



## At the Helm

Father Flanagan believed that if you gave a troubled, struggling or homeless boy the right environment, education and family, even the most difficult situations could be turned around. So he started a boys home in 1917 with the desire to help as many at-risk young men as he could, Father Flanagan's Boys Town.

Tom Jacobs, who grew up in Toledo, Ohio, caught the eye of a caring person when he was a teen who thought he could benefit from Father Flanagan's Boys Town and off he went to study in Nebraska. Tom enjoys the memory to this day. In fact, he still gets together often with some of the people he went to school with; many whom are quite successful.

Tom went into transportation when he graduated and worked for Interstate Motor Freight in Toledo. He later took a job with Yellow Freight, which located him in Columbus, Ohio. In 1987, Tom got his first taste of commercial real estate and the rest is history. Years later, Tom was offered a job as VP of a real estate company that also did property management. He went on to own 200 apartments in Columbus and he purchased a Holiday Inn in Marysville, Ohio. These experiences prepared him well for the position of Director of Summit Housing. It was some time later that Tom was approached about a position helping special needs adults in their housing requirements. Having already worked in real estate, possessing a license, and having a desire to help folks find an affordable place to live, Tom spoke to his wife about the

position. She agreed and the move to Summit County was in the works. Tom started with Summit Housing in 2003. We had 35 homes at that time and a lot of debt. Now Summit Housing has 82 homes and not so much debt. Summit Housing is constantly upgrading or selling older homes for newer ones that better serve the clients. Homes with open floor plans, roll in showers, handicap accessibility and a better living environment.

Tom and his staff have been known to completely renovate a home when someone brings him a group of special needs adults who require a home with certain accommodations.

Who better to care for those in need than someone who was once on the other side of the table. As a young man, Tom knew how it felt to be in need and accept help. He cares about the homes that your clients are occupying and is ready to help you transition your clients in a positive way. In a way that will make them feel like they are finally home. Whether you are trying to place one or several clients, Tom is ready to help. He is in the process of creating a website so we can all go online to see any current vacancies that may help you with a particular placement. You will receive updates on this as they become available.

Please call Tom at 330.643.8722 if you have a placement or project you would like to discuss. He is always ready to serve you and your clients.



## We Put Smiles on Faces!



Meet Brooke, Melanie and Tikeala (with SSA, Anntella Wells)....These three young ladies recently moved into a Summit Housing home. This is their first time living together in a house that they can call their own. All of the ladies are super excited to have this wonderful opportunity provided by SHDC!

### In the NEWS:

**Did you notice our NEW logo at the top? This newsletter is our first printed material displaying it! Also, be on the lookout for our upcoming new & improved website... Details will be posted when they become available.**