



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

# SEPTEMBER 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.



## SUMMER CELEBRATION BASH

Our Family Services program hosted it's second annual summer bash! Each child received a backpack filled with school supplies and two new outfits or uniforms to start the school year. (Younger children received backpacks with age appropriate items and new outfits as well!) Each family received a care package containing household essentials and personal hygiene items. The Summer Bash allows families to come together and enjoy an outing with their children, and the Family Services team also uses the bash as an opportunity to educate families about community resources. This year, the families heard from Jeanette from NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), and representatives from Rockford Public School District 205 – FIT (Families in Transition). What a wonderful example of a powerful community for our families!

*"Also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil - this is God's gift to man."*

*Ecclesiastes 3:13 ESV*

## OUTDOOR BBQ AT RAILROAD

Staff and guests shared a wonderful day outside with grilled burgers and hotdogs, games, sweet treats and fun fellowship. To add to the fun, a thoughtful guest brought his speaker to the event so everyone could enjoy music. This annual event has become a guest favorite and a great way to celebrate summer coming to a close.



## HELP NEEDED - SERVE A MEAL

### OPEN SEPTEMBER DATES

Breakfast: 18, 20, 25, 27  
Lunch: 23, 30

### OPEN OCTOBER DATES

Breakfast: 1, 4, 7, 9, 15, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30  
Lunch: 2, 3, 7, 8, 15, 16, 28, 30, 31

To secure a date or learn more about providing a meal, please contact Rani at 779-210-2975 or [RaniG@CarpentersPlace.org](mailto:RaniG@CarpentersPlace.org)



**On a typical day, meals are prepared to serve 60 guests for breakfast and 80 guests for lunch.**





## BIRTHDAY FUN

Each month we celebrate guest birthdays. We sing, give the guests a small gift, and enjoy a sweet treat. Happy Birthday to our guests with August birthdays! Celebrating them is a joy!

Many guests do not have people around them to share their special day, so making this end of the month celebration is so important. If you are willing to donate a special treat for one or more of our monthly birthday events (cakes, cupcakes, cookies, ice cream, or beyond), please contact Rani at [RaniG@carpentersplace.org](mailto:RaniG@carpentersplace.org) or 779-210-2975. Thank you for bringing the birthday magic!



## TRANSPORTATION: A NEED FOR SUCCESS

A lack of transportation is one of the biggest challenges for individuals and families as they embark on their journey 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 who are diligently working to change their life can earn a bike - something for them to own and take pride in!

### HOW TO HELP

**DONATE A BIKE:** Drop bikes off at Carpenter's Corner (our bike hub) Monday - Thursday 9am-5pm.

**MONETARY DONATION:** Gifts made to our cycles for change fund will provide bike lights and locks for the safety of our guests. You can donate through our website ([CarpentersPlace.org](http://CarpentersPlace.org)) or send a check via mail. Ensure to earmark all donations "Cycles for Change."



## CURRENT NEEDS

- Individual tissue packets
- Deodorant (Men's and Women's)
- Toothpaste
- Shaving Cream
- Toilet Paper (1 ply)
- Men's White Crew Socks
- Men's Boxers (M, L, XL, 2XL)
- Men's Jeans
- Coffee
- Powdered Creamer

For a complete list of current needs, please visit our Amazon wish list: <https://a.co/f0yhWao>  
(Orders from the wish list can be sent to CP directly!)



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*Carpenter's Place is an IRS 501(c)3 tax exempt charitable organization. FEIN 36-4352283*





# THANK YOU!

## CELEBRATE SUCCESS 2024



## THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

Many thanks to everyone who joined us as we gathered once again to celebrate our guests and their incredible accomplishments! Everyone enjoyed a wonderful lunch catered by Greenfire and a delicious dessert donated by Nothing Bundt Cakes. The afternoon was filled with fun, fellowship, and most importantly heart warming stories about our guests - and the special partners who make the success a possibility.



## CONGRATULATIONS! 2024 CELEBRATE SUCCESS AWARD RECIPIENTS

*These awards honor the incredible devotion these individuals and organizations have shown to Carpenter's Place. The success of our guests is possible because of you! Recipients are pictured below with our Immediate Past Board President, Frank Perrecone.*



**Jim Alt, Helping Hands Award  
(Carpenter's Corner)**



**Officer Aaron Murphy (RPD),  
Guardian Award**



**Zion Lutheran Church,  
Family Services Partner Award**



**Diana Konopa & Carolyn Blood,  
Angel Award**



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

On behalf of the Carpenter's Place Board and Staff, we extend our deepest gratitude to our sponsors who have generously supported our event. It is because of your support that we can continue to help homeless adults and families in crisis.

## GOLD SPONSORS:

**FIELD**  
MORE THAN PARTS. A PARTNER.

Jim and  
Susie Derry

## SILVER SPONSORS:

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Susan Whitcher

## BRONZE SPONSOR:

The Lou Bachrodt Family

## CIRCLE SPONSORS:

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Rosecrance  
Behavioral Health  
Saint Anthony  
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Second First Church  
of Rockford  
Ellen Slick and  
Peg LaForge



## DEAN'S STORY

During the event, we shared a video of Dean, a former guest in Carpenter's Place Permanent Housing Program. The video showcases the powerful community behind Dean that helped him rebuild his life. If you have not had the opportunity to see his video, please take a few minutes to do so - it really is worth the watch. You can go to [carpentersplace.org](http://carpentersplace.org) and scroll down on the home page to see his story.

Special thanks to Reggie and Danita Tillmon for creating this heartwarming video!

## BLESSINGS BRACELETS STILL AVAILABLE!

For a \$25.00 donation, you will receive this limited edition 2024 Blessings Bracelet! Each bracelet is a little different – unique, just like our guests! When the bracelets are knotted, a prayer is said for both the future owner of the bracelet, and the women in our housing program.

These bracelets are available for purchase at Carpenter's Corner. Additionally, we're happy to mail you a bracelet. If you're interested, contact Rani at 779-210-2975 or [RaniG@CarpentersPlace.org](mailto:RaniG@CarpentersPlace.org).

