



Carelines Newsletter

"The Holidays are a rough time for the homeless, but it's a year-round problem we have to solve."

Mike Binder

The numbers are staggering. On any given night, there are over 500,000 homeless individuals in America (men, women, and children) without a place to call home. Locally, in our own bi-state community, we have counted 386 individuals who have no real home. These are men, women and children who are couch-surfing, living in their car, a tent, in a shelter or out on the street.

The definition of homeless reads, "any person who lacks housing". A question that often comes to mind is, why are so many people experiencing homelessness in today's society? There are many factors that contribute to a person experiencing homelessness; loss of a job, mounting debt, drug/alcohol abuse and those transitioning out of jail or prison are just a few. Chronic homelessness is defined as either long-term and/or repeated bouts of homelessness coupled with a disability that can be physical or mental.

Homelessness is not something that just happens to someone else. Seven out of ten American families are just one paycheck away from being homeless. The National Coalition for the Homeless reported that a minimum wage worker earning \$7.25 per hour needs to work 3.5 fulltime jobs just to afford rent in a safe, affordable neighborhood.

If we, as a nation, intend to help those who are less fortunate, we cannot wait for a better time than today. Let's start here and now. By donating to Christian Care (in-kind, financial, volunteer time), you can impact the lives of those we serve.

#GivingTuesday is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving (November 28, 2017) and is a national day of giving. It is a day dedicated to encourage more, better and smarter giving during the holiday season and we are proud to be a part of this national campaign. In 2016, over *\$177 million was raised online* to benefit a broad range of organizations, and much more was given in volunteer hours, donations of food and clothing, and acts of kindness.

Please join us to help make #GivingTuesday something that will change the way we think about philanthropy and community service. We greatly appreciate your gifts of in-kind, financial and volunteer time and look forward to a continued partnership with you to serve the least, the last and the lost. Thank you.

In closing, let me leave you with this: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free; the wretched refuse of your teeming shore, send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" We are fortunate to live in the land of opportunity. Let's share our fortune with others.

Enjoy a Happy Holiday Season.

*Over 100 years of Transforming Lives
1916 - 2017*

Nov/Dec
2017

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Contact Us

Website:

www.christiancareqc.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ChristianCareShelter.org

Twitter:

[Twitter.com/ChristianCare9](https://twitter.com/ChristianCare9)

"Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you."

Mother Teresa

EVENT HAPPENINGS ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE: We want and need your cooperation in our effort to “go green”. Beginning January 2018, our newsletter will be paperless. Please contact us with your *current email address* at home or at work. If you prefer a mailed copy, please let us know so we can continue serving you. We'll make sure you get one in your mailbox.

AmazonSmile: If you are shopping online this Holiday Season, please go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch36-3146523>. Amazon will donate .05% of your purchase price to Christian Care. It's a simple way to support Christian Care while you shop!

Website: Our newly redesigned website is up and running. Visit us at www.christiancareqc.org. Our facebook page has also been revamped. Visit www.facebook.com/christiancare/shelter to see what's new.

Crop Hunger Walk: Thank you for supporting our team on October 1st. We raised \$801.00 through your support. Way to Go!

Underwear Because We Care: *Underwear Because We Care* is a national campaign to collect and distribute clean, dry underwear to men, women and children who are in need. We often take having clean, dry underwear for granted, but to a homeless individual it can immediately enhance their feelings of self worth, self confidence and self respect. We are once again participating in this valuable campaign and serve as a collection and distribution site for our community.

One Warm Coat: Thanks to everyone who donated to this campaign, too.

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon: Some of our volunteers joined members of Christian Care's Board of Directors and staff to celebrate with lunch at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Davenport, IA on Wednesday, September 13th. A brief awards ceremony was held to recognize and thank our volunteers for their service.



Have a Heart for the Homeless: The 5th Annual Luncheon will be held Saturday, February 3, 2018 at CASI, 1035 W. Kimberly Road, Davenport, IA. Catered lunch by Biaggi's Restaurant. Tickets are \$26/person. RSVP to Becki Anderson at Christian Care: banderson@christiancareqc.org or (309)786-5734. Silent Auction Items and Entertainment will be available. Proceeds to benefit homeless services at Humility of Mary Shelter and Christian Care.

Thank you to those who brought food and/or served at our Meal Site during September/October

All Saints Episcopal Church - Bethany Baptist Church
Church of the Cross – Colona United Methodist Church - Community Christian Fellowship -- Kari Elmer - First Christian Church – Friends of Christian Care – Geneseo United Methodist Church - Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church - Greater Harvest - Heart of Hope Ministries – Heartland Hospice - Holy Cross Lutheran Church – Kalie Reign Ministries - Memorial Christian Church - Mighty Fortress Church – Melissa Olsen - Pentecostal Church of Christ - Risen Christ Lutheran Church – St. James Lutheran - Scott Schaefer - Janne Short –John and Linda Sullivan- Gary & Joan Vogelgesang

Thank you Illinois Casualty Company for volunteering to serve our Noon Meal on August 23, 2017.

Many thanks to our loyal supporters for your Birdies for Charity pledges. We greatly appreciate your generosity.

Grants Awarded:

R.I. Community Foundation, \$1,000, to purchase new furniture for the TV/library room, Doris & Victor Day Foundation, \$ 2,500 for the Community Meal Site and In from the Cold, \$764 toward electrical work and outdoor heaters for the gazebo area. \$30,000 from Hubbell-Waterman (Year 2 of a 3 year grant).

Christian Care's Current Needs:

- Fresh seasonal vegetables
- Canned fruit and vegetables
- Dairy products: shredded cheese, butter and spreadable margarine
- Luncheon Meat
- Coffee, tea and creamer
- Fresh milk
- Sugar
- Salad dressing - large bottles
- Catsup and mustard
- Packaged gravy mix
- Seasoning salt and Pepper
- Salt & Pepper Shakers
- Gift cards to: Aldi, Fareway, Hy-Vee, Target or WalMart; Walgreen's Osco or CVS Pharmacies
- Cleaning products - Lysol spray, Pine Sol, bleach, shower cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, automatic dishwasher detergent
- Hygiene products - deodorant, body wash, bar soap and razors
- 13 and 33-gallon trash bags
- Paper towels & dinner napkins
- Kleenex

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

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

This spotlight is for every one of our front desk office volunteers. On September 13, 2017, Christian Care honored our very faithful front office volunteers with a luncheon at the Olive Garden Restaurant followed by a brief awards ceremony. Christian Care staff and board members were present to give thanks to this wonderful group of people who give their time to support Christian Care. These volunteers are scheduled for four hours shifts on a weekly basis to serve as office assistants. They provide our office with visible coverage for 35 hours/week, working from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Mondays – Fridays. They serve as ambassadors to our visitors, assist with special projects and provide much needed clerical support. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

We are always in need of additional volunteers, please consider giving 2-4 hours of your time to Christian Care. We are flexible and will accept any schedule you are able to provide. Once/week, once every two weeks, or once/month. If you'd like to do more days/hours, we are open to that offer, too. Help us serve the least, the last and the lost in our community. Do you have a special talent/skill you would like to share with us? We can accommodate you. We are anxious to hear from you. Please contact Pam at 309-786-5734 or email phauman@christiancareqc.org. to further discuss our volunteer opportunities.



2209 3rd 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,
by offering nutritious meals, warm clothing and safe shelter—
as well as services and programs focused on positive change.
Please consider making a donation today.

Go green and save postage. To receive your newsletter electronically,
contact Pam at phauman@christiancareqc.org

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

Visit us at christiancareqc.org or  Find us on **Facebook** at facebook.com/christiancareqc.org