



Shepherd's Call



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A Message from Good Shepherd Center, Inc. of
the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God
Fall 2021



HAPPY

THANKSGIVING!

Success Stories

The Fresh Start Program guides men through the addictions recovery path to find a new and stable lifestyle and access to a secure place to stay throughout the process. Here is one story from the program—

A young man joined the Fresh Start program in the fall of 2020. He had a number of ongoing barriers to housing and mental health, along with legal issues. Under the guidance of the Fresh Start Staff and the Case management, as well as the legal team he was working with, the client was able to find stable employment and housing, and complete his legal obligations ahead of schedule. What sets this guest apart was that when he first entered the program he simply wanted to obtain a low income apartment and spend his time watching TV. During his time here the guest began to see he was employable and wanted more to life than simply getting by.

Our newest endeavor, the Housing Reestablishment Program, is successfully helping men get back on their feet with housing and employment opportunities—

A guest entered the Housing Reestablishment Program who had been dealing with legal issues that resulted in him being detained in a county jail for three years as his family could not afford his bail. The guest suffered from mental health and mobility issues stemming from his time in the county detention center. He applied for Social Security Disability and also received assistance applying for low income housing, along with being given life skills class, regular case management, an opportunity to volunteer at the Good Shepherd Center. The guest went onto gain stable ongoing employment and stable housing within 95 days of joining the Housing Reestablishment Program. The last time the client had a follow up, he stated that he had just enrolled in community college to become an accountant.



One of Our Recent Reestablishment Graduates

And for What or Who Are We Thankful...

Corrie Ten Boom was born on April 15, 1892 in the Netherlands. Her family were devoutly religious people. During World War Two Corrie and her family harbored hundreds of Jewish people in order to rescue them from the Nazi Holocaust. Eventually betrayed by a Dutch citizen, the entire family were imprisoned. Corrie survived and started a worldwide ministry and later told her story in a book entitled *The Hiding Place*.

During her time in prison camp Corrie and many other women were forced to live in cramped quarters with little or no sanitation and infested with rodents. Corrie had managed to smuggle a small Bible and each night the women would read from the scripture and pray together, sometimes

thank God for their horrible living conditions which kept the guards from entering and confiscating their Bible.

I am often surprised at how thankful many of the people we assist can be for a simple meal, an overnight bed or even a bus pass. The Brothers and staff at Good Shepherd Center are forever thankful for our friends, volunteers, and benefactors who make it all possible.

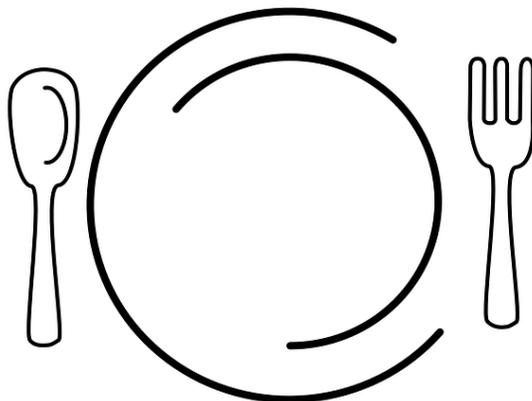
Sing and make music to the Lord in your hearts, always thanking God the Father for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

—Brother Gerard Sullivan, OH

Food Insecurity

The right to food is a human right recognized by international human rights law. The International Bill of Human Rights, states the right to adequate food as an essential part of the right to an adequate standard of living. Yet, in New Mexico during this pandemic, almost one in five people are “food insecure”, meaning they lack consistent access to adequate food to maintain a healthy life. People experiencing homelessness and those who are very low-income and are housing insecure—pay rent vs. buy food or needed medicine—are among the one in five that do not have adequate food. Thousands of these people make their way to the doors of the Good Shepherd Center every year. Despite COVID-19, which forced GSC to provide its Community Meals program curb side, six days per week, 52 weeks per year, GSC serves around 275 curb side meals per day. Most are experiencing homelessness, but many are housing insecure and rely on the meals of the Good Shepherd Center for their main nourishment. Addi-

tionally, GSC serves three meals a day to those men needing compassionate care and who stay with us in the Housing Reestablishment Program (formerly Resettlement Program) and the Fresh Start Substance Abuse Recovery Program. All told, during the 12 months from November of last year through October of this year, GSC served 167,369 nutritious meals! The vast amount of food required to serve these many meals could not happen without your generous support. Thank you.



Book of Life

We pray for our community every day, especially for:

Rest in Peace:

Margaret Kneafsey
Betty Dorko
Ann Cunningham
Rita Schroeder
Brother Richard Moore
Charles Birr
Gustav Kwasi Ntiforo

Special Intentions:

Margaret Bridget
Julian Sanchez
Thomas and Teri Hernandez
Zachary Hernandez
Esperanza Hernandez

For Health:

Christy R. Romero
George Montoya
Mary & Family
David Howson
Beatriz Catania
Mikie Carthy
Barbara Bertschinger
Maureen Bridget
Max and Evelyn Hernandez



For prayer requests:

gsc@gscnm.org

Or submit a request online at:

www.gscnm.org/contact-us

Thank You for Your Support!

The quality of life for the people served at Good Shepherd Center would be greatly diminished without the support of generous friends within the local community:

To the Archdiocese for graciously allowing for a second collection for Good Shepherd Sunday.

To The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Bishops' Storehouse for their generous donation of food and goods.

To all who have provided food and goods to support to fulfil our ministry.

To Costco who provides us produce, baked goods, and other items.

To our individual and corporate sponsors who join us in providing services those most in need.

To Rough Love Jewelry for their generous donation of health and body care products

To all of our benefactors that allow Good Shepherd Center to continue its mission to help those most in need.

Weathering the Storm

As we near the second Thanksgiving since the COVID-19 pandemic took hold of our world, changing it forever, we look back on the losses we have suffered, both with the cost of human life and the economy, and we look forward with hope. This pandemic has been a heavy burden for all of us to bear. I pray every night for those who have suffered loss and those who are going through some challenging issues in their life. I pray for all of us that God will strengthen us as we continue to deal with this pandemic, and I give thanks for the positive signs that it is beginning to turn for the better.

While many of us are facing some tough times, can you image what the poor and homeless are



Deacon Steve Rangel and Guests with a
Giant Sandwich of a Donation

having to face? There are people not able to go to work with their resources dropping farther than they were before. Many of the less fortunate don't have a lot of support or family and friends to fall back on, like most of us have, or the resources to keep them going.

At the worst point during the pandemic, even the homeless shelter was affected and had to close their doors at one time. So, where were the homeless going to go? The brothers at the Good Shepherd Center realized that, for some of the homeless and poor, their only hope of getting any food would be the Good Shepherd Center. So, the brothers did everything they had to do to make sure they followed all the required safety measures given by the CDC. It cost the Good Shepherd Center additional expenses, as they had to buy the items required by the CDC to sanitize and keep the center open. The Center was able to provide food to the homeless and poor by using take out containers so they would have something to eat.

It is only with your help and support that we have the necessary funds to keep the center going, and I can't thank you all enough for your support. I pray that God bless you all and your families, especially with Thanksgiving coming around the corner. What a great time to take time to count our blessings and then thank God for all we have. I want to leave you with this quote from St John Paul II.

“Remember the past with gratitude. Live the present with enthusiasm. Look forward to the future with confidence.”

Happy Thanksgiving,
Deacon Steve Rangel
Chair of the Board, Good Shepherd Center

Want to Help?

All physical donations may be made at our location on Iron Ave.

We're in need of the following items:

New In-package Clothing:

New Socks
Long Pants
Shoes and Work Boots
Long and Short Sleeved Shirts
New Men's Boxers/Boxer Briefs

Toiletries:

Travel-Sized Deodorant
Travel-Sized Toothpaste
Travel-Sized Shampoo and Soap
Razors and Travel-Sized Shaving Cream
Toothbrushes and Travel-Sized Toothpaste

Foods Most In Need:

Rice	Spaghetti
Canned Tuna and Meat	Powdered Milk
Canned and Dried Beans	Hot Chocolate Mix
Canned Vegetables and Tomatoes	Coffee (ground or instant)



Founded in 1951 by Brother Mathias Barrett, Good Shepherd Center is a 501 (c)3 nonprofit mission of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God, province of the Good Shepherd in North America. All donations are tax deductible.



We at Good Shepherd Center respect the privacy of our friends and benefactors. Our database and mailing lists remain private and confidential. We do not sell, trade, or share these lists outside the Good Shepherd Center organization.

If you would like to receive newsletters via email, or if you would like to direct others to the newsletter, please visit our website.



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