



Carelines Newsletter

"We have come dangerously close to accepting the homeless situation as a problem that we just can't solve."

Laura Lingle

I would like to introduce you to one of the most caring, good-hearted individuals I have met. Ray is a Quad-Cities native. His story begins much like the rest of us, but how he responded to his challenge is what, in my view, sets him apart.

On August 30, 2016, the tri-plex Ray was living in was sold. Ray's name was already on the waiting list for low income housing, but no apartments were available. He was able to stay with a cousin for a couple of weeks, but that was only a short-term solution. He came to Christian Care seeking shelter and was accepted for admission.

Ray's parents were both deceased. Like many families with jobs, children and otherwise busy schedules, Ray's family members were no different. Ray was on his own. With an income of just above minimum wage, Ray had no means to support himself; thus, the application for low income housing. More bad news followed shortly afterward when Ray's employer had to let him go because of lack of business.

Ray accepted the "cards dealt to him." He was not about to let negativity control him. He took the good with the bad and knew that things could have been worse. "I could have been out on the street." Ray stated that he was very grateful to Christian Care for taking him in when he needed it most.

Ray's immediate goals were to find employment and move into an apartment. He remained focused and positive about his future. Today, Ray's goals have been met. Ray is gainfully employed and he settled into his own place in July. We want to take this opportunity to wish him well and good luck. Thank you, Ray, for having a good attitude and for being a positive influence on Christian Care.

For over 100 years, Christian Care has helped transform the lives of many homeless individuals like Ray. We continue to remain true to our mission: "By providing safe shelter, support and resources, Christian Care empowers the homeless to make positive changes in every aspect of their lives."

IMPORTANT NEWS: We want and need your cooperation in our effort to "go green". Beginning January 2018, our newsletter will be paperless. We need to reduce costs and increase efficiency. Please contact us with your *current email address*. If you need a mailed copy, please let us know so we can continue serving you.

*100 years of Transforming Lives
1916 – 2016*

Sept/Oct
2017

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"Sometimes it's easy to walk by because we know we can't change someone's whole life in a single afternoon. But what we fail to realize is that simple kindness can go a long way toward encouraging someone who is stuck in a desolate place."

Mike Yankowski
(Former Homeless Man
and Motivational
Speaker)

EVENT HAPPENINGS

On July 24, 2017, the youth group from the Geneseo Evangelical Free Church weeded and mulched our front landscaping as part of their youth ministry program. The new look is inviting for visitors and residents alike.



New Opportunity: Christian Care is forming a Royal Neighbors Chapter. What does that mean? You can join us by paying \$20.00 in annual membership dues and work side by side with us to do various community service projects. Fundraising is an integral part of the chapter's work and matching funds from Royal Neighbors up to a maximum of \$1,000 per year are available. There are many opportunities for us to participate in and raise money for Christian Care, all while having fun! Please contact Pam today at 309-786-5734 or via email at phauman@christiancareqc.org to sign up.

Thank you to those who brought food and/or served at our Meal Site during July/August

All Saints Episcopal Church - Bethany Baptist Church
Church of the Cross – Colona United Methodist Church - Community Christian Fellowship -- Kari Elmer - First Christian Church – Friends of Christian Care – Geneseo United Methodist Church - Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church - Greater Harvest - Heart of Hope Ministries – Heartland Hospice - Holy Cross Lutheran Church – Illinois Casualty Company - Kalie Reign Ministries - Memorial Christian Church - Mighty Fortress Church – Melissa Olsen - Pentecostal Church of Christ -
Risen Christ Lutheran Church – St. James Lutheran - Scott Schaefer - Janne Short –John and Linda Sullivan

Congratulations on the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Al and Sharon Collins. They shared their cake and ice cream with our residents as part of their celebration. Thank you!



Christian Care's Current Needs:

- Fresh, frozen and/or canned fruit and vegetables
- Dairy products: yogurt, sliced cheese, butter and spreadable margarine
- Cooking Oil
- Coffee, tea and creamer
- Powdered milk
- Sugar
- Salad dressing - large bottles
- BBQ sauce and mustard
- Non-stick cooking spray
- Gift cards to: Aldi, Fareway, Hy-Vee, Target or WalMart
- Gift cards to: Walgreen's, Osco or CVS Pharmacies
- Cleaning products - Lysol spray, Pine Sol, bleach, shower cleaner, oven cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, automatic dishwasher detergent
- Hygiene products - deodorant, body wash, bar soap
- 13 and 33-gallon trash bags
- Paper towels & dinner napkins
- Kleenex

Please bring all items to Christian Care at 2209 3rd Avenue in Rock Island between the hours of 8:00 am and 7:00 pm

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Tom Bulger. Tom has been a volunteer at Christian Care since June 2015. He retired after 37 years of working in the mental health field. Tom's passion for volunteering extends beyond Christian Care to include Unity Point Hospital/Trinity, Rock Island, and his church, Good Shepard Presbyterian in Rock Island. Tom serves as an elder and Christian Education Leader for his church.

Tom works in our office and "mans" our front desk on Friday afternoons from Noon – 4:00 p.m. answering the telephone, assisting our residents and visitors and helping staff with special projects. Tom is one of eight office assistants we have staffing our front desk and greeting visitors.

Tom and his wife, Mary, reside in Rock Island and have 2 grown daughters. Tom and Mary recently celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary and are planning a cruise to celebrate their 50th next year. We are blessed to know Tom and have him as a faithful volunteer here at Christian Care. Stop in and say hello to Tom the next time you are in our neighborhood on a Friday afternoon.



2209 3rd Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201-4176

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Transforming Lives for 100 years!



Homelessness is a reality in our community.
Each year, we care for hundreds of men,
by offering nutritious meals, warm clothing and safe shelter—
as well as services and programs focused on positive change.
Please consider making a donation today.

Go green and save postage. To receive your newsletter electronically,
contact Pam at phauman@christiancareqc.org

24-Hour Crisis Hotline: (309) 788-CARE (2273)

Visit us at christiancareqc.org or  Find us on **Facebook** at facebook.com/christiancareqc.org