



CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY OUTREACH

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS, **PROVIDING SHELTER**, ACCEPTING PEOPLE, **FINDING HOME**

It's a privilege to walk alongside the families and individuals living at Cornerstone Community Outreach who are experiencing homelessness. It is an honor to help each person work towards a stable, healthy life. Homelessness is traumatic, complex, and a unique experience for each individual. Triumphs are often an uphill battle which makes each person's victory all the more cause for celebration.

Celebrate with us as we look at a few of the successful statistics from 2015. Your financial help allows CCO to continue to provide safe shelter for families and individuals experiencing homelessness. **Please consider making a generous donation during tax return season.** Thank you and join us in celebrating the accomplishments of 2015!

Housing Success

In 2015, **over 220 families and singles sheltered at CCO moved into permanent housing.** From 2012 – 2015, **over 780 people sheltered at CCO successfully moved into permanent housing.** "Finding home" is a vital part of CCO's mission statement and the ultimate goal of all our shelter guests. Whether it is a young father with children, a senior citizen, or a couple with teens, it is wonderful to rejoice with each shelter guest as they move from homelessness to housing.

Nutritious Meals/ Fighting Hunger

Over 236,600 plates of food were served to our shelter guest and neighbors in need of a meal in 2015. Fighting hunger is the first step in stabilizing a person in survival mode. Each serving helps to fight hunger and food insecurity for our shelter guests.

Essential Identification

CCO staff assisted 251 people in obtaining their birth certificates in 2015. State IDs, social security cards, and many other important documents can be lost in the trauma of homelessness, and as a result, large numbers of our shelter guests arrive at CCO without important identification. CCO staff works with shelter guests to fill these identification gaps. Without these documents, those sheltered at CCO would not be able to get employment, enroll in training programs, or eventually get housing.

Transportation for Employment & other Important Appointments

In 2015, **89 7-day transit passes were given to shelter guests who obtained employment.** Other work necessities such as uniforms and work boots or shoes were also provided. The positive impact of this

seemingly small help cannot be underestimated. Many of our shelter guests arrive at CCO with no income. Without this type of assistance, someone who obtained a new job would not be able to remain employed until their first paycheck.

CCO also assists those who have no income, and are in need of an RTA card, to get to training programs, interviews, and appointments that serve to stabilize the lives of our shelter guests.

CCO Food Pantry & Dinner Guest Program

Over 7800 bags of nutritious food were distributed through the CCO Food Pantry in 2015. Almost all of those attending our pantry are senior citizens, and due to a fixed income, they would otherwise be unable to purchase essential medications, pay utility bills, or pay rent. This valuable program not only provides nutritious groceries for our low-income neighbors, it is also a homeless prevention program.

In 2015, **CCO's weekly Dinner Guest program served over 5,200 plates of food** to our neighbors who otherwise might not have a balanced meal.

Free Store Shopping

Over 2,000 shoppers visited CCO's Free Store last year. Gently-used winter wear, work clothes, school clothes, shoes, jackets, bags, books, and household items, make the Free Store an important destination for those sheltered at CCO, as well as and our neighbors.

Valuable Volunteers

We are grateful for each volunteer and every hour they spend serving our shelter guests and neighbors. In 2015, **our faithful volunteers donated over 30,000 hours of hard work at CCO.** Whether they are assembling equipment for our rooftop playground, serving or prepping a meal, painting a wall, or hanging up clothes for the Free Store, these work hours strengthen the core services offered to our shelter guests.

Winter Outreach

Throughout the deadly cold weather CCO volunteers work to bring in those who are sleeping outside. Often on the most frigid nights an additional **35 to 50 people find warmth and safety** at CCO.

Your Financial Gift

CCO relies on your financial donation to provide safe shelter to over 350 families and individuals each day. We hope you continue to be a part of the good things that are happening at CCO!

Please donate today. Thank you!