AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER



Christian Caring Center
378 Lakehurst Road
Browns Mills, NJ 08015
P. O. Box 385 Pemberton,
NJ 08068
609-893-0700

christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com www.christiancaringcenter.net Find us on

Serving Burlington County Since 1983



A word from Madelyn Sutton
Director of the Christian Caring
Center

Romans 12:2 "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Do you have space for someone else to change? Do you have space for you to change? Do you want the mind of Christ that gives life and hope? The problem today is that too many people are trying to change their behavior and not their minds. When behavior changes and our mind remains the same, the results of change are only temporary. Then we find ourselves right back where we originally started, only this time with more frustration than before. We cannot continue to think the same way and expect different results. One can't change without the other because they go hand in hand. A changed mind brings about changed behavior. This is why I spend my Sunday mornings driving around picking up people, usually all homeless, and taking them to church with me. I spend a lot of time Monday thru Saturday inviting people to go with me and then Sunday comes! One such person is JC., who has lived in our parking lot since March. He has been consistently going every week, worshiping, hearing the Word of God and renewing his mind while going through the storm. J.C. told me last week on the way to church, that his body was starting to give out from living on the ground. J.C. has been working with us and the PATH program, Legacy and really making some steps forward in services like SNAP, a phone, applying for Social Security and GA and best of all housing. Continued the next page...



but it takes time to accomplish all this. I encouraged him that he was almost to the end of this journey, and we were going to continue to pray. In 4 days, we received word that some agency was going to place J.C. in a motel for 2 weeks-

PTL! The great news is J.C.'s mind has been renewing since March through the Word of God and he knows he can trust God. I was explaining to him that faith is like an umbrella in a storm, it allows you to keep walking even through the storm. This is the most important part of this Ministry, sharing the Gospel, showing and teaching people how to renew their minds through the Word of God, and welcoming them into the body of Christ! We spend a lot of time giving and but this is the best gift. If you would like to donate or volunteer, our volunteer application and donate button online website is our www.christiancaringcenter.net or stop bv Christian Caring Center or the Village Thrift Shop. Whoever you are, whatever you do, you can have Jesus in your life. You don't need extraordinary qualifications or a lot of money; He accepts you as you are. Thank you for sharing your prayers, time and financial gifts to spread this wonderful gospel to the people we serve at the Christian Caring Center. Abiding in Him,

Madelyn Sutton Executive Director





STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Brandon Couit,

Men's Shelter Manager and Food Rescue/Pantry

Manager.

Brandon has been on staff as the Shelter Manager for 3 years and is the Pantry Manager. Brandon lives at one of the Men's Shelter with up to 4 men. He makes sure all the rules and regulations are kept as well as he encourages the men as they look for housing and brings in the men to the Christian Caring Center to work. Brandon also does most of all of our food rescue pick ups every week. He is responsible for picking up at Sprouts, Acme, Thistle and sometimes Shoprite. He also picks up our shopping needs for the pantry at Aldis, WalMart, etc. We are blessed to have him as a vital team partner in mission at the Christian Caring Center.



We need volunteers for the Sleep-Out who will seek sponsors to contribute to Bridge of Hope.

The purpose is to raise funds for Bridge of Hope to finance the cost of helping a single mother get established in an apartment or home and to prepare a way for her to be able to earn enough to live on her own in about a year through counseling, training, mentoring and other assistance, including linking her to a church group that will agree to help her all along her efforts toward becoming self-sustainable for herself and her children

When?

October 14, 2023 (7:30 pm to 7 am) at the

Medford United Methodist Church (2 Hartford Road, Medford)

You can come and sleep in your car at the church or in your driveway, you can pitch a tent on your front lawn and then when your neighbors come and ask what you are doing, you can witness to them. You can have a sleep over with your kids or grandchildren in your living room. The idea is to get sponsorships to donate to our Bridge of Hope program. Your help is really needed at this critical time, as food prices and inflation are on the rise, with our families that are allowing God to mold their lives back to what He has intended for them to prosper. If you would like to host the event for your members and neighbors, please email us at christiancatingcenter@yahoo.com. This is a great event for teenagers, confirmation students, community service projects and the entire family.

How do I volunteer?

Sleep-out volunteers please use the form on the back of this flyer to sign up sponsors. Then please fax or mail a copy of the sign-ups to the CCC: FAX No. (609) 893-1880 By October 1st 2023



IMPACT in our local community!



EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM

The **Lord** through the Christian Caring Center helped 500 Adults and 249 Children or 749 individuals totaling 273 households with meals in the month of July 2023- PTL!!!

COMMUNITY LUNCH/RURAL HOMELESS PROGRAM

The **Lord** through the Christian Caring Center served 918 hot cooked lunches and continental breakfasts in the month of July, 2023. We also go out to the streets/woods on Wednesday and Friday to deliver 60 lunches and outreach to the homeless, alcoholic, addicted or mentally challenged men, women in 2 area motels. Please continue to pray for the people still out there homeless and struggling as well as the staff and volunteers.

BRIDGE OF HOPE

We have We have 2 Families remaining in the program and are doing good. We are training First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Holly as a new neighboring team. We are planning our major Fundraiser for Bridge of Hope—SLEEP OUT on October 14, 2023 from 7:30 pm to 7 am. You will have so much fun while changing the lives of children and parents. If you're interested, please drop us an email at christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com. This is a great opportunity for everyone to join in—singles, families, seniors. If you have a group, students, confirmation candidates needing to complete community service hours, Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts needing to complete badge requirements, etc. We can all help each other and change lives at the same time!

We are planning our major Fundraiser for Bridge of Hope–SLEEP OUT October 14, 2023 from 7:30 pm to 7 am at the Medford United Methodist Church (2 Hartford Road, Medford) You will have so much fun while changing the lives of children and parents. If you're interested, please drop us an email at christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com. This is a great

opportunity for everyone to join in—singles, families, seniors. If you have a group, students, confirmation candidates needing to complete community service hours, Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts needing to complete badge requirements, etc. We can all help each other and change lives at the same time!

The St. Mary of the Lakes, Medford Knights of Columbus are holding THE 3RD ANNUAL CORN HOLE FUNDRAISER FOR THE CHRISTIAN CARING CENTER ON September 16,2023 from 11am to 5pm at St. Mary of the Lakes School, Rt. 70, Medford. We are looking for sponsors and players. Please see the flyer that is enclosed. You are guaranteed to have fun, a good time, a good lunch and will help support the programs of the Christian Caring Center.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM

Jack Stelle Men's Emergency Shelter: We have 4 men in the shelter right now. LaShawn has been working at Amazon for a few months now and really likes it. Kevin has been accepted in the Path Stone employment program and works at the center. Greg is working as a flag man. Mitchell is looking for work and serving at the Christian Caring Center in the meantime.

<u>Holman House</u>: Is temporarily closed to residents right now as we are going through renovations of adding a bathroom and bedroom for an isolation room.

<u>Marion House:</u> We are interviewing potential new families for placement.

SALVATION ARMY SERVICE UNIT

The Christian Caring Center serves as a volunteer service unit for the Salvation Army. They provided 2 utility bill payments, placed 3 in motels and provided healthcare for 1. SSH provided 8 security deposits and 8 back rent assistance.

Ask God...How can I help?

NEEDED ITEMS

- 1. Peanut butter & Jelly
- 2. Tuna & soups
- 3. Instant Potatoes, mac & cheese
- 4. Cereal, Breakfast bars, Nutra grain bars
- 5. Juice, shelf milk
- 6. Pasta & sauce
- 7. Sneakers, Tee Shirts & jeans
- 8. Off insect spray for homeless clients sleeping outside





OPENING HOURS:

We are open Monday-Friday from 10 am-3 pm.in the Outreach Center at 378 Lakehurst Rd. Browns Mills. We prefer to make appointments for case management, we prefer clients to call the B.C. Housing HUB at 609-265-5185. They will take a short assessment and send out an email to all the agencies who have funding. Lunch will be served at 12 noon and all are welcome and we go out on Street Outreach every Wednesday and Friday 12:30 pm-1:30 pm. The drive through food pantry is in operation Monday - Friday 10 am to 3 pm. The Village Thrift Shop, 87 Hanover Street, Pemberton is open Monday thru Friday from 9 am to 4 pm and Saturdays 10 am to 3 pm. They are accepting in season clothing, blankets, household goods, linens, towels etc. Donations are excepted on Mon. Wed., Fri. 10-2pm only. They supply the Outreach Center in Browns Mills clothing as needed there. Praise the Lord!

6 Most Wanted Volunteer Positions

1. Village Thrift Shop sorting and working the cash register 2. Interviewers/to pray with the people receiving food. 3. Fundraising Committee (making baskets for auction, mailings, decorating, etc.) 4. Volunteers to work with homeless clients locating housing and jobs. 5. Volunteers for making gift baskets for auction at our fundraising events. 6. Volunteers for our upcoming Corn Hole and Sleep Out Fundraisers. As we are open 5 days per week, we desperately need volunteers. We only have 7 regular staff to run 12 programs. We have opportunities to fit your schedule: weekly, monthly and virtual projects like Holiday baskets, food pickups, food or basket shopping, events such as our Corn Hole or Sleep Out fundraisers, etc.



