



Christ
House

HEALING AND HOPE FOR HOMELESS PERSONS

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Day by Day

The Kairos Program is a permanent supportive housing program for former Christ House patients. Kairos House is a 37-unit building located two blocks away from Christ House.

Yards of fresh pine garland draped the Kairos House foyer for the recent Christmas season. The singing Santa figurine - a Kairos holiday staple - stood at the reception desk ready to serenade the next unsuspecting passerby. Some Kairos Members dressed their apartment doors with Christmas wrapping paper, and lights. Each hall decked for the same cause: to spread Christmas cheer.

A classic Christmas song professes the season to be "the most wonderful time of the year." Yet for some, Christmas is a time during which they are visited by grief, sadness, and loneliness. Vincent, a Kairos Member since December 2022, admits that Christmas is a difficult time for him. *"I don't get a whole lot of joy out of Christmas..."*



James and Keith show the spirit of Kairos community on Christmas Day

Hope During The Holidays

from the time of Thanksgiving to New Year's, I take a step down...My family is gone. Most holidays for the last five, six holidays, I've just been by myself."

For Joel, a Kairos Member since April 2009, Christmas has become a time of reflection, *"I think of [God] first and then I think of family and then I think of this wonderful community I'm in now."* He reflects on how his life has changed since entering the Kairos Program. Christmas used to be about drugs and alcohol: *"I was looking for the wrong*

[Christmas] spirit. That was my problem." Today, Christmas is not about material goods, but rather the invaluable gifts he's been given - recovery, brotherhood, and spirituality through the Kairos Program.

Hervie has been a Kairos Member since March 2016. He describes Kairos Christmases as celebrations. *"We praise the Lord and give out gifts for everyone. Just being together as one makes it*

(continued on p. 2)



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 the critical issues to help them break the cycle of homelessness.

special.” The Kairos Members partook in an annual Christmas Eve worship service at Christ House with patients, staff, and guests. They sang Christmas carols and shared in the joy of community.

On Christmas morning, Kairos Members gathered in the Kairos House living room to have breakfast together and open presents. Generous Christ House supporters donated 100 percent of the gifts, enough for all thirty-three Kairos Members. Volunteers and staff wrapped and labeled each gift. Hervie says this is his favorite part of Christmas

“I love the camaraderie of the whole day. It’s like a family.” Joel agrees: “[I like] getting up in the morning and saying ‘Happy Holidays!’ It’s nice to see the new guys smile.” Vincent will always miss his family during Christmas but acknowledges that this was the better of Christmases he’s had in a while. “I haven’t had a Christmas present in I don’t know how long...Christmas at Kairos was peaceful, loving, and caring. Everybody has open arms.”

We are sincerely grateful for everyone who made the holiday season a special time for our Kairos Members and patients. We utilize in-kind donations throughout the year and invite you to visit our website to view our wish list.



Hugh and Joel smile after a full morning of gift-giving and fellowship.

Community at Christmas



This past December, Kairos Members and Christ House staff gathered for a Christmas Party for the first holiday season since before the pandemic. We enjoyed fellowship, food, and photo booth fun! We are grateful to The Potter’s House for providing the space and food for our event!



178 Patient Admissions



37 Kairos Permanent Housing Members



155 AA/NA Meetings



1,920 Patient Transport Van Rides



31,354 Meals Served



Most Popular Activity: Tie-Dye



2,044 Pastoral Counseling Sessions



10,951 Total Volunteer Hours



1,951 Total Donors

A Year in Numbers 2022

New Day Graduation

New Day Addictions Recovery Program is a 12-week class which identifies difficult emotions, explains abuse-associated behaviors and teaches healthy habits.

On Wednesday, November 16th, 2022, 7 participants graduated from the New Day Program. They shared their personal experiences and what they gained from the New Day curriculum. Graduates were well-supported as evidenced by the packed house of Kairos members, Christ House patients, and staff.



Michael gives a speech at the graduation ceremony

Join our monthly giving program

Christ House's Circle of Healers provides a steady, reliable source of income to deliver medical services, allowing us to respond to our most urgent needs and plan for the future. As a monthly donor, you help reduce Christ House's administrative and fundraising costs (we'll only send you an annual giving statement), and you have the ability to log into your account to make any necessary changes at your own convenience.

Scan the QR code here to sign up for monthly giving -->



Are you looking for ways to volunteer your time?

Christ House would not be the same without our wonderful volunteers serving food in the kitchen, monitoring phones at the nurses' station, or coordinating activities with our patients. We are currently looking for volunteers to serve in these three areas. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering at Christ House, please create an account with us at christhouse.volunteerhub.org or contact our Volunteer Manager, Heidi Mills, at heidi.mills@christhouse.org.

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to our community!

We could not do this vital work without you.



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