



## *Carelines Newsletter*

***The most authentic thing about us is our capacity to create, to overcome, to endure, to transform, to love and to be greater than our suffering.***

**Ben Okri**

The spring season is full of transformations, from the changes in our outside temperatures to the changes in our own lives. Spring helps us to realize precious lessons, where we learn the importance of embracing and adapting to change over time. It is a time for renewal and reflection. Like New Year's, with its resolutions, spring can be a time to make important decisions about the direction you want your life to take and the realization that there are some things you cannot control.

Christian Care resident Mark is one of 10 siblings, born and raised on the South side of Chicago. His mother left when he was seven years old and after that he was raised by his father and step-mother. As a young man, he got caught up in the inner-city life of drugs, alcohol and gangs and eventually went to prison. He admits that what brought him to Christian Care were bad choices. Yet, not all of Mark's choices were bad.

He obtained his GED in 2004 while in prison and attended the Pacific Garden Mission Bible Program. Six years ago he moved to the Quad Cities because his brother was here and he wanted to get away from Chicago. He says, "I didn't like who I had become." Mark has been in a committed relationship with his fiancé, Kellie, for six years and they have two children together. He and Kellie are currently attending pre-marital counseling to strengthen their relationship.

In the past, Mark has mostly worked warehouse jobs, but two months ago, he set out to establish his own business, Mirror Image Cleaning, for commercial establishments and residences. Anyone wishing to learn more about Mark and his cleaning business can contact him at 309-230-5769 or [mirrorclean27@gmail.com](mailto:mirrorclean27@gmail.com). He will be happy to answer questions and provide quotes for services.

Mark is determined to work hard to make things right for his family. He wants to grow his business, get married, buy a house, be a positive influence on his children's lives and provide for them. His goal is to be living on his own by June. Mark's plan for transformation includes the following steps: 1) appreciate your success; 2) learn your lessons; 3) shift your beliefs by focusing on the positive; 4) live your values; and 5) set and track your goals. His advice for other homeless individuals is to "do what you have to do; let God direct your life."

*100 years of Transforming Lives  
1916 – 2016*

**March/April  
2017**

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*Believe in yourself!  
Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.*

Norman Vincent Peale

## ***EVENTS/HAPPENINGS***

**Generous Donation.** As many of you may have seen or heard, Christian Care received a timely and priceless donation of a new rooftop heating and air conditioning unit in December, thanks to Johnson Controls/YORK, Republic, Kale Heating & Air Conditioning, and Cattani Crane. The full cost of the unit, materials, labor and crane rental were donated by these companies, saving Christian Care \$7,000.

**Annual Fundraiser.** Barbara Montgomery hosted her 4<sup>th</sup> Annual *Have a Heart for the Homeless* luncheon on February 4 to benefit Christian Care and Humility of Mary Shelters. Proceeds from the luncheon were split between the two shelters because they house and serve homeless veterans.



**Grants.** The following grants were awarded in December and January: Alfaretta Young, \$10,000, for professional counseling and case management; Melvin McKay Trust, \$1,500, for general support; C.D. Wiman, \$1,500 for counseling and case management; Walmart/Moline, \$1,000, resident assistance; Community Foundation of the Great River Bend (Q2030), \$2,000 Strategic/Succession Planning; and Wilbert & Carol Keppy Foundation, \$6,000, counseling and case management.

## ***UPCOMING ACTIVITY***

You are invited to attend our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Trivia Night on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at the Holiday Inn in downtown Rock Island. Tickets are \$10 each or \$80 for a table of eight. The renowned Mr. Trivia will be our game host for the evening. You may bring your own food and snacks; all beverages must be purchased onsite through the bar. Come one, come all, for a fun-filled evening! RSVP to Pam at 309-786-5734 or at [phauman@christiancareqc.org](mailto:phauman@christiancareqc.org).

You can help sponsor our Trivia Night Event at various sponsorship levels:

- \$50 Individual; your name will be entered in a door prize drawing.
- \$300 Designated Group/Organization Sponsor; your name will be listed on each table tent and in all PR/media materials
- \$500 Business/Corporate Sponsor; your name and company logo will be displayed as a designated sponsor for one of the evening's activities and listing in all PR/media materials
- \$1,500 Main Event Sponsor; your name and company logo will be displayed as the main event sponsor, you will receive two reserved tables of eight each and be listed in all PR/media materials.

Please send your sponsorship check to Christian Care, PO Box 4176, Rock Island, IL 61204-4176 no later than March 17, 2017 to be included in all publicity and media coverage. If you have questions, contact Pam at 309-786-5734 or [phauman@christiancareqc.org](mailto:phauman@christiancareqc.org).

**Thank you to those who brought food and/or served at our Meal Site during January/February**

All Saints Episcopal Church - Bethany Baptist Church  
Camelot Therapeutic School  
Tom Case - Church of the Cross - Colona First UMC  
Community Christian Fellowship - Teresa Fey  
First Christian Church - Good Shepherd Presbyterian  
Church - Greater Harvest - Heart of Hope Ministries  
Jerry Higdon, John Deere - Holy Cross Lutheran  
Church - Kalie Reign Ministries - Memorial Christian  
Church - Mighty Fortress Church - Pentecostal Church  
of Christ - Rick Plunkett  
Risen Christ Lutheran Church - St. James Lutheran  
Scott Schaefer – Sedona Staffing -Janne Short -  
Southpark Presbyterian Church - John and Linda  
Sullivan  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Coal Valley

We want to extend our special thanks to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 299, for their generous donation of Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets.

Thanks to all our anonymous donors for your generous support of in-kind and financial contributions.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Annual Holiday Appeal. Your year-end giving helped us cover end-of-year expenses.

**Christian Care's Current Needs:**

- Fresh fruit and vegetables
- Dairy products: yogurt, sliced cheese, butter and spreadable margarine
- Cooking oil
- Coffee, tea and creamer
- Powdered milk
- Sugar
- Salad dressing - large bottles
- BBQ sauce
- Non-stick cooking spray
- Gift cards to: Aldi, Fareway, Hy-Vee, Jewel, Target or WalMart
- Gift cards to: CVS, Osco or Walgreen's pharmacies
- Cleaning products - Lysol spray, bleach, shower cleaner, oven cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner
- Hygiene products - shaving cream, razors, deodorant, body wash
- 13 and 33-gallon trash bags
- Paper towels and dinner napkins
- Automatic dishwasher detergent
- Dryer sheets
- Backpacks

**Please bring all items to Christian Care at 2209 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in Rock Island between the hours of 8:00 am and 7:00 pm**

***VOLUNTEERS***

Just who are Christian Care volunteers? They are individuals in our community who give a few hours of their time every week or every month to help us make a difference in the lives of the individuals we serve. We have retirees, students, church pastors and lay people, groups and organizations who assist us in meeting the needs of our organization.

Our volunteers believe in our mission of empowering the homeless to make positive changes in every aspect of their lives and share our passion to help transform the lives of those individuals who stay with us and visit us. A front desk volunteer who serves as an office assistant for four hours each week saves Christian Care over \$2,000/year. Bring and serve volunteers save Christian Care the cost of one meal/day that can generally feed up to 60 individuals. We cannot put a price on chapel speakers who provide spiritual nourishment and give a blessing before mealtime. Their words of encouragement and support can provide a turning point in someone's life.

Our volunteers come from all walks of life, are male and female, are all ages and from all faiths. April 23-29, 2017 is National Volunteer Recognition Week. Please take time to thank all the wonderful volunteers who have touched the lives of those we serve. We appreciate and value each one of them!



2209 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201-4176

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## *Transforming Lives for 100 years!*



Homelessness is a reality in our community. Each year, we care for hundreds of men, women and children by offering nutritious meals, warm clothing and/or safe shelter—as well as services and programs focused on positive change.

**Please consider making a donation today.**

**Go green** and save paper and postage. To receive your newsletter electronically, contact Pam at [phauman@christiancareqc.org](mailto:phauman@christiancareqc.org)

**24-Hour Crisis Hotline: (309) 788-CARE (2273)**

Visit us at [christiancareqc.org](http://christiancareqc.org) or  Find us on **Facebook** at [facebook.com/christiancareqc.org](https://facebook.com/christiancareqc.org)