



seeds of change

lutheran metropolitan ministry

Summer 2018 Volume XXIV, Issue 2

A New Place to Call Home

LMM, along with many committed community partners, is dedicated to serving the needs of our community through our Housing & Shelter services, as homelessness affects thousands in Northeast Ohio. LMM's Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside is the largest shelter in the state of Ohio, housing up to 365 men per night.

"For people who are chronically homeless, including about 20% of the people at the Men's Shelter, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is exactly what they need," said LMM Vice President of Housing & Shelter, Michael Sering, "a place that welcomes them and is their home."

Inez Killingsworth Pointe, a Permanent Supportive Housing building, recently opened and is home to 66 chronically homeless individuals, with hopes of helping to end long-term homelessness in Cuyahoga County by 2020. Housing First partners including CHN Housing Partners, Emerald Development and Economic Network Inc. (EDEN), FrontLine Service, Enterprise Community Partners, and Care Alliance are on track to do just that.

"EDEN and its Housing First partners are so proud, and humble, to be able to house some of our community's most vulnerable citizens in a facility which pays tribute to the legacy of a tireless housing advocate in the Union Miles neighborhood," said Irene Collins, Executive Director of EDEN, Inc. "We remain deeply committed to this model because we know that Permanent Supportive Housing is the foundation upon which all other quality-of-life issues and challenges can be addressed."

This new PSH building will greatly benefit some of the residents at the Men's Shelter. About one-third of the units will go to place chronically homeless residents from the Shelter.

Former Men's Shelter resident Tom Olmstead moved into Killingsworth in December. Tom lived in the Veteran's Community at the Shelter and worked in the laundry room. He also participated in the Shelter's PhotoVoice project, where he hopes to share his experiences with homelessness through photographs to inspire and inform others.

"Being in the new building is really nice. The people there are amazing and are there for you no matter what. They even have a



Former resident, Tom Olmstead, helping in laundry room at Men's Shelter.

doctor and psychiatrist that come right to Killingsworth," said Olmstead. "Since everything is new, I don't have to worry about anything being broken or maintenance issues; instead, I can focus on myself."

Killingsworth and the services provided are a great stepping stone for Tom. He will continue to be involved with projects at the Men's Shelter because he wants to have the opportunity to be a voice for others.

With the help of LMM's community partners, we continue to look forward to developing solutions to homelessness for people who have different needs, resources, and capacities. Together, we are one step closer to ending homelessness in Northeast Ohio.

LMM Advocacy at Work



Mary Goodwin, Andrew Genszler, Rep. Marcia Fudge, and Bevin Bowersmith at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

On April 3, LMM was honored to participate in a Farm Bill Listening Session at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank with Ohio Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, who heard testimony from LMM and various community partners on the importance of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

LMM President & CEO, Andrew Genszler, spoke on behalf of the agency. "LMM associates and stands with many other organizations and Americans living in poverty when we call for SNAP's full re-authorization. From our experience, LMM suggests that it is disingenuous for the federal government to require training and community service hours for a public benefit and then not provide adequate funding to the states to implement those training hours," he said.

LMM is a Greater Cleveland Food Bank redistribution center and provides community service opportunities in our Central Kitchen for individuals receiving public assistance and SNAP, in particular. People receiving SNAP benefits come to LMM to complete their required work or community service hours, helping to produce 2,000 meals a day for area homeless shelters. Some SNAP participants then opt to join LMM's culinary program.

Former SNAP recipient, Mary Goodwin, graduated from the culinary arts program and is now an LMM employee. Mary shared her journey from homelessness to employment. "I experienced homelessness four times in my life and I needed a hand then, so being at LMM, I am now able to give back and provide others with what I once needed – steady meals and people who care," she shared. "SNAP isn't just a means of obtaining benefits. It's a pathway forward to opportunities."

We thank Congresswoman Fudge for her advocacy and support for SNAP, and for her public service on behalf of the 11th District.

You can watch Mary's inspirational story and LMM's full testimony by replaying LMM's Facebook LIVE video.



Doug Katz of Fire Food and Drink drops off donations on behalf of his restaurant and the Cavs.

Cavs: #WhateverItTakes to Give Back

The Cleveland Cavaliers are a force to be reckoned with on the floor, but off-court, they're known for giving back to the community. Following their series sweep of the Raptors in the playoffs, the Cavs didn't need to get back on a plane to Toronto, so they donated all of the food that had been prepared for their flight to the Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside. Fire Food and Drink created the menu and cooked the fine dining selections for the Cavs players and crew, and quickly reached out about the donation. Thanks to Fire and the Cleveland Cavaliers for bringing five-star dining to our shelter residents. You made them feel like (wine and) gold!



Chopping for Change participants show off their specialty sandwiches.

Photo by: Karin McKenna

Reentry Week 2018

Cuyahoga County's Inaugural Reentry Awareness Week kicked off April 23, bringing with it a lot of positive attention to local efforts aimed at reducing recidivism. The county's Office of Reentry scheduled events throughout the week to both educate the community and recognize agencies that facilitate successful reentry via programming. LMM's role was showcased and multiple media outlets completed stories on LMM's innovative reentry program, Chopping for Change, and the newly opened Comeback Cafe at a county building. Visit lutheranmetro.org to see news coverage.



Andrew Genszler and Brittani Bo Baker speak during the **savor** 2018 program.

savor snapshot

LMM's 5th annual **savor** at the Silver Grille in the Higbee Building was a huge success! About 300 people gathered to support LMM while enjoying food from some of the best restaurants in the area. Congratulations to Pier W for winning Favorite Food Station as voted on by guests!

Thank you to all of our amazing food stations, volunteers, and supporters. Special thanks to **savor's** Honorary Chair, Brittani Bo Baker from Bubba's-Q, and our Emcee for the night, Russ Mitchell from WKYC-TV3!

Your generous support of this event makes our work possible!

View Facebook gallery of photos! [Facebook.com/LMMCleveland](https://www.facebook.com/LMMCleveland)



Favorite Food Station: Pier W

Cheesecake Factory Visits Shelter

The Cheesecake Factory served lunch to residents at the Men's Shelter at 2100 Lakeside as part of their Give Back program. The residents were in for a special treat when Cheesecake Factory employees served meals to the men at their tables, as if they were at the restaurant. Restaurant staff and shelter residents then had the opportunity to get to know each other. A kitchen manager was present and insisted that the Cheesecake Factory will be back to serve lunch again.



Cheesecake Factory employees at the Men's Shelter.



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Our Mission:

To promote shalom (peace, well-being) and justice (right relationships) through a Christian ministry of service and advocacy with those who are oppressed, forgotten and hurting.

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To add, delete or change your address, contact 216.696.1882 or mail@lutheranmetro.org.



Saturday, October 13

9am

5K Run & 1 Mile Walk

Post-run activities featuring local vendors

Registration Opening Soon

