



February 2017

Providing shelter and services to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in suburban Cook County.

Shelter in the Summer

A message from Beth Nabors, Executive Director

In the mid 80's the issue of homelessness reached a crisis point in the northwest suburbs of Cook County and JOURNEYS was formed in response to the crisis. Over the years, we have expanded and shaped our programs to meet changing community needs as they presented.

Today, we not only serve the homeless population in 18 winter shelter sites and through our year round day center programming, but we also keep people in their homes, and operate two apartment buildings in Palatine that provide permanent and supportive housing.

This year, JOURNEYS has decided to tackle another community issue by expanding our seven month shelter system to operate year round. The hot summer months can be hard to face, especially if you don't have air conditioning in your home. But what if you don't have a home at all?

With summer temperatures in the 80's and 90's and heat warnings issued periodically, the homeless population is at high risk for heat-related illnesses. Extreme heat can lead to extreme dehydration and heat exposure leading to hyperthermia. It's not uncommon for homeless people to die from heat-related causes.

To improve our communities -- to make them places where people are healthy, safe, and cared for -- takes a lot of work. We know all too well that we can't do it alone. The ability to partner effectively with other individuals, faith locations and organizations -- both inside and outside the community -- is absolutely essential to building a healthy community.



Beth Nabors
Executive Director

We are excited to announce that we have obtained commitments from two of our existing PADS sites, Willow Creek of Barrington and Kingswood United Methodist of Buffalo Grove to expand from a 7 month winter program to a 12 month year round shelter program! We are also in the process of securing commitments from three other new and current partners for additional summer shelter sites.

Ending homelessness in our area is only made possible with the generous support and partnership of donors and community organizations working alongside JOURNEYS to meet these crucial needs. If your organization is interested in expanding your partnership with JOURNEYS to strengthen our shared communities, please call me at 847-963-9163 ext. 112.

Together we can make a difference!

Inside this edition of the JOURNEYS Newsletter:

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ANNOUNCING: Summer PADS Pilot Program 2017



Summer is an especially rough time to be homeless in Illinois. High heat and humidity lead to many deaths among the medically vulnerable. Our homeless neighbors are no exception. For that reason and others, JOURNEYS is partnering with a number of local faith communities to pilot a summer PADS shelter program starting in May 2017.

Our end goal is to provide continuous emergency shelter 12 months a year, 7 days a week. Many of

our clients currently disappear during the summer months to find alternative lodging and then return in October when the shelters reopen. This means they do not benefit from the comprehensive services at the HOPE Center. For some clients, this means they stop receiving and taking prescriptions that keep their health issues under control. For others, it means they miss reapplication deadlines for benefits like food stamps. And for still others, it means they spend much of the money they saved during the colder months on hotels to get through the long hot summer days and nights.

We are proud to announce that we have secured commitments for two days of the week from local partners. There is still a critical need for other partners to serve as a shelter site during other nights of the week during the summer.

Summer shelter may sound daunting to new partners, but JOURNEYS will provide support every step of the way. Through our staff and especially our dedicated volunteers, we have a huge amount of experience helping new sites ramp up, train site leaders and volunteers, and provide ongoing administrative support. It is not too late to join our efforts for the summer of 2017. Please step up, join the JOURNEYS family, and be one of our partners who solves homelessness during the summer months in the north and northwest suburbs.

Summer Pilot Program Schedule

Sunday

Tentative Site Commitment

Monday

No Site Yet Identified

Tuesday

Kingswood United
Methodist Church
401 W Dundee Rd.
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Wednesday

Tentative Site Commitment

Thursday

Willow Creek
Community Church
67 E Algonquin Rd.
So. Barrington, IL 60010

Friday

Tentative Site Commitment

Saturday

No Site Yet Identified

KEY:

Red = No Site Yet Identified

Green = Definite Site!

Grey = Possible Site

How Can You Get Involved?

Become a summer PADS site on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, or Saturday

Become a Sister Site to an already existing PADS site

Join a leadership team for a new or already existing site

Recruit volunteers within your community

Host an informational event with your community group or faith community

Encourage small groups to serve together on a monthly basis

For more information, please contact Todd Stull at:
t.stull@journeystheroadhome.org or 847-963-9163 x115

www.journeystheroadhome.org

Your Support in Action

Here at JOURNEYS we are experts at creating a road-map on the fly to get people back into housing. Every day we have to be flexible and attentive because we never know what issues will be uncovered. One of the reasons we can have a life changing impact on so many clients is because no matter how long it takes, our case managers stick with clients through thick and thin and creatively find solutions to problems.

George and His Housing Story

George, a veteran and four year client, finally re-entered stable housing this past year. We provided George with shelter and day services as he cycled back and forth between living with friends temporarily and using PADS. He stopped in the HOPE Center occasionally to work with his case manager, but his timing and follow through was erratic. Some agencies would simply write off a client like this and move onto the next one.

JOURNEYS is different – every time he came in, his case manager continued to engage George in conversation so that we finally understood what was holding him back. By being a good listener and asking good questions, sometimes repeatedly, we learned that George was skeptical of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This was the reason why he had rebuffed our attempts to link him up with them in the past. He didn't like the bureaucracy, and was intimidated by the idea of navigating it. Fortunately, our case managers are experts at dealing with bureaucracy, especially the VA.

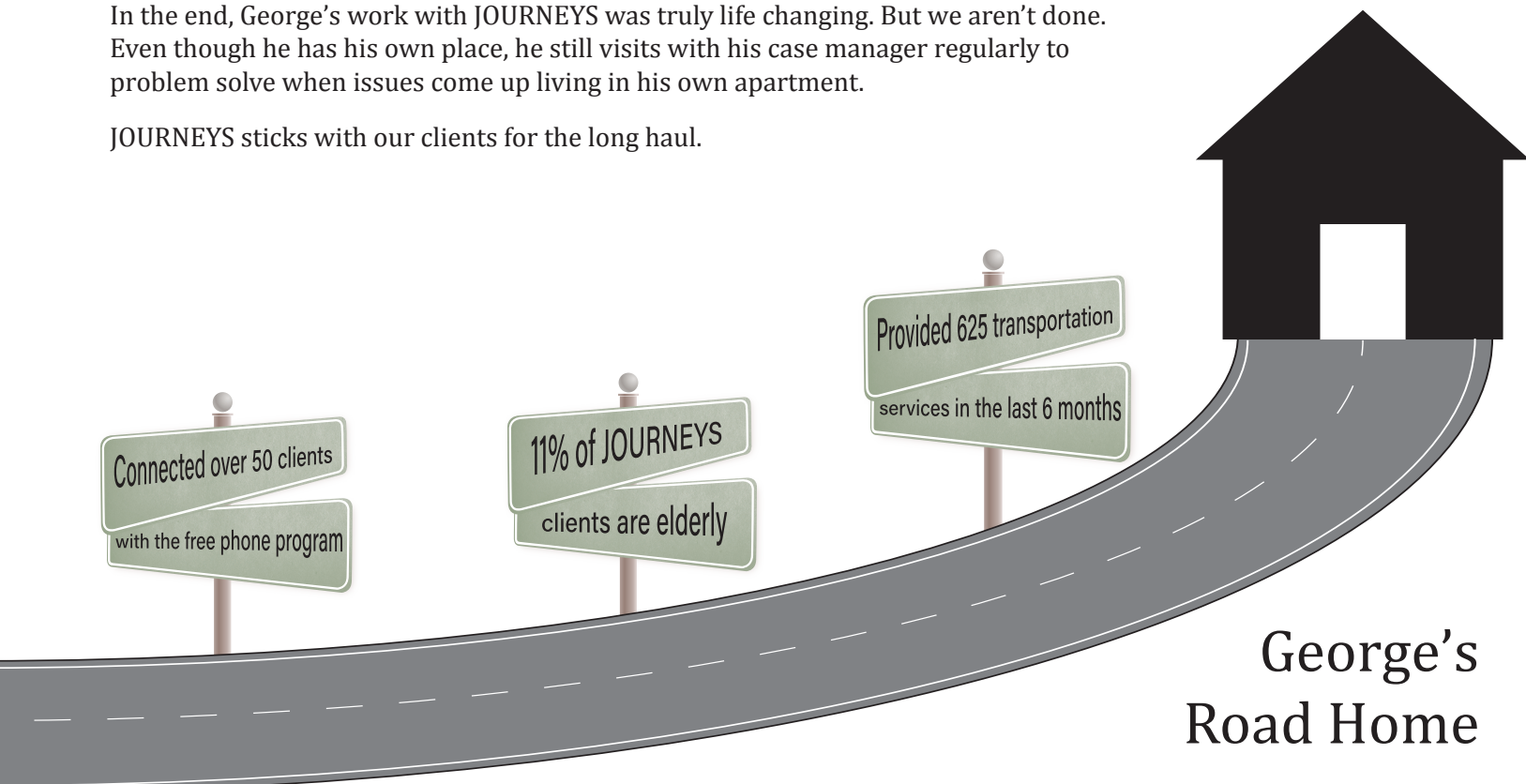
Early in 2016, George's case manager had a heart to heart with him. She told George to consider that he was fast approaching 70 and still living in our shelters. She cared about him and did not want a man of his age spending another season in the shelters.

We were able to help him navigate the VA, helped him with transportation, and even secured a free cell phone for him. Taking the assistance one step further, his case manager continued to coordinate with George to ensure that his reapplication for food stamps and medical insurance was done correctly and included all necessary supporting documents. George wouldn't go hungry or uninsured.

Recently, through close coordination with the VA, George has been getting the right level of medical care he needs to manage his knee and back problems, dental care, and ongoing memory issues. Most importantly, he was given a voucher by the VA to move into his own apartment! After a long process of working with JOURNEYS, George had faith in the staff and his own ability, took some risks, and now has a stable home of his own again.

In the end, George's work with JOURNEYS was truly life changing. But we aren't done. Even though he has his own place, he still visits with his case manager regularly to problem solve when issues come up living in his own apartment.

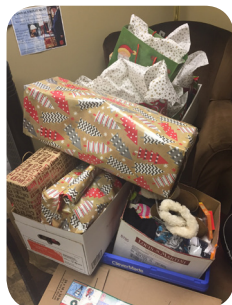
JOURNEYS sticks with our clients for the long haul.



It Takes a Community

The truly selfless giving, passion and dedication of others allows us to support our neighbors at risk of losing their homes and those who are homeless.

XL Catlin, a global insurance company, has joined the new Corporate Ambassador Program! Over the last few months, their team has put together welcome home kits and holiday meal baskets for our families and purchased and wrapped gifts for children for the holidays.



Ways you can get involved:

CORPORATE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Is your business looking to get involved with a local non-profit? Do you want to promote giving back to your employees?

- Plan a third party event supporting JOURNEYS
- Volunteer with the agency
- Host an in-service day at your office
- Create an employee giving program with matching gifts

Contact **Suzanne Ploger**, Director of Development at s.ploger@journeystheroadhome.org

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BOARD

Are you between the ages of 21-39 and want to make a difference in the community where you live? Do you want to add flavor, depth and experience to your professional accomplishments?

Contact **Taylor Jacob**, Development Associate at t.jacob@journeystheroadhome.org today!

Connect with JOURNEYS

Upcoming Events

Sponsorship opportunities available for both events. Visit the Events Page on our website for more information.



Women's Luncheon
Garden of Giving
Wednesday, April 26th
Inverness Golf Club
Event Chairs
Sharon Griffin & Mary Baur



Superhero 5K Run/Walk
Saturday, June 17th
Downtown Palatine
Event Chairs
Katie Ford & Shari Rabin

Stay up to date with the latest JOURNEYS news



Like us on **Facebook** for updates and all of the local drives and collections in the area!

Visit the **News** tab on our website to stay up to date with the latest articles about JOURNEYS!

Sign up at on our website to receive our monthly e-newsletter **JOURNEYS Journal**

MAKING A DONATION TO JOURNEYS IS SIMPLE

Make a secure donation **ONLINE** at www.journeystheroadhome.org

MAIL OR IN PERSON
JOURNEYS | The Road Home
1140 E Northwest Highway
Palatine | Illinois 60074

PHONE
Call 847-963-9163 x116

Volunteer Spotlight

Bruce Freier

Our Saviours Lutheran Church
PADS Site Director

Bruce began volunteering at Our Saviours 17 years ago! His daughter introduced him to the PADS program through a project in her confirmation class.

How has volunteering at JOURNEYS impacted your life?

"In my early career I was in the Restaurant Business and I was the guy who had people remove the homeless from loitering in the restaurants. 360 degree change to today being a very active advocate for the homeless."

What have you learned about the population we serve since volunteering with JOURNEYS:

"Our guests are just regular folks like us who have had an unfortunate event make them homeless. They are our former neighbors, church members and friends who just need a break to get back on their feet. The success stories at the Sites and at JOURNEYS are a testament to this team effort."

News about Our Saviours that you would like to share:

"We just completed a total remodel. We added 2 showers, 2 washers and dryers, a dishwasher, ice machine and a new exhaust fan/fire protection system for our kitchen, as well as new sleeping rooms and upgraded gathering space to serve dinner, and relax. We offer haircuts and our welcome dogs are at the site once a month."



Bruce also oversees more than 20 faith based communities involved in the Summer Supper Program, which serves meals to the community throughout the summer months.



Tell us about your volunteer experience with JOURNEYS!
Email your story to volunteer@journeystheroadhome.org



Summer PADS Volunteer

This year JOURNEYS | The Road Home has been blessed with the opportunity to expand our volunteer opportunities as we pilot the first summer PADS overnight shelter program. Join us this summer and consider volunteering your time to make this new program successful.

Summer Volunteer Shifts Available:

- Set Up Site (5:00pm)
- First Shift (6:00pm - 11:00pm)
- Second Shift (11:00pm - 3:00am)
- Third Shift (3:00am - 7:00am)

Leadership opportunities are available for the Summer PADS pilot program!

- Kitchen Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Shift Leader

For more information, contact Allyson Schnoor, Volunteer Coordinator, a.schnoor@journeystheroadhome.org or 847-963-9163 x114

Call for Volunteers!

The HOPE Center is open Monday-Friday & Summer PADS Season begins in May

Orientation Schedule Spring/Summer 2017

All Orientations are held at JOURNEYS | The Road Home

DATE	TIME
Tuesday February 7	6:30pm
Thursday February 16	6:30pm
Saturday February 25	10:00am
Monday March 5	6:30pm
Thursday March 16	6:30pm
Saturday March 25	10:00am
Thursday April 6	6:30pm
Saturday April 15	10:00am
Wednesday April 19	6:30pm
Tuesday May 2	6:30pm
Wednesday May 17	6:30pm
Saturday May 27	10:00am



1140 East Northwest Highway | Palatine | Illinois 60074

NEWS

JOURNEYS | The Road Home

1140 East Northwest Highway | Palatine | Illinois 60074
Phone 847 963 9163 | Fax 847 963 9120
Hours 7:30am-4pm | Monday-Friday

Connect with us!   

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Brad Penn | *Vocational Custodian*



Upcoming Events!



Palatine St. Patrick's Parade
Saturday, March 11, 2017
Downtown Palatine



Women's Luncheon
Wednesday, April 26, 2017
Inverness Golf Club



Superhero 5K
Saturday, June 17, 2017
Downtown Palatine

