



CARPENTER'S PLACE™
PROVIDING THE TOOLS FOR REBUILDING LIVES™

APRIL 2024

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.



BLESSED TODAY, BLESSED TOMORROW, BLESSED ALWAYS...

The perfect hoodie for Egypt to have worn in this moment! Those words could not have been more perfect to have branded across her chest than today.

Egypt came to the Family Service Program about a year ago. She was pregnant and homeless, couch surfing without a permanent place to call home. She could not focus on her health, which was a concern as she had a high-risk pregnancy. The stress of her situation caused her to deliver her baby 2 months early and he spent several weeks in the neonatal intensive care unit.

Egypt worked diligently on her service plan goals with the support of her case manager. She enrolled in a GED program and worked on obtaining permanent stable housing. Egypt was finally blessed with the keys to her new home. Her challenges to find stable housing for her now 1 year old son have ended, and her smile that could light up a room says it all.



BUILDING A BETTER LIFE!

Tim became homeless in 2018, sometimes staying in a motel or with a friend, but most often he lived on the streets. Occasionally, he was able to work odd jobs. In early 2023, Tim was having a particularly rough day wandering the streets. He said a prayer, asking God to help him find some work today. Soon thereafter, he heard a vehicle pull up behind him, and the driver called him over. It just happened to be a former employer from years ago, asking if he was looking for work. This answered prayer has turned into a good paying, full-time job!

Currently, Tim is staying at a house owned by his employer, doing renovations in exchange for rent. Tim continues to utilize the CP day room for showers and a meal before going to work. Tim recently met one of his goals and opened a bank account and is saving for a truck. Our case management team continues to provide encouragement and help Tim reach his other goals. Tim's engagement with case management shows his commitment to self-improvement and goal achievement. By seeking assistance and guidance, he is taking proactive steps toward building a better life for himself.



TRANSPORTATION FOR SUCCESS

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 Cycle for Change program,

guests like Leonardo (pictured), who are diligently working to change their life, have an opportunity to earn a bike. Donations of bikes can be dropped off at Carpenter's Corner Monday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

STATS As we end the first quarter of 2024

Adult Program:

22 individuals in our adult program have obtained employment.
(8 were full-time)

3 individuals secured housing

Family Services Program:

1 adults in our Family services program have obtained employment.
(1 full-time)

2 families secured housing

MEETING THE NEED



GETTING TO KNOW... **RANI**

Rani Griffis joined CP for a second time in December 2022 and has recently moved into a new role as our Volunteer and In-kind Donation Coordinator. She is a kind and caring individual who finds joy in helping others.

When she isn't lending a hand, you can often find her in the kitchen whipping up delicious meals or immersing herself in a good book. Rani and her husband, Norman, have been married for 10 years. Their two boys, Alexander and Arthur, are her pride and joy. With their involvement in arts and sports, they keep Rani on her toes and constantly active, but she wouldn't have it any other way. Their energetic spirits and love for life are a constant source of inspiration for Rani.

CURRENT NEEDS

- 16 oz disposable bowls
- 8 oz disposable coffee cups
- Men's and Women's Deodorant
- Men's Razors
- Hot Sauce
- Sugar

For a complete list of current needs (and to order directly), please visit our wish list on Amazon: <https://a.co/f0yhWao>



OPEN MEALS

APRIL

BREAKFAST:

5, 16, 17, 19,
24, 26, 29, 30

LUNCH: 4, 9, 16, 22, 30

TO SECURE A DATE:

Contact Rani at 779.210.2975
or RaniG@carpentersplace.org

**"The one who is
gracious to the poor
lends to the Lord, and
the Lord will repay him
for his good deed."**

Proverbs 19:17

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Join REBUILD! The REBUILD donation program is a community of monthly supporters committed to caring for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Monthly donors are the backbone of Carpenter's Place, making it possible for us to plan, budget, and make decisions based on our available resources, ensuring we can continue rebuilding the lives of our guests. As a REBUILD member, you will make a meaningful impact on someone's life and provide hope and the tools for a better tomorrow.

With a few simple steps, you can set up automatic monthly donations. When setting up your account, indicate how you wish to make your donation, by credit card or through your bank account, by clicking the appropriate button on the form.

Join **REBUILD** at weblink.donorperfect.com/CPmonthlygiving



WE ARE SO BLESSED!

Thank you to all our wonderful donors who so generously donated new walking/gym shoes. Between Carpenter's Place and Carpenter's Corner, 220 pairs of shoes were donated. Wow – how amazing!! We began distributing new shoes (along with a couple pairs of new socks and foot powder) to our guests on Holy Thursday. Shoes are given out on a daily basis throughout the warmer weather, and thanks to so many, Spring is off to a great start!



CARPENTER'S PLACE™

1149 Railroad Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61104

Phone (815) 964-4105
Fax (815) 964-4106

www.carpentersplace.org

"Carpenter's Place" is an IRS 501(c)3 tax exempt charitable organization