

CHRISTIAN CARE

By providing safe shelter, support, and resources, Christian Care empowers the homeless to make positive changes in every aspect of their lives.

OCT/ NOV/ DEC 2018

Out of Destruction and Into Hope

Change is what inspired Carlan Hodges to come to Christian Care. Carlan entered Christian Care Rescue Mission directly from Menard Federal Penitentiary, having served 17 years for a drug related charge, and an additional two years for a probation violation.

“I was headed for destruction,” Carlan says. Despite using his time locked up wisely, having received an education in several different fields, he was doing his best to avoid returning to his old lifestyle in the transition from incarceration.

The transition out of prison and jail often results in homelessness for individuals without court approved housing, those that do not have a support system to rely on, or those simply wishing to begin in a new environment once they are released from a correctional facility.

After a former resident that had also been incarcerated recommended it to him, Carlan contacted the facility and was soon accepted. Once Carlan was admitted to Christian Care, he hit the ground running looking to accomplish his goals.

Carlan sought the guidance of Christian Care’s leadership staff to find financial and employment resources, and found himself a job within 10 days of his admission. In less than a month, Carlan had secured himself an apartment too.

As of September, Carlan is still maintaining his job and apartment, has plans to move in with his significant other, helps provide for his daughter, and is looking forward to the birth of his son in a few months. He’s also got aspirations to become a small business owner in the near future, and having witnessed Carlan’s determination previously, Christian Care staff have no doubts that he’ll reach his goal.

As Carlan says, “If anyone says they can’t do it, it’s not true. I’m a living example.”



BECOME A BRIDGE BUILDER

Christian Care is striving to build a bridge for those experiencing homelessness to get from living on the street and into stable, permanent housing. Become a Bridge Builder by becoming a monthly or ongoing donor to help provide food and shelter.

\$10/ month– Provides 3 hot meals

\$40/ month– Provides 1 night of shelter and 3 meals

\$280/ month– Provides a week of shelter and food

Check out our website to learn more and become a Bridge Builder today!

<http://www.christiancareqc.org/donate.php>



What's New at Christian Care

Fresh & Free Farmer's Market

In September, Christian Care partnered with River Bend Food Bank and Trinity Anglican Church to provide a farmer's market of free, fresh produce in our downtown Rock Island community. Our goal is to help provide fresh and healthy options to the hungry and needy in our community.

Increased Rock Island County Council on Addictions (RICCA) Partnership

RICCA started providing onsite substance abuse services for residents in group settings earlier this year. We invited them to also provide individual services this summer, helping connect with men in a variety of formats to better equip them to fight the challenges of addiction.



**Mark Your
Calendar**

On October 20, come enjoy a delicious breakfast and support Christian Care at our Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser! Join us at Trinity Anglican Church (1818 6th Ave.) in Rock Island anytime from 8am– 11am. **Entrance is a free will offering.** Please contact Steve with any questions at sgottcent@christiancareqc.org or call 309-786-5734.



Christian Care is honored to once again take part in the **CROP Hunger Walk** on October 7, 2018. For nearly a half century, CROP Hunger Walks have ensured that more people worldwide have access to nutritious, sustainable food sources. If you are interested in donating or being a part of our Christian Care Team, please feel free to contact us at (309) 786-5734, email cgramenz@christiancareqc.org, or follow along at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/davenportia/Donate>.

Mark your calendars for February 2, 2019! Christian Care and Humility of Mary will be hosting **Have a Heart for the Homeless 2019**, a fundraiser luncheon at Jumer's Casino in Rock Island. More details to come, so stay tuned!



Thank you!

Donor Appreciation Picnic



On August 25th, Christian Care hosted a Donor Appreciation Picnic right here at our facility. Although the temperatures got a little warm, it was a fun opportunity to connect with so many generous and compassionate supporters. Participants enjoyed good food, took tours of the shelter, connected with staff and board members, and heard stories of how Christian Care is changing lives. Thank you for all who were able to join us!

If you weren't able to make it, know how much we appreciate and value all that you do for Christian Care. Every success story we share would not be possible without donors, volunteers, and partners who enable us to meet a vital need in our community. Thank you for giving of yourselves, your talents, and your finances to help us continue to pursue our mission for another 100 years!

Vegetable Garden Update

We shared in our last newsletter about a variety of volunteers and donors who helped build, plant, maintain, and harvest new vegetable gardens in Christian Care's backyard. This garden keeps giving, providing us with the ability to serve fresh produce with virtually every meal in our community meal site. To date, we've harvested over 400 lbs. of delicious, nutritious veggies. Thank you to everyone who has helped!



Thank You for Your Help!

Thank you for all the ways you help partner with Christian Care to serve the least, the last, and the lost in the Quad Cities! Trinity Anglican Church (left) blessed us with a footlocker full of men's deodorant, Orion United Methodist Church supplied us with homemade quilts (center), and volunteers from Augustana College's Leadership Lab (right) helped provide some upgrades in our facility. Whether you give, serve, or support, thank you for all you do!





CHRISTIAN CARE

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Remember Christian Care on Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday, celebrated on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, helps kick off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. Since its inaugural year in 2012, #GivingTuesday has become a movement that celebrates and supports giving and philanthropy.



This year's Giving Tuesday is on November 27, 2018. Would you consider giving to Christian Care to help us care for the least, the last, and the lost in the Quad Cities community? You can learn more on how to donate to Christian Care at www.christiancareqc.org/donate.



Going Green

Christian Care is **GOING GREEN** with our quarterly newsletters. If you wish to continue receiving a hard copy or wish to go green, please email Steve Gottcent at sgottcent@christiancareqc.org and let us know! We want to ensure you continue to receive our correspondence.



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