

CHRISTIAN CARE

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

APRIL/ MAY/ JUNE 2020

Overcoming Barriers at Christian Care

Pedro came to Christian Care on 11/15/19. Pedro is a Lawful Permanent Resident, also referred to as a Green Card holder. On average it takes 7 to 33 months to process a Green Card application, but it can take up to 10 years depending on the type of Green Card, the wait time, and yearly caps. Green Card holders are entitled to apply for U.S. citizenship after “showing by a preponderance of evidence that they have continuously resided in the U.S. for at least five years and are persons of good, moral character,” according to the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). Permanent residents are considered “aliens” or citizens of another country and therefore face numerous limitations of rights afforded to U.S.-born citizens.

Although statistics show the foreign-born population is 42.1 million and growing, this sizeable community is often invisible due to discrimination and marginalization. Immigrants face discrimination in accessing education, good jobs, and stable housing, making immigrants particularly vulnerable to becoming homeless.

Individuals like Pedro face unique barriers that lead to and perpetuate homelessness: employment, economic, educational, and language barriers, as well as difficulty in accessing federal and state services/benefits (food stamps, housing, Medicaid). If an individual also has any mental or physical disabilities, these barriers can become insurmountable.

Fortunately for Pedro, he has a supportive brother and sister-in-law to help him navigate the system and assist with translation and other services. Pedro speaks primarily Spanish and due to this language barrier is extremely isolated. Christian Care has become a sense of community for him, he enjoys being here, and he feels safe. He describes his overall experience at Christian Care as, “Excelente!” Through our case management services, Pedro received assistance with obtaining housing and will be getting his own apartment soon. We look forward to continuing a relationship with Pedro as he explores becoming a regular volunteer.



TRIVIA NIGHT 2020

Christian Care is gearing up to host our annual Trivia Night on **Friday, May 8, 2020** at CASI (Center for Active Seniors) located at 1035 W. Kimberly Rd, Davenport. Tickets are \$10/ person or \$80 for a table of 8.

Doors open at 6pm with Mr. Trivia beginning at 7pm. Raffles, mulligans, and more! Come with a theme for your table, and best theme wins a prize!

To order tickets, contact Becki at 309-786-5734 or banderson@christiancareqc.org. Or go to:

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



What's Happening at Christian Care?

Response to COVID-19

Christian Care works diligently on a daily basis to ensure the health and safety of our clients and staff. We continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19 and the potential impact it may have on our programs. Individuals and families utilizing our services are especially vulnerable throughout the year to a multitude of health concerns and we take it very seriously. We are currently taking all recommended and necessary precautions from local health officials and working on contingency plans to ensure we are able to continue providing services.

**COVID-19
RESPONSE
PLAN**

Please go to www.christiancareqc.org or call 309-786-5734 to get updates on services, programs, and events.



Prepping for the 2020 Census



This is an important year as we conduct another census of our entire nation. Every year, \$800 billion is up for grabs— but who needs what and who gets what is all determined by the census.

With this in mind, Christian Care is committed to the principle that Everybody Counts. This includes populations that are harder to count in a census, like those experiencing homelessness. Census takers will be on hand on April 1 to work with all of our residents.

We will set up a Community Kiosk Sites on Wednesday, April 15 from 11am-1pm in an effort to collect more data from our community. We will make adjustments as necessary in response to the current pandemic.

Christian Care is thankful for the partnership of Project NOW as we collect this vital information about and for our community.

Learn more about the Quad Cities Census at wecountqc.org.



Thank You!

Volunteers

Volunteers play a vital role in the mission and the success of Christian Care, and we are so thankful for all of them! In 2019, hundreds of volunteers gave over 4600 hours of their time serving in a variety of roles. Volunteers help staff our front desk, provide chapel services, cook and serve meals, work in our clothing room, offer leadership on our Board of Directors, and so much more. Thank you for all you do!



Have a Heart For the Homeless 2020



In February, Christian Care co-hosted the 7th annual Have a Heart For the Homeless luncheon at Jumer's Casino. This event served as an opportunity to raise awareness about homelessness in the Quad Cities, while also raising funds to help support important services and programs that offer care. This year was a record setting year! We had more than 160 people participate, helping us raise over \$12000. The money we raised will go directly towards ensuring that we continue to provide services for those in the community who are vulnerable and less fortunate, just as we have for over 100 years.

Thank you to all who came out to help support Christian Care!

Thank You for Your Help!

The Quad Cities consistently shows itself to be a generous, compassionate, and caring community. Christian Care is so thankful for the amazing gifts we received to continue to care for people in need. We were recently blessed by middle school students from Lourdes Catholic Middle School (left) who conducted a paper goods donation drive on our behalf. We were also amazed by over 400 enchiladas donated by volunteers in honor of Christine Webster (right). We cannot specifically name every gift here, but thank you to everyone who gave to Christian Care to help ensure we can continue to provide for people experiencing homelessness and poverty.





CHRISTIAN CARE

2209 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201-4176

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #83
ROCK ISLAND, IL
PERMIT NO. 83

A Gift That Lasts Forever



Often a financial gift given directly to Christian Care can forever continue your desire to help those experiencing homelessness. It may be a gift in your will, a gift of real estate, life insurance, or even your required minimum distribution from your IRA. Let these gifts be an everlasting commitment to your solidarity with those who find themselves in difficult situations.

If you wish to talk further about this kind of impactful gift, please feel free to contact Frank Roe, Executive Director, at (309) 786-5734 or at froe@christiancareqc.org.



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.



[Facebook.com/christiancareshelter](https://www.facebook.com/christiancareshelter)



[Twitter.com/christiancare9](https://www.twitter.com/christiancare9)



www.christiancareqc.org