

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Letter from Executive Director, Sarah Parker-Scanlon

Shelter Care has experienced remarkable growth since 2023, marking a year of significant achievements in our mission to end homelessness and support people living with mental illness. We've expanded our capacity and reach, hiring four new employees, recruiting

three new board members, and expanding four of our housing programs. We've made improvements to facilities including a kitchen upgrade at the Jubilee Center and the installation of a secure entryway to enhance safety. These efforts have yielded impressive results. We've ended homelessness for over 250 people, increased our housing capacity from 30 families to 51 families, and housed 20 single-person households in just 18 months.

Despite these successes, there have been some challenges, particularly in adapting to the needs of individuals who have experienced long-term homelessness. Housing Advocates have encountered difficulties in helping some residents adjust to indoor living and managing their mental health and addictions. However, guided by the belief that housing is a human right, Shelter Care remains committed to providing dignified housing to those in need.

As we approach our 40th anniversary, Shelter Care continues to play a crucial role in addressing homelessness, especially given the lack of sufficient affordable housing. Our organization's continued efforts and adaptability in the face of complex challenges demonstrate our vital role in the community. We're proud of what we've accomplished and remain dedicated to our mission as we look to the future. We look forward to 2025 when we celebrate our 40th year. Details to follow!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Cathy Ritts
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STAFF

Sarah Parker-Scanlon, Executive Director
Fawn Helmer, Finance Director
Linda Dennis, Development Director
Judy Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Jenn Heatherly, Finance Assistant
Terese Voll, Volunteer & Donation Coordinator

JUBILEE CENTER

Daysia Dismuke, Jubilee Director
Racheal Charles, Jubilee Outreach Advocate
Kapree McGowan, Jubilee Advocate
Ebony Teamer, Jubilee Advocate
Tammy Jamison, Jubilee Support Specialist
Mike Jarrett, Jubilee Chef
Mark Carlson, Janitor

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Tiffany Meek, Supportive Housing Director
Natalie Coy, Family Housing Advocate
Bryan Rilott, Jubilee Housing Advocate
Camille Thomas-Holt, Family Housing Advocate
Liz Wassner, Family Housing Advocate



EPISCOPAL CHARITIES

2024 Year in Review



SHELTER CARE

218 7TH STREET
ROCKFORD, IL 61104

815.964.5520
WWW.SHELTER-CARE.ORG

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING keeps families together during a housing crisis, many of whom have been victims of domestic violence. Housing is provided in houses and apartments in safe neighborhoods. Furniture, household items, and clothing are also provided through donations from our community and grant funding. There are four types of housing: Emergency, Transitional, Permanent Supportive, and Rapid Rehousing. Families and individuals are supported by housing advocates who assist with long term goals, referrals, advocacy, emotional support and encouragement.

Testimonial: "My name is Rebecca. My children, Eden, Egypt, and Ayden and I were living in Racine up until December 2022. We had to leave our home because it was no longer safe for us due to domestic violence. We needed to go far away from Racine to be safe and ended up at the mission in Rockford. I had never been homeless before and being at the mission was safe but also so very stressful because of the lack of privacy and personal space. I was working and trying to save for a place so I was astonished and ecstatic when I received the call from Shelter Care. We were so excited when I saw how nice and big and safe the apartment was. They gave us furniture and everything we needed – even stuffed animals for the kids. We felt so blessed. Recently, I received two scholarships and returned to school at Rockford University for a Bachelor's in Healthcare Administration. I am very hopeful about my future and ability to provide a good life for me and my children. **I am very grateful as this housing opportunity has removed a lot of stress and given me an opportunity to thrive and make choices that will keep my life moving in a positive direction.** Thank you, Shelter Care!"

"I am very grateful as this housing opportunity has removed a lot of stress and given me an opportunity to thrive..."



JUBILEE CENTER

THE JUBILEE CENTER is a one-of-a-kind day program for adults living with chronic mental illness who may be homeless or at risk of homelessness. Members are served a hot breakfast and lunch daily. Staff collaborate with other mental health organizations to provide a continuum of care, advocacy, case management, psychological and medical on-site services, housing, showers, employment, and intervention. At Jubilee, members find an environment where they are not seen as their diagnosis, but as peers, friends, and even family.

Testimonial: "The Jubilee Center and staff have changed my life for the better. There are still down days, but more positive days than ever. I became a member of the Jubilee a year ago. I was lost, confused, and alone. I lost all hope until I came here with all these wonderful people. I was suffering with anxiety and PTSD and didn't trust anyone. I didn't like or even know how to ask for help. Prior to coming here, I was in an abusive relationship and using drugs to numb the hurt I was suffering from. I lost my apartment and was homeless. I had no food and couldn't shower. The Jubilee helped me get clean. I went to rehab and I have been rebuilding myself. I'm now in a happy relationship. I'm taking my medication and if you ask me am I doing ok now, I would say yes. I just got a house thanks to the Jubilee staff helping us. **I'll forever be a member of the Jubilee. Thank you so much!**" — Sabrina

"I'll forever be a member of the Jubilee."

WHAT YOUR DONATION MADE POSSIBLE IN 2023 -2024

FAMILY SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

241 People Served

98%

of parents and children who exited Shelter Care housing are now stably housed.

71 Households | **77** Adults | **164** Children

JUBILEE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

17 Households
Adults **30**

71%

of adults who exited the Jubilee Center housing program are still stably housed.

JUBILEE CENTER

487
Active Jubilee Members

Visits to the Jubilee Center
24,904

23,480
Meals Served

