

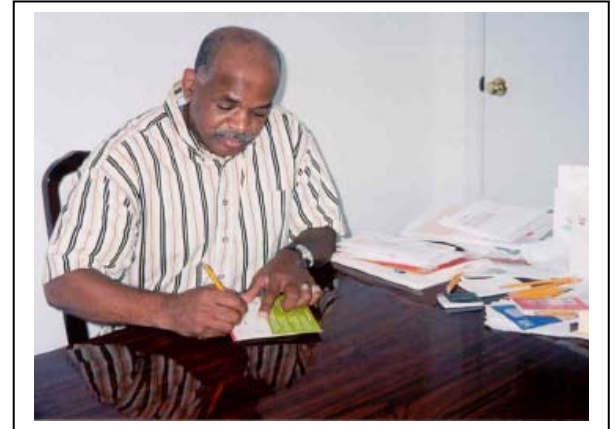
# Rebuilding Lives

## Success Stories

### **KEN says “God put some good people” in his life**

Ken calls the apartment in which he resides in Worcester “a godsend.” “I never had my own apartment. I’d never been independent. I always lived irresponsibly,” he confides.

One of his shortcomings was an unwillingness to “listen to people who knew more than me.” He says he now has the patience and ability to entertain the opinions and advice of well-intentioned people.



For the past few years much of that help and advice has emanated from Community Healthlink’s Homelink program, which helps people find housing while providing the case management and support services to help them maintain a stable and responsible lifestyle.

“Without the whole package of services, I wouldn’t be where I am today. Other programs dismiss you after counseling, without preparing you for the next step. It sets you up for failure,” he noted.

It was while he was receiving “basic human care” through the Salvation Army in Worcester that Ken learned of Community Healthlink’s recovery services. A long-time alcoholic, Ken was placed in a transitional housing program staffed by Healthlink’s **Homeless Outreach and Advocacy Project**’s residential component. During his year in the program Ken worked for the Salvation Army as a truck driver. He next landed a job with **Ad Care Hospital** in Worcester, a job he still maintains. He drives clients to and from their appointments. Ken says he loves his job, “not for the money, but because I feel like I’m helping people.”

“God has put some good people in my life,” says Ken, who is grateful and pleased to help other men and women whose lives have been disrupted by substance abuse or mental illness.