

guiding the journey home for 40 years

April 2024 E-Newsletter

Finding Success through Housing Solutions (click image to watch video)



Housing Solutions was just the helping hand Mr. Gilchriest needed to get his life back on track after getting out of rehab for the first time some fifteen years ago.

"I'm back to normal now," he says, holding Dashie, his lovable 18-month-old Maltese companion who happily wags her tail, "I'm back to where I was a long time ago; and I wouldn't have been able to do it without this [program]."

Housing Solutions, or HoSo, is a long-term permanent supportive housing program for chronically homeless people with a disability that currently houses 112 households. To be considered chronically homeless someone has to have been homeless for a year or more, or homeless four times within the past three years. HoSo, a "housing first" program, seeks to get someone into a home first and then, support that person with case management once they are in a more stable environment. Case management helps people establish goals that will keep them housed, like a budget or a housing plan, and also includes helping the person obtain necessary services, like food assistance, health care, rental vouchers, and so much more.

Erin Mayer, Director of Housing Services, explains, "Most people tend to do better once they are housed and tend to want to work on something or some *things* to continue that."

For Mr. Gilchriest, that was his sobriety. "All the trips to the hospital and all the getting in trouble, you know, all of that went away when you have a place to stay.... I drank a lot when I first got in it, still, but you know, case workers just kept taking me to rehab and finally, I got through it. So it's helped me out in many ways. Amazing ways."

Now years into his sobriety, Mr. Gilchriest has successfully exited the HoSo program recently, opening up a space for the next person who needs the help HoSo provides. He is in a new apartment that he shares with Dashie, where he loves to spend time cooking. He's also gotten a bit of work in local restaurants, working with chefs and expanding his culinary skills. He credits his Journey Home Guides and the program for the stability he experiences today. "There's no telling where I would be now, if it wasn't for that, for this program. There's no telling where I would be. Maybe dead, you know."

Volunteer Appreciation Month

April

is

Our volunteers are the best!

Thank you

to all of you who share your time and talent to support our mission of guiding the journey from homeless to home!



30th Anniversary Home for the Holidays Gala Sponsorships Available

Sponsorships for the *30th Anniversary Home for the Holidays Gala* are now available! Secure your table at the unofficial kick-off to the holiday season and one of the best parties in Fort Worth. Once again held at The Fort Worth Club, this year's event is presented by *Luther King Capital Management* and will celebrate 30 years of raising funds and awareness for Presbyterian Night Shelter. **Join us on Friday, December 6, 2024.**

Sponsorships are available at several levels: Poinsettia (\$15,000), Holly (\$10,000), Mistletoe (\$5,000), and Ivy (\$3,500). Individual tickets will go on sale closer to the event, provided there are tables left.

For more information on securing your sponsorship, contact Chris Stolarzyk, Annual Giving Manager at <u>cstolarzyk@journeyhome.org</u>.



Increase your Impact!

Presbyterian Night Shelter is one of the numerous Fort Worth nonprofits that benefit from Birdies for Charity, a part of the Charles Schwab Challenge held each year at Colonial Country Club. Now through May 17, a percentage of all donations to Presbyterian Night Shelter will be matched, based on the number of birdies that are recorded over the course of this year's challenge. Let your donation have maximum impact!

Yes! I want to increase my impact with a donation before May 17!

Learn and Share

One of the easiest ways to support Presbyterian Night Shelter is just a click away! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or LinkedIn to stay up to date on what is happening at Presbyterian Night Shelter and share the incredible stories and life-changing work with your friends and family.





Presbyterian Night Shelter | P.O. Box 2645, Fort Worth, TX 76113

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