



Christ  
House

HEALING AND HOPE FOR HOMELESS PERSONS

VOLUME XXXVIII, NO. 3 | FALL 2023

# Day by Day

## *It's a New Dawn, a New Day*



Nine of our community members are celebrating a new dawn in life after graduating from our New Day Treatment Program. The New Day Treatment Program is a nine-week, intensive, in-house recovery program led by John Bush, our Certified Addictions Counselor. The treatment program consists of evidence-based curriculum from My Personal Journal and Living in Balance, designed to assist the men in adjusting their thinking and attitudes about the use of alcohol and drugs.

During the ceremony, graduates spoke individually about the positive impact New Day has had on their lives. In several instances, the graduates referred to each other as brothers and mentioned how they always have each other's backs.

***"It's a nice place to open up and to share different things on your mind... you get more tools in your toolbelt to change for the better."***

***-Seth, Christ House Patient***

The path to recovery is different for everyone, and it is never too late to start the journey.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings are held three times a week at Christ House and are open to the community. The weekly meeting times are:

Mondays at 4:30 pm (NA)  
Wednesdays at 4:30 pm (AA)  
Fridays at 4:30 pm (AA)



The mission of Christ House is to provide comprehensive and compassionate care for people experiencing homelessness with acute medical needs in DC and to offer assistance in addressing critical issues to help break the cycle of homelessness.

# New Year Long Volunteers

Please give a warm welcome to our two new Year Long Volunteers, Bo and Emma! Bo works on the second floor as a Respite Care Assistant and Emma coordinates daily activities for our patients and provides administrative support to multiple departments.



## Meet Bo!

**Role:** Respite Care Assistant

**Hometown:** Denver, CO

**Favorite Book:** *The Body Keeps the Score*

### Why Christ House?

I was immediately taken with Christ House's mission. I hope to form strong relationships with the men and the staff that will guide my hopeful career in medicine.



## Meet Emma!

**Role:** Generalist

**Hometown:** Philadelphia, PA

**Favorite Book:** *The Killer Angels: A Novel of the Civil War*

### Why Christ House?

I wanted to serve people on the margins of society while challenging myself to grow socially and professionally.

# Tea Time at Christ House

Once a month in the middle of the afternoon, Christ House patients and staff gather for Tea Time in the dining room. Over tea, coffee, homemade cookies, and quiche, the Christ House community debriefs and updates one another about what's happening in their daily lives. Tea Time was started by the Christ House kitchen staff to create a relaxing space that brings people together and offers a brief break from the busy workday. Kevin, one of the kitchen cooks, explains:

***“Tea time for us is a chance for the kitchen staff to say thank you to the rest of the staff. Everybody gets a chance to relax and have some tea and cookies.”***





## Turning Up The Heat



Our kitchen range (oven and stovetop) is on the fritz and needs to be replaced. This appliance is essential in providing our patients with three healthy and nutritious meals a day, playing a vital role in recovery. We need a new range to ensure that our kitchen continues to run smoothly and efficiently.

With your support, we're a quarter of the way to our fundraising goal of \$20,000.

### Will you help keep us cooking?



Donations can be made online by mentioning "oven" in the comments section of our donation page or by check with "oven" in the memo line.

Once we reach our goal, any additional donations will go toward other kitchen necessities.

Thank you for your support!

## From Program Director to Pageant Queen

Our Kairos Program Director, Kelley Reed, was recently crowned Ms. Black USA 2023. Ms. Black USA is a national pageant which empowers women to engage in their creative self-worth of being a Black woman with a voice. Kelley competed alongside seventeen hopefuls to earn the title in her first-ever pageant competition. During her reign of Ms. Black USA, Kelley will use her platform to bring greater awareness to the country's growing overdose epidemic. You can follow her journey on Instagram at @officialmsblackusa.

**Congratulations, Kelley! The Christ House community is so proud of your achievement.**



## Mark Your Calendars

The holiday season is right around the corner, which means the Christ House halls will soon be bustling with festivity. To ensure our holiday plans go off without a hitch, we need your help! Please save the following dates to join us in making this season special for our patients and Kairos Permanent Housing Members.

**Thanksgiving Food Donations:** Our kitchen is accepting food donations to make a delicious Thanksgiving meal for our residents. Please see the Thanksgiving grocery list on our website for requested items.

**Giving Tuesday:** Tuesday, November 28 is Giving Tuesday and our Fall Matching Campaign! Help Christ House raise \$25,000 to support our essential mission of healing and hope. Don't forget to make a financial contribution on this date for your gift to be matched by generous donors!

**Christmas Gift Drive:** On Christmas morning, each patient wakes up to a bag of individually wrapped presents just for them. Help us spread joy by donating new items from our Amazon Wish List. Gift wrapping volunteer opportunities are available. To learn more, please email [volunteers@christhouse.org](mailto:volunteers@christhouse.org).

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