



CARPENTER'S PLACE™

PROVIDING THE TOOLS FOR REBUILDING LIVES™

MAY

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.

## HARD WORK AND PERSISTENCE PAYS OFF

Ravon grew up in Anchorage, AK. When his dad suffered a serious injury and needed to be institutionalized, Ravon moved in with his grandpa. When his grandpa passed away, Ravon found himself living on the streets of Anchorage. After a few months, Ravon decided to move to Rockford, where an aunt – the only other family member he knew – lived.

Soon, he found CP and became immersed in the program. Ravon got involved in case management, and started meeting regularly with Rob, our employment program coordinator. For the first time in his life, Ravon felt that he had a mentor, and was driven to better himself in all areas of his life. Before long, Ravon started a part-time job at McDonalds. However, he still came into CP on his days off, so that he could continue making progress in his life.

All of Ravon's hard work and persistence paid off...in early May, he started working for a local manufacturer. This is a good paying, full-time position with great benefits and union membership. Ravon feels grateful for the CP community, because he believes that this opened up many doors to him in life.

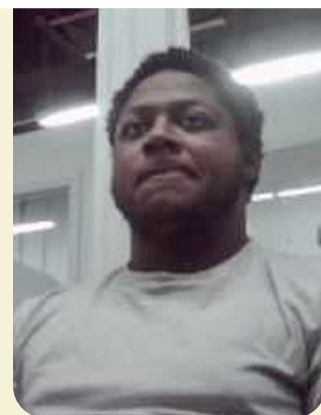


## DRIVE AND DESIRE BRINGS SUCCESS

After his job at the Carnival closed, Jeremiah found himself unemployed and homeless. He came to Carpenter's Place in January feeling discouraged, but with the drive and desire to succeed. Jeremiah started working with case manager Sue on some goals: first obtaining an IL State ID and then working with Rob, our Employment Specialist, to find a job. He worked hard helping out at CP so we weren't surprised at how quickly he found employment.

In April, Jeremiah got an offer for a full-time position at McDonalds, which he loves and is often found working extra hours. While attending a program at another agency, he began helping the Security Guard, who was short staffed. As a result, Jeremiah has been invited to attend paid security guard training.

Jeremiah continues to come to CP daily to shower, grab some breakfast, have his laundry done, and most importantly continue to meet with his case manager on setting new goals. Recently he began looking at apartments and has a goal of moving in by the end of May. CP is so proud of Jeremiah and all that he has accomplished in less than 6 months!



## A SPIRITUALLY UPLIFTING TIME!

The Power of God! Applause and Appreciation for the generosity of City First Church. As a faith-based organization, Carpenter's Place strives to offer those that we serve an opportunity to experience God. Thanks to City First Church, we were able to take 7 women from the Family Services program to the Original Women's Conference this year.





# MEETING THE NEED



## GETTING TO KNOW... **JOY**

Joy initially joined Carpenter's Place Family Services Program in November of 2022 as a case manager. Joy left shortly thereafter, to pursue nursing full-time, which was something she does on a part-time basis. It didn't take long for Joy to realize that her true first love was Human Services.

She returned to the Family Services Program in December of 2023 and has found her footing in making a difference in lives of those that we serve. Joy brings a wealth of community knowledge to Carpenter's Place as she has worked with many agencies throughout her Human Services career. She enjoys making time for herself because Joy understands the importance of self-care and often encourages Family Services participants to do the same. Joy appreciates a spiritual uplifting as she listens to her praise and worship music to jump start each day as a motivator in an effort to be the best representation of Christ that she can be.

## CURRENT NEEDS

- 16 oz disposable bowls
- Adult Back packs
- T-shirts (all types & sizes)
- Men's Boxers (M, L, XL and 2XL)
- Women's briefs (5, 6, 7)
- Wash cloths

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

 amazon

## OPEN MEALS

### MAY

#### BREAKFAST:

15, 22, 24

#### LUNCH:

14, 21, 29, 31

#### TO SECURE A DATE:

Contact Rani at 779.210.2975  
or [RaniG@carpentersplace.org](mailto:RaniG@carpentersplace.org)



COMING AUGUST 14, 2024



## TRANSPORTATION IS A SUCCESS NEED

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, guests like Paul (pictured) who are diligently working to change their life have an opportunity to earn a bike.

You can make a difference by sending your monetary donation to Carpenter's Place, 1149 Railroad Ave, Rockford, IL 61104 and earmark it "Cycles for Change" or over the phone by contacting Patti at 779-210-2970.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Donation of a bike:  
Drop it off at Carpenter's Corner Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- You can make a monetary donation to help pay to keep bikes safe for our guests. We purchase lights and bike locks, as well as do any necessary repairs. Your funds can help!



## WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Carpenter's Place is able to do what we do in part because of all the wonderful volunteers God has blessed us with. On April 24th, a special event was given in their honor. It is often said that "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart". CP continues to see that "heart" each and every day in our volunteers.

**Thank you – Thank you – Thank you!**



CARPENTER'S PLACE™

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