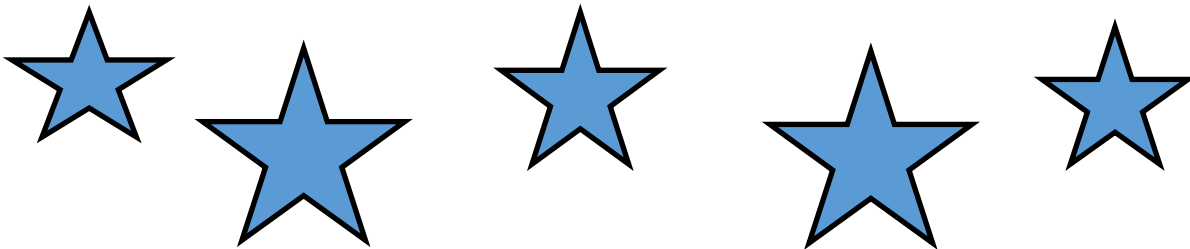




February 2020

Resiliency Village's mission is to improve the quality of life for our unsheltered and otherwise traumatized citizens. We provide fundamental on-site services, creative art therapies, skill-building, and the model of a healthy lifestyle, supporting the opportunity for a self-sustaining future through housing, healing, and hope.



We are thrilled to present the featured speaker for our March 21 "Raise the Roof" fundraiser!

## Dr. Patch Adams!



Patch Adams is a doctor, but he is also a longtime peace and human rights activist. During his school age years, Patch was beaten up by classmates for standing up against racism. In his book, *Geshundheit*, Patch classifies himself as a nerdy, empathetic kid who felt injustices so deeply that it drove him to consider suicide. During his third hospitalization for depression, he decided that rather than taking his own life, he would change the life he was living and the word around his

At age 18, Patch decided to commit his life to serving humanity through medicine. During medical school, he realized how happiness and kindness effected his patients and began clowning to entertain them. In his last year of medical school, he met his wife Linda. Together, they and a group of friends operated a pilot hospital out of their communal home. Hospital policies were: 1. No charge 2. No health insurance reimbursement 3. No malpractice insurance 4. Three to four hour initial interview with each patient 5. Home as hospital 6. Integration of all the healing arts 7. Integration of medicine with performing arts, arts and crafts, nature, agriculture, education, recreation, and social service 8. The health of the staff is as important as the health of the patient.

Over the last twenty-eight years, Patch has performed and shared his vision for health care reform in seventy countries. Equipped with colorful clothing and a heart for compassion, he and his friends have visited hospitals, orphanages, homes for the elderly. Building his hospital, *Geshundheit* Institute, in West Virginia, remains his goal and fundraising efforts to that end continue to this day.

# FUNDRAISER FLYER

A Note from Mark:

A Note from Brenda:

A note from Shelley:

Hope floats. I love the way these two words link together. The meaning lifts my spirit and is a metaphor for positive change. In the movie, *Hope Floats*, with Sandra Bullock and Harry Connick Jr, there are several luscious quotes, one being: “Beginnings are scary, endings are usually sad, but it is the middle that counts the most. You need to remember that when you find yourself at the beginning. Just give hope a chance to float up.”

In Navajo, “hope floats” might translate, “chohoo; dah naa’eel.” In Spanish, “la esperanza flota.” In Israeli *Hope Floats* is written, התקווה צפה. In Swedish, “hopp flyter.” All beautiful and as poignant in one part of the world as it is in another.

In a political climate that tries to separate us, put us into categories and boxes and pit one against the other, as simple a statement as “hope floats” can bind us together. On the way to work this morning, I wore a coat and gloves and had my heater blasting while the outside thermometer registered at 25 degrees. I passed a man I recognized from the camps walking with his backpack, wearing a thread-bare coat, no gloves and thought, “it’s hard to maintain hope when you’re hurting inside and out.

Our featured speaker for the March 21 fundraiser is Patch Adams. In a recent call to him, he closed the conversation by saying, “Whoopie, whoopee!” The man is a constant source of hope and joy, sharing his visions for positive change out there to the world one country at a time. He also said to me, “no matter what I speak about at your fundraiser, it’s going to fit with what your group is doing. Our philosophies fit and are a great match.” And Patch is right. Whenever there are people hurting, mentally, physically, emotionally—it is our job to step up. Human kindness is a thing, and from it, hope floats.