

**NAME:**  
Randi Horst

**RESIDENCE:**  
Sassafras Terrace  
Apartments

Mount Joy, PA  
64 Apartments

**AFFORDABILITY:**  
- Section 8 Vouchers  
- HUD's VASH  
Vouchers  
- Low-Income Housing  
Tax Credits (Income-  
Restricted)

\*Last updated in 2018

V O I C E S  
O U T L O U D

Randi  
HORST



**That I think that is the base of the pyramid... knowing that we have a home.**

Randi Horst grew up in Lancaster City, Pennsylvania. As a single mother of three children, all on the Autism spectrum, she was content with small town living - all she wanted was a good place to raise her children where they could play outside safely.

When her grandmother got ill, Randi took over as caretaker of the home, and she was prepared to continue her role as caretaker when her grandmother returned from the nursing home. However, Randi was notified her grandmother would never return and would remain in the nursing home.

Within weeks, the house went up on the market and sold before Randi could make plans for herself and her children. All of a sudden, Randi found herself homeless with two children, and pregnant with a third. They stayed with friends of the family, but knew it could only be temporary, as Randi needed a stable home base as her kids were starting school.

As she looked for homes in Lancaster County she saw that it meant little to the landlords if they decided to raise the rent. For Randi, it was a scary experience as a single parent of three children with special needs.

Randi says having affordable rent at Sassafras Terrace Apartments in Mt. Joy, allows her to feel secure enough to take care of her children while not worrying about losing her home. With the utilities included in the rent, she knows how much money to budget each month. With three teenagers in the house with extended medical needs, you never know what unexpected expenses may occur.

Her children are students at the local high school and are now growing up with a safe place to call home. The community of residents at Sassafras often share stories with each other about being single parents and frequently pass along toys to other younger residents while waiting for their laundry on a Sunday morning.

Randi says she is grateful for how lucky she is to have found a decent place to raise her kids, where they can remember growing up in a nice home. She acknowledges that everyone should be able to do this, whether they are rich or poor.

**I don't know why we shouldn't help each other ... there is enough for everybody to be able to have a place to live.**