



CARPENTER'S PLACE

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PROVIDING TOOLS FOR REBUILDING LIVES

WINTER 2013



JOY AND GRATITUDE

Joy! Not an emotion associated with homelessness but one experienced every day at Carpenter's Place as miracles happen in the lives of homeless men and women:

- Bob beams as he receives a bike he can ride to and from work
- Tim is brought to tears as he clutches the key to his new apartment
- Peggy excitedly chooses an outfit for her first day of work after five years unemployed
- Nora enjoys dinner with her daughter after being separated seven years.

Yes, every day is filled with this kind of JOY! On average, five people per week obtain housing and two secure employment! Those statistics represent smiles, renewed hope, confidence, and a sense of being "normal," a phrase often used by our guests as they rebuild their lives.

For that joy, there is an abundance of daily gratitude at Carpenter's Place!

Gratitude for each person who helped make the significant life transformations possible:

Faithful *volunteers* and *donors*

Talented, committed *staff* and

Collaborative agency *partners*

A strong, dedicated *board* of directors

Together we're ending homelessness one person at a time! Joy!

For this we send our *warmest thanks* to each of you! Gratitude!

Your love, compassion, generosity, and unconditional support give our guests the courage and support needed to rebuild their lives. It isn't easy but nothing worthwhile is. Thank you for believing in them! That's the greatest gift of all and for some, it's a first.

We approach 2014 with confidence because of YOU, our amazing mission partners! Your generous investments of time, talent and treasure will continue to reap great rewards...homeless adults going from a life on the streets to one of stability....becoming productive members of our community! We promise to work hard to maintain your treasured trust and confidence.

Thank you and God bless you!

With joy and gratitude,



Kay

Joy and Gratitude for Growth and Success in 2013...

Each week at Carpenter's Place, **5 adults secure housing and 2 obtain employment**. Those positive life changes are a direct result of your generous support which provides the tools needed and the hard work of the men and women in our program! It's the formula for success!



To All those who work for and
with Carpenter's Place Thank you!
The time I've been in the Rockton House
program has been nothing but a wonderful
blessing! I am so grateful for all
your hard work. All the things that
have happened for me in rebuilding
life is from God's grace through
all of you. The moral and material
support has been overwhelming.
God has blessed you all with the
skills and compassion to change
lives. IT did mine Thank you again!

Carpenter's Place provides the tools necessary for rebuilding the lives of the homeless. Inspired by Christ's compassion, Carpenter's Place offers direction with accountability to people with broken lives, helping them find peace with God, themselves and their communities.

PURPOSE, HOPE AND ACCOUNTABILITY change lives!

ONE-YEAR RESULTS FOR HOMELESS ADULTS IN CARPENTER'S PLACE CASE MANAGEMENT

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013

256 Secured Stable Housing
110 Obtained Employment; **90** Full-time!

Other statistics:

78 Obtained Mental Health Assessments

1,306 Unduplicated Guests Received
Case Management

67 Completed Job Development Training at CP

195 Secured ID Card or Drivers License

110 Obtained Link Cards

1,837 Homeless Adults came to CP

16,115 Case Management Sessions

28,845 Total Guest Visits

55 Guests Obtained Eye Glasses

2,728 Calls Made by Guests in Dayroom

1,711 Loads of Laundry Done

3,800 Bus Tokens Provided

1,529 Showers Taken

1,219 Attended Classes
Or Support Group Meetings

5,233 Attended Voluntary Devotions

128 Haircuts Given

26,817 Meals Served (Breakfast and Lunch)

88 Average Guests per Day

Gratitude for Amazing Community Support!

Every day, we are amazed and humbled by the generosity of our community. CP truly would not exist without the collaboration and partnership of hundreds of schools, churches, businesses and organizations! We can't THANK YOU enough and wish we had space to feature you all!



Hundreds of volunteers from the community prepared and served breakfast and lunch 5 days a week throughout 2013! CP serves approximately 50 adults at breakfast and 100 at lunch



For Global Youth Service Day in April, many schools and youth groups conducted their own "Scavenger Hunt For the Homeless," collecting thousands of items from our Needs List!



Thanks to everyone who helped to give the CP Vet House a face lift!



On April 27, over 70 volunteers from Comcast, UPS, Blue Cross Blue Shield and Stone Bridge Church Youth Group came together for Comcast Cares Day to improve CP's Vet House. It was an amazing workday!



Thanks to many volunteers and the direction of gardener Sue Richards, CP grew our garden significantly this summer!



The CP Art Room is full of life and beauty thanks to many creative volunteers who donate time and materials!

Rockford Chamber of Commerce Advantage Club Originals hosted a Good Morning, Rockford! event at which they built a toilet paper tower for Carpenter's Place. Hundreds of people attended and they collected 12,465 rolls of toilet paper as well as personal toiletry items!

The Joy of Success!



On August 28, over 300 people gathered at the Radisson Conference Center to celebrate the changed lives of homeless adults and the extraordinary partners who make them possible. In addition, this annual fundraiser raised over \$142,000 for both the on-going work of Carpenter's Place and new employment house! We can't thank you enough for your generosity!

The following individuals and organizations were honored for their financial support, respectful care and commitment to our homeless guests:



Dale and Becky Brauer



CP Staff David Murray and Board Member Jeffrey Beto



Sue Setter



Susie Derry and Mary Vogrin

Cornerstone Award: Holy Family Catholic Church

Angel Award: Alberta James

Benefactor Award: Dean Alan Olson Foundation

Guardian Award: Dr. Kris Tumilowicz

Helping Hands Award: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Belvidere

We were delighted to honor these fantastic partners and look forward to honoring many more in the future!

Thank you to our marvelous sponsors!

Revolutionary

Anderson Family Charitable Foundations

Transformer

Advanced Machine/Hennig

David & Cherry Beto

BMO Harris Bank

Field Fastener

Michael Vincent &

Mary J. LaLoggia

Savant

Phil & Paula Turner

Renovator

Bergstrom Inc.

Charitable Foundation

Casler Foundation

Tom & Nancy Lorden

Jeff & Barbara McCoy

Jane Smith

Change Agent

Aqua-Aerobic Systems, Inc.

Allan & Cathy Barsema

Father David Beauvais

Jeff & Ashley Beto

Wally Beville

Joseph & Sharyn Castrogiovanni

Rev. Msgr. William Clausen

Gregory & Laurel Franchini

Kelly's Market

David & Beverly Klintworth

Dick & Grace Leighton

McGladrey LLP

The Morrissey Family Businesses

OSF Saint Anthony

Medical Center

Roger & Pamela Schmidt, DDS

SwedishAmerican Hospital

John & Susan Whitcher

John Wolf Charitable Trust

Amos & Carma Yoder

Innovator

Alpine Bank

Msgr. Thomas Bales

Dale & Rebecca Brauer

Doug & Helen Brooks

Ken & Joanne Buss

Barb Bancroft & Jeannine Dal Pra

Dickey Staffing Solutions

Georganne & Gordon Eggers

Barbara Erickson

Thomas S. Johnson

LaMonica Beverages, Inc.

Ferolie and Perrecone, Ltd.

Dr. Julia Pesavento D.M.D.

Roger & Mary Reithmeier

William & Bari Reitzel

workplace

Table Sponsors

Against the Grain Fine

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Bethesda Covenant Church

John & Lynn Boreen

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Laurinda Dodgen

First Evangelical Free Church

Robert & Bonita Gosdick

Holy Family Catholic Church

Jim & Fran Knutson

Msgr. Gerald Kobbeman

Dave & Barb Kohl

Rockford First

John & Paula Sentovich

Lou & Sue Setter

Auction Items Donated By

Jeff Beto

Beef-A-Roo

Chicago International

Film Festival

Chicago Shakespeare Theater

Chicago Sinfionetta

Clodius & Co.

Jim & Susie Derry

Giordono's Pizza

Goebel Waterproofing Systems

John Griffin/Kelly Williamson

Hotel Sofitel Chicago

Fran Knutson

Michael Vincent LaLoggia

Phil Stefani Signature

Restaurants

Rockford IT

Dennis Schaar

Sylvia's Fashions

Jane Smith

We are already obtaining sponsors for next year's luncheon. If you would like more details on how to partner with us for this exciting event, call Tiffany at (815) 964-4105 (ext. 221) or email tiffanys@carpentersplace.org.

Gratitude for Empowering Programs

Cycles for Change

Rebuilding bikes for adults rebuilding their lives



made possible by the estate of Merrill Johnson, a man with compassion for the homeless and a passion for biking

A lack of transportation is one of the biggest challenges for homeless adults trying to rebuild their lives. A reliable bicycle provides a mode of transportation to work, necessary appointments, and support meetings.

Through the Cycles for Change program, Carpenter's Place is partnering with Beloit Bicycle Company to collect donated bikes to be tuned up, cleaned up and sized up for CP guests who are diligently working to change their life. Here's how it works:

Gently-used bikes can be donated dropped off at Carpenter's Place (1149 Railroad Avenue, Rockford) Monday through Friday between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm or by appointment. Bikes will be evaluated, tuned up, and prepared for homeless guests in CP case management who, through hard work and accountability, qualify for a bicycle.

The Joy of Giving Forever!



As we grow older, many of us begin to think about how our life can make an impact for years to come. If you love what Carpenter's Place is about and if you desire to leave a legacy for those who come behind you, we invite you to consider leaving Carpenter's Place in your will or estate plan.

Another way to care for the long-term needs of Carpenter's Place is to name us as a percentage beneficiary of your IRA or other retirement plan assets. These assets can have both income and estate taxes due when given to family members. Many financial professionals suggest giving other assets to family. You may also considering naming us a beneficiary in a life insurance policy. Both are simple ways to ensure that your partnership lives on! For more details, visit our website at www.carpentersplace.org.

The Joy of "Counting Blessings!"

In a society that focuses much on "wants", it touches our hearts daily at Carpenter's Place to see how grateful our homeless guests are for their very few blessings...the basics such as a friendly greeting and a meal to eat.

Their grateful spirits remind us to count our blessings every day and inspired our Count My Blessings bracelet. It's a gentle reminder to have a thankful heart, to count our blessings bead by bead.



The bracelets are hand beaded by Carpenter's Place guests. When the bracelets are knotted, a prayer is said for both the future owner of the bracelet and the women in our Women's Housing Program, whom the proceeds from the bracelets benefit.



Sandy and Boone, Ramona & Baily, Elaine & Bekah, Ann & Carley June, Susan & Hamilton gather for a quick photo.

The Joy of Canine Friends

Carpenter's Place guests enjoy weekly pet therapy visits from New Friends Pets and Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dog Ministries. A dog is a friend who brings a calming presence, allowing people to open up their hearts and receive help for what is affecting them. We are grateful for this amazing program!

Want to help? We invite you to donate a gently-used bike, lock, helmet or headlight. If you prefer to make a financial donation, a gift of \$40 will purchase a lock, headlight and helmet; or a gift of \$175 will purchase a reliable new bike (retails for \$499).

The Cycles For Change program is made possible by the estate of Merrill Johnson, who had compassion for the homeless and an avid love for biking. By including CP in his estate, Merrill's legacy will live on long after his life as this program will help homeless adults rebuild their lives by having a source of transportation. If you would like to leave a similar legacy, read about our estate giving program below.

Please help spread the word about Cycles For Change and help us change one life at a time!



CP board president Roger Reithmeier, Merrill's nieces, Jody Goff, Nancy Clark-Mather, Julee Cranfill and Merrill's friend Ron Morris celebrate the launch of the bike program.



Bracelets come in a variety of sizes and colors with an assortment of colored crosses or metal angel wing. A lovely gift bag and card that explains the project are included. Wooden beaded bracelets are \$10 each, and glass beaded bracelets are \$25 each.

Call (815) 964-4105 ext 221 to place an order, or stop in Carpenter's Place Monday through Friday between 8:30 and 3:30.

Nearly every Sunday, CP is on the road visiting local churches, giving updates and selling our bracelets. If you would like for CP to come to your church or parish, please call Tiffany at (815) ext. 221.

Carpenter's Place

2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carpenter's Place is extremely grateful for the leadership of our strong board of directors who believe in our mission and work to move our vision forward for the benefit of homeless men and women in our community!

OFFICERS:

Roger Reithmeier, President
Retired, V.P. – Finance and Administration
BVR Aero Precision Corp

Tracy Beard, Vice-President
Financial Advisor
SAVANT

Lou Setter, Immediate Past President
Retired, VP of Logistics
Bergner's Distribution Center

Dennis Schaar, Treasurer
Certified Public Accountant
Self-employed

Jim Derry, Secretary
Owner
Field Fastener

DIRECTORS:

Allan Barsema
Visioning and Outreach Manager
SupplyCore Technology Group

Fran Knutson
Retired Owner
Hilander Food Stores

Cathy Barsema
Director of Guest Services
Carpenter's Place

Debbi Moorman
Community Volunteer

Fr. David Beauvais
Retired Pastor
St. James Catholic Church of Rockford

Michael V. LaLoggia
Managing Director - Investment Officer
LaLoggia Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors

Jeffrey Beto
Commercial Producer
Coyle-Varland Insurance

John F. Morrissey
Owner
John Morrissey Accountants

Lesly Couper
Sr. VP Marketing and Communications
Alpine Bank

Frank Perrecone
Attorney
Ferolie Perrecone

Jim Cronauer
Tax Director
McGladrey, LLP

William Reitzel
Retired Owner
Reitzel Construction Company

Laurinda Dodgen
Associate State Director, Community Outreach
AARP Illinois

John Sentovich
Director of Gift Planning
Northern Illinois University Foundation

Paula Turner
Community Volunteer

Gratitude for Stellar Leadership!

The CP board of directors honored Phil Turner for his nine years of faithful and dedicated service as he transitioned off the board. Phil has been an integral part of the leadership of CP since its beginning, and we will miss having him in this capacity!



Mixing business and pleasure, our board of directors gratefully accept a check from Sue and Jennifer from GKN during lunch.

Every month, CP board members prepare and serve lunch to our homeless guests. This keeps them personally connected with our mission and is a highlight for many of them.



This April, the board voted unanimously to invite former CP guest, Debbi, to join the board of directors. Debbi came to CP homeless in 2008 and has spent years rebuilding her life with the direction and accountability of CP case management. Now she desires to give back and loves being a part of CP!

Joy and Gratitude for Community Recognition

2013 was full of celebrating the contributions of many of our board members, volunteers and donors who were recognized in the community for their generosity in sharing their time, treasure and talents. These friends of CP are incredibly deserving of our gratitude and recognition! Here were some of the highlights:



Bob McLaughlin was awarded the RSVP Senior Award! Among the many organizations he blesses in Rockford, he actively advocates for homeless women and has done much to build our homeless women's housing program.



Laurie Nelson, of Roscoe, received the Individual Volunteer of the Year Award from United Way and is pictured here with United Way Executive Director Paul Logli. Laurie volunteers weekly in the CP office, helps with special events and is an integral part of our "Count Your Blessings" bracelet program!



CP nominee Pastor Annie Davis of Greater Emmanuel Pentecostal Church in Rockford won the Mentorship Award at the YWCA 2013 Women's Leader Luncheon. Pastor Annie regularly leads devotions at Carpenter's Place and has a heart for encouraging the homeless population.

Alberta James and the Riverside Breakfast Club were honored at the Association of Fundraising Professionals "Honor Your Own" Luncheon. They regularly provide needed resources for CP homeless guests and love to come and personally hand them out!



Long-time CP volunteer, Jane Smith, was awarded Crusader Community Health's Spirit of Caring award! Carpenter's Place was also humbled to win the Spirit of Caring award given to one organization each year. Pictured is Jane Smith,

Executive Director Kay Larrick, board member Father David Beauvais, and CP founders Al and Cathy Barsema.



Long-time CP volunteer and board member, Paula Turner, was awarded the Outstanding Fundraiser Volunteer at the

Association of Fundraising Professional's National Philanthropy Day luncheon. Paula is an avid fundraiser and she creatively and resourcefully established CP's "Count Your Blessings" bracelet program.



CP Board President Roger Reithmeier won the Cosmopolitan Club's Chuck Uram Lifetime Service Award! Roger has a commitment to excellence and is a selfless servant for the good of his community. With Roger's award came a \$5000 check to Carpenter's Place!

Plan to Share Your Time and Talents in 2014

Volunteering at Carpenter's Place is a wonderful way to *help others*
and in turn *share the gifts* God gave you.

There are opportunities both with guest interaction and without.

Please review the list below and contact Mary, the Director of Volunteers at MaryD@carpentersplace.org or 815-964-4105 ext. 203 for more information or to set a time to tour Carpenter's Place and see our volunteers in action!

Guest Interaction

- Morning Devotions: Share a brief message of encouragement or special music with our guests at a morning chapel
- Day Room Friends: Be available to listen, talk or pray with guests in the day room
- Meal Providers: Make and serve breakfast or lunch to homeless guests and special holiday meals

No Guest Interaction

- Data Entry: Work with office staff on special projects that require data entry
- Facilities Assistance: Complete basic handyman jobs
- Fund Raising: Work with a committee on fundraising projects or group collection drives to benefit CP

- Donations: Help assist with receiving and processing in-kind donations
- Office Assistance – Assist office manager with daily clerical duties
- Group Projects: Complete painting, yard work, and episodic indoor and outdoor projects that are appropriate for a group
- Scavenger Hunt: Go out into the community and collect greatly needed items from our "Needs List." We can supply bags and flyers if you need them
- Snack bags: You or your group can fill snack bags for our guests. We can provide a sheet with appropriate items to include
- Cleaning: Can be done by one person or a group. Clean inside and grounds as needed

Joy and Gratitude for Dollars Doubled!

All donations to help the homeless at Carpenter's Place will be DOUBLED if received by December 31, 2013.

In the last twelve months, Carpenter's Place has helped 256 homeless guests secure stable housing and 110 guests obtain employment, 90 of which were full-time!

Your support will make that happen again in 2014!

Please join us in providing the tools to rebuild the lives of the homeless this December. Each donation to Carpenter's Place will impact twice as many lives!

Double
YOUR
Dollars
CHALLENGE

Donations can be mailed to:

Carpenter's Place
1149 Railroad Avenue
Rockford, IL 61104

Donations can be made securely online at:
www.carpentersplace.org

Have questions or need more information?
Call Tiffany Staman at (815) 964-4105 ext. 221.

