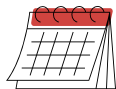




# CHRISTIAN CARE

## 2024 Quarterly Newsletter: Oct-Nov-Dec



*Save the Date*

**OCTOBER 27**

**Pancake Breakfast**

**DECEMBER 14**

**Frigid Feet**

**FEBRUARY 15, 2025**

**Have A Heart Luncheon**



**Help for the Holidays**

Interested in  
providing a Bring  
& Serve meal or  
baked goods for  
the holidays?

Please email Angie at:

[atimm@christiancareqc.org](mailto:atimm@christiancareqc.org)

## WELCOME

**New Staff**



Randy Keenan  
Street Outreach

Abigail Stewart  
Resident Services  
Coordinator

**New Board Members**



Nicole Ortiz  
Old National Bank  
Comm. Market Mgr.

## JOIN US

Looking for an opportunity to do more? Passionate about our mission? Consider being a member of our Board of Directors. If interested, please contact Frank at [free@christiancareqc.org](mailto:free@christiancareqc.org) or call (309) 786-5734



## My Story



## Heather's Journey

Heather came to Martha's House in June. She was quickly recognized for her diligence toward achieving her goals. Heather was also well-known for her initiative to attend to shelter needs like landscaping, gardening, and cooking. In August, Heather relapsed and left the shelter. She has since returned with renewed determination to rebuild her life. Once again, Heather's dedication to fulfilling her goals is notable, as is her helpful heart for others in need. She is now pending approval for low-income housing and is reaching her 30-day sobriety mark. We fully believe that she will succeed in achieving the stability she is striving for. Her story is an inspiration to others: if at first you don't succeed, get back up and try again!



# Pancake Breakfast

**Sponsored by Knights of Columbus  
LEO Council 716**

**JOIN US!**

Sunday, October 27, 2024  
St. Patrick Catholic Church  
201 1st St.  
Colona, IL

8:00 am - Noon

**Free Will Offering**  
**Reservation not required**

You're invited to join us  
to take a breakfast



Join our community of Bridge Builders striving to help us "Build Bridges" for those experiencing homelessness. For more information please contact [free@christiancareqc.org](mailto:free@christiancareqc.org).



# Spreading Joy to Those in Need

Would you like to contribute to bringing some holiday cheer to those living in shelters? Each year we want to provide our residents with a bag of "goodies" to unwrap. We are looking for various items such as:

\$5 gift cards to various locations

\$5 book of Illinois bus tickets

Men's & women's new sweatpants

**Please feel free to contact Cindi at [cgramenz@christiancareqc.org](mailto:cgramenz@christiancareqc.org) with questions or to donate.**



## Winter

As the cold season approaches, we are transitioning our donation room from summer to winter. We are currently accepting donations for the following items:

Men's sweatpants, socks, underwear, stocking caps, gloves, t-shirts, & jeans. We are always in need of personal hygiene items such as shampoo, conditioner, razors, deodorant, shaving cream & lotion.

### Seeking Pre-Loved Bicycles!



Many living in shelters depend on alternative forms of transportation to commute to work, appointments, and school. We are continuously looking for donations of used bicycles to help our residents meet their transportation needs more easily and reduce barriers.



## FRIGID FEET



Prepare your boots for **Frigid Feet!** Come alongside us as we walk in the shoes of those without shelter and gain a glimpse into the daily experiences of many in our community.

**This year will also include a 5k run!**

Save the Date for  
Saturday, December 14, 2024  
beginning at 9:00 am.

Tickets will include T-shirt, soup & sandwiches!  
Link will be available late October.

**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

Many living unsheltered  
walk between 10-15  
miles a day?



**“There is a lot that happens around the world we cannot control. We cannot stop earthquakes, we cannot prevent droughts, and we cannot prevent all conflict, but when we know where the hungry, the homeless and the sick exist, then we can help.”**

**Jan Schakowsky**

## **Kimber**



**I have had a pleasant experience and appreciate all that Martha's House does for women like me leaving a domestic violence situation. I appreciate that you take women in with children. The staff were very supportive. I was able to maintain my employment and find housing. I felt safe and secure. Thank you!**

**First of all, I'd like to say all of the staff here at Christian Care have been excellent towards me. From the start, my Case Manager led me in all the right directions, and by following her path, I reached my goal. I have obtained employment and my own apartment. I think the shelter is very well structured & gives everyone a great opportunity to achieve success.**

## **Maurice**



## **Eric**



**I was blessed with a gift. In my life, a life which has been filled with addiction, death, chaos & tragedy. Most of which were brought upon by me & my actions. That gift was the grace of God. Despite years of denying him, and outright cursing him, I was still given that divine gift. It instilled in me freedom, life, order, and bliss. It allows me respite in my darkest time that I never knew existed. I hadn't been alive for a very long time, a shadow of a man. Through his light & guidance, I have been renewed with vigor and hope. I know now there is a lot more to existing and being alive. So I will trust myself to God and his will.**

**Sometimes life takes an unexpected turn. I was wrongfully jailed for two weeks due to defending myself one morning while going to work. During this time, I lost my employment. When I did not know where to turn, Christian Care was there for me. They provided me with a clean & safe environment for me to take my next steps. With the help of Prairie State Legal, I was able to apply for unemployment & secure my temporary green card and I will soon be receiving my permanent one. As you read this, I am now housed and looking forward to the opportunities & adventures of life. Thank you to Christian Care & Prairie State Legal. This is for you.**

## **Koffi**





## **A gift with a lasting Impact**

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 the 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 contact

Frank Roe, Executive Director, at  
(309) 786-5734 or [froe@christiancareqc.org](mailto:froe@christiancareqc.org).