a great place to do that. Tabor has done so much good for the folks in our community, and continues to do so, that this is just a perfect opportunity to share your wealth.

"I've worked with people over the years," explains Paul, who has worked many years as a successful business coach, "helping them just move beyond where they are today, and that's exactly what this organization does. Wherever they are and whatever tough times ... whatever situation ... they find themselves in, we have great people here at Tabor and TLC who are constantly helping these folks move forward."

"It's a privilege to be part of this campaign ... to be one of the early couples in this campaign. I know the significance that this organization has in the community... has to individuals and to the community at large ... and I am really hopeful that this campaign has an impact so that services here at Tabor will continue for at least another 50 years."



**Everence**



LANCASTER COUNTY  
**COMMUNITY**  
FOUNDATION



Tabor as well as other local non-profits are hosting an

# EXTRA GIVE PARTY

308 E. King St., Lancaster, PA

THE **EXTRA**  
ORDINARY  
**GIVE**



## 11.17.17

DROP-IN **5-8 PM**

Our party will feature local band **Blue Rhino**, displays for Tabor and other non-profits and a donation station.

As we approach the Extra Give, please check Tabor's Facebook page and website for more information.

The Extraordinary Give is Lancaster County's largest day of giving. If you are unable to attend our event, please give to Tabor Community Services on **11.17.17** at **extragive.org**.

## THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018

*(Date changed from Tabor's Summer Newsletter)*

**50**  
**Tabor**  
1968-2018

SHADY MAPLE  
  
**BANQUETS**  
& CONFERENCE CENTER

**Tabor** Community Services  
Rebuilding Lives & Community 

 Tabor Community Services, Inc.

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 717.397.5182

We hope you will be able to join us next year as we celebrate Tabor's 50th year of service to the Lancaster County community!

*Tabor Talk* is a publication of Tabor Community Services  
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