

NAME:

James Bowen Jr.

RESIDENCE:Mountainview Tower
ApartmentsCumberland, MD
114 Homes**AFFORDABILITY:**

- 100% Project-Based Section 8
- 60% AMI Income-Restricted, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits

*Last updated in 2019

VOICES OUT LOUD

James BOWEN JR.



It is hard to live with such a little amount of money. Housing is very hard to find...you can't find a lot of affordable housing.

James Bowen Jr. grew up in Washington, D.C. When his girlfriend's father needed someone to help take care

of his property. James volunteered, and picked up his life to move to

Cumberland, Maryland. James lived on the property and took care of it until his girlfriend's father unexpectedly decided he wanted to move back Cumberland, pushing James out of the home. James then found himself stuck without a place to live.

Through the local Health Department, James was able to find several resources on where to find an affordable place to live in town. It was then that James was accepted to live at Mountainview Apartments, an affordable senior community. James lived at Mountainview for four years, until his father found out he had cancer and needed a full-time care-giver. James, once again, volunteered to help out and moved closer to his father. After two years of managing cancer treatments, James' father decided to move closer to Cumberland for treatment, making the lift easier for James.

Thankfully, instead of becoming homeless, James was able to find his way back to Mountainview Apartments in Cumberland. He remembered from his past experiences that the staff were always friendly, the other tenants were nice and supportive, and he'd never had any problems. He quickly rejoined the social committee and was the Vice-President of the Tenants Association. A year later, he became President. By participating in the programs offered by Mountainview, he was able to keep active between his father's doctor's appointments and other social events.

James says his biggest worry is living with such a small amount of money each month. His social security and Medicaid are the only income he has to ensure he gets his medication each month and cover everyday expenses. At Mountainview, James shares that he is thankful he can afford to live in a safe and stable home and pay his bills. Otherwise, he confesses, it would have been tough, if not impossible.

I really like living her...it is peaceful. I enjoy just being with people and helping out.