

A Season of Thanks

Shelter KC's Season of Thanks is bringing together area churches, volunteers and donors to provide Thanksgiving feasts for hundreds of low-income families, homeless men and women, and senior citizens and shut-ins in Kansas City's urban core. Every meal will include turkey, pumpkin pies and fresh produce.

You can help by supplying items on this list:

Stuffing mix (6oz. box)

Mashed potato mix (6.6oz. box)

Turkey gravy mix (2.75oz. pouch)

Canned corn and green beans

Canned peaches or pears

Canned cranberry sauce (14 oz.)

Canned yams or sweet potatoes (29 oz.)

Salt & pepper shakers

\$15 to cover the cost of fresh produce & other perishable items

Please deliver to: 1520 Cherry St., Kansas City, MO. For more information, go to **ShelterKC.org**, or call Nick Franklin at (816) 421-7643 ext. 134.



Help spread Christmas Cheer!

YOU can help make Christmas a very special time of year for men and women who are homeless and alone.

Men and women in our recovery programs who are wrapped in Christ's love year-round, will celebrate His glory at events throughout the month of December.

Shelter KC's Community Christmas Party for the Homeless will bring food, small gifts and glad tidings to as many as 300 men and women.

To donate or volunteer: Go to **ShelterKC.org** or follow us on Facebook for more holiday volunteer and giving opportunities.

DONATE. VOLUNTEER. CONNECT. ShelterKC.org



Here's my gift to bless those in need this holiday season.

☐ \$26.91 for **13 meals and care**

☐ \$51.75 for **25 meals and care**

☐ \$76.59 for **37 meals and care**

☐ \$_____ to help as many people as possible

☐ Bill my credit card ☐ Make this a recurring gift

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS ☐ DISCOVER

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ CIV/SEC# _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

It's easy to give your gift online: **ShelterKC.org**

Shelter KC
P. O. Box 270047
Kansas City, MO 64127-0047



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CONNECT



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Thank you for helping Tom find hope and recovery!

Tom struggled for years. Drug use led to a divorce, and eventually to homelessness.

It wasn't until he found himself sleeping outside beside a dumpster in the dead of winter that Tom really admitted he needed help.

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What you'll find inside:

- ✕ Disaster: Prevented!
- ✕ "Welcomed back with open arms..."
- ✕ A Season of Thanks

1520 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO 64108 | (816) 421-7643 | ShelterKC.org





Eric Burger, Executive Director

Disaster: Prevented!

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. — Psalm 46:1-2



COVID-19 was supposed to hit the homeless particularly hard. But here at Shelter KC, that didn't happen. Scrambling to institute prevention protocols and plans quickly was quite the task. We had very little warning time. We didn't know what we didn't know. We coped, but it was challenging. Like everyone during this pandemic, we learned how to be prepared for whatever the future holds. So far, no one in the shelter has contracted COVID-19. No one has tested positive. Now, as we head into winter with unemployment on the rise and the promise of bitterly cold weather, Shelter KC is equipping itself to

continue to safely serve not just the physical needs of homeless men and women. Even in the best circumstances, Thanksgiving and Christmas can be dark times that bring feelings of emptiness and hopelessness to people struggling with poverty, homelessness and addiction. This holiday season, Shelter KC is partnering with faithful donors and volunteers to bring Thanksgiving hope and Christmas joy to hundreds of hurting men, women and families. Won't you help us bring them hope, joy and the message of God's love during this holiday season?

Eric Burger



The last... and the first!

Long-time Shelter KC volunteers Jim Parker and Bob Schmidt were not only the last volunteers to serve a meal before the pandemic, but the first to return after the stay-at-home order was lifted! Both are grateful that there have been no cases of COVID-19 at the Mission, and doing their best to return to service under restrictions in place because of the pandemic. "Praise God that there have been no cases of Covid-19," Jim says. "His protection is over Shelter KC, and the staff is doing an outstanding job."

Join Jim and Bob!

Operation Family Feast
Help the Mission and area churches provide Thanksgiving food boxes for 250 families in Kansas City's urban core.

Celebration of Thanks
Volunteers are needed to help provide a week's work of special holiday meals for homeless men and women.

The Turkey Convoy
Join Bob and Jim and a host of other volunteers to prepare and deliver 500 very special Thanksgiving dinners to shut-ins, senior citizens and impoverished families on Thanksgiving morning. "Many hands make light work!" Individuals, families and groups are all welcome. To volunteer, visit our website at **ShelterKC.org** and click on "Volunteer." Or call Nick Franklin (816) 421-7643 ext 134.



"I was welcomed back with open arms!"



Tom has been a guest here at Shelter KC off and on for 18 years.

His journey began in 1998 when he lost his mother, his brother and his marriage all within six months!

He had been making a good living as a union millwright and "dabbling in drugs." But after the divorce all that changed.

"I was depressed and confused and turned to drugs to self-medicate. I started messing up on the job." Unable to pay his rent, he eventually found himself without a place to live.

Tom struggled for years, renting rooms at friends' houses, basically living as a couch-surfer. From time to time, he would come to Shelter KC for a meal and a bed.

He even entered our Christian Community of Recovery program and was sober for two years. But depression and isolation caused him to turn to drugs for consolation.

It wasn't until he found himself sleeping beside a dumpster in the dead of winter that Tom finally had to face the fact that the cycle was never going to end if he didn't get "serious about recovery."



"This time, I got honest with myself."

"The first time I didn't put my heart into it. I was leaving things out. I wasn't being totally honest," Tom says today. But when he finally made that commitment, getting the Holy Spirit strong in his heart and mind was "amazing!"

Today, Tom is living in a transitional house and volunteering here at Shelter KC where he chairs an NA (Narcotics Anonymous) meeting and works at the front desk.

Tom's message to the younger people he sees come through Shelter KC's door: "Get this straight now, while you're younger!"

Help struggling neighbors.



HOT MEALS



SAFE SHELTER



TRANSFORMED LIVES

Mail your gift today, or donate online at ShelterKC.org.