# **JOURNEYS** THE ROAD HOME

## February 2019

Providing shelter and services to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in suburban Cook County.

# 2019 Marks 30 Years of Growth and Service

#### A message from Beth Nabors, Executive Director

In 1989, faith-based communities in northwest suburban Cook County organized Northwest Suburban PADS, a system of volunteer-run emergency shelters, to respond to a growing number of homeless residents requesting assistance. Three years later, HOPE Now Inc. was organized to provide case management, counseling and housing services to complement the shelter services. In 2001, these bodies merged to form JOURNEYS from PADS to HOPE. In 2012, the agency changed its business name to JOURNEYS | The Road Home to emphasize that it serves all who are struggling with housing needs, whether homeless or not. Today, we continue three signature programs: the emergency PADS Shelter Program, the HOPE Day Center Program and the Pathways Housing Readiness Program, and we are bursting at the seams, with no plans of slowing down!

This October marks JOURNEYS' 30-year anniversary. This July, I will also be marking a milestone in celebration of my 20th anniversary as JOURNEYS' executive director. As a lifelong resident of Arlington Heights, I've seen the needs of the community change. The one thing that has stayed constant is the desire and drive of our residents to give back to our shared community. For the past three decades, our community members have helped JOURNEYS provide services, support and shelter to people struggling with housing insecurity, making it one of the most stable and efficient nonprofit organizations in the region in meeting the needs of our neighbors, those with and



**Beth Nabors** Executive Director

without homes.

We are so proud of the fact that the majority of our funding comes from local individuals, businesses, family foundations and faith communities– not government. This allows us to structure our programs to address the unique needs of our local communities, and to us, that is really important. For many people in the region, JOURNEYS is a crucial lifeline which has helped thousands of people facing financial hardship while battling addictions, domestic issues, mental health symptoms, hunger and housing instability. We couldn't have done it without each and every one of you!

Stay tuned as we gear up to celebrate this milestone anniversary. You will have many opportunities to show your community pride and support of those less-fortunate in the months to come as we celebrate JOURNEYS– your community-grown agency serving your neighbors!

### In the Last Six Months:

37 people have been housed



589 people have received

services including: 79 children

(29 of whom are

ages 5 and under)



26,715 services across 60 categories including 13,411 nights of shelter have been provided 76 clients aged 62+

### It's time to celebrate!

Countdown to 30!



Celebrating

**30 Years** 1989-2019

A Legacy of HOPE

On our first night of shelter, 1 person was served

30 years later, we regularly serve almost 100 people on each night of shelter

### **Compassion breaks all Barriers**

### **Eric's Story**

If anyone was ready to give up, it was Eric. Even though he was making substantial progress toward pulling himself out of homelessness by earning several interviews, he felt like he was failing. Eric had applied for so many positions and attended so many hopeful interviews that his white button-up shirt was now yellow and frayed from so many washes and wears to promising opportunities that never panned out.

For three years, he had been diligently searching for a career that would allow him to support himself, and though he had many qualifications and impressive experience in various supervisory roles, the results of his efforts were always the same: he would receive thanks for his time and praise for his passion—but an imperfect background check always thwarted his progress forward. A mistake he made in his twenties, when he could not afford legal representation, had followed him more than 40 years.





Even so, he continued to work closely with his case manager to identify skills and areas he could improve upon to secure his coveted career. Together, they coordinated a successful strategy for completing all necessary pre-screening tests and assessments for the various chances Eric was chasing. He set his alarm, slept in PADS shelters, collected transportation vouchers for gas to make crucial interviews, and selected a new white shirt from the Clothing Closet.

Then one day, the trajectory of his life changed. Eric got a callback from a major airport. After a lengthy interview process, he was finally offered the life-changing opportunity to be a storeroom material supervisor, a salaried position with impressive benefits. Eric credits his discipline and the help of his case manager for securing a future he now looks forward to.

# To help increase client success, JOURNEYS offers more than 60 services at no cost to those we serve, including crucial therapeutic support, vocational counseling, assistance in securing housing and help in meeting basic needs on the road to self-sufficiency.

### **Robert's Story**

When Robert first came to JOURNEYS for assistance, he primarily spoke Spanish and relied heavily on bilingual clients and online translation services to communicate with his case manager. Though serious health concerns and lengthy medical appointments caused him to lose his job and eventually his transportation, Robert was determined to improve his English proficiency in hopes of securing a better opportunity that would help him stabilize.

A year ago, Robert struggled to express himself in English, which hindered his job search. Today, his English has improved to the point where he speaks the language with confidence and conviction and helps other clients to communicate, as well.

#### "I want to be an inspiration," Robert says of others whom are overcoming language barriers. "When I became homeless and had no place to live or shower, I came to JOURNEYS and they gave me peace. They gave me compassion."

Our staff is so proud of Robert and all of our clients who commit to making leaps and bounds to transform the lives on their own Road Home.

#### www.journeystheroadhome.org

### **Community Spotlight**

### Organize a Drive or Event

#### THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who has been so generous to conduct these drives/events to benefit JOURNEYS. We are so lucky to be apart of such a great community!





### **Upcoming Events**

Wanting to do good for your community? Choose an idea or come up with one of your own! Register your drive on our website under the DONATE Tab. Let us know what else you need in order to make your event or drive successful!

Sponsorship opportunities available for both events. Visit the Events Page on our website, or contact Paige Jacob at p.jacob@journeystheroadhome.org or 847-963-9163 x116



Women's Luncheon Garden of Giving

Wednesday, April 24th Inverness Golf Club

> Event Chairs Margaret Brueck



Superhero 5K Run/Walk Saturday, June 15th Palatine Towne Square

> Event Chairs Shari Rabin

### **Connect with JOURNEYS**

Stay up to date with the latest JOURNEYS news



Visit the **News** tab on our website to stay up to date with the latest articles about JOURNEYS!



#### MAKING A DONATION TO JOURNEYS IS SIMPLE

Make a secure donation ONLINE at www.journeystheroadhome.org MAIL OR IN PERSON JOURNEYS | The Road Home 1140 E Northwest Highway Palatine, Illinois 60074

**PHONE** Call 847-963-9163 x116

### Special Volunteer Opportunitites

For more information contact Alyssa Wilbourn at a.wilbourn@journeystheroadhome.org or 847-963-9163 ext. 121



**Young Professionals Board** Join members between the ages of 21-39 and attend exciting fundraising and networking events with JOURNEYS.

### **Call for Volunteers!**

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 The HOPE Center is open Monday-Friday &

Summer PADS Season begins in May

#### L **Orintation Schedule** Spring/Summer 2019

All orientations are held at **JOURNEYS** | The Road Home

\*No registration required\*

TIME 6:30 pm 10:00am 6:30pm
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6:30pm 10:00am 6:30pm
10:00am 6:30pm 6:30pm
6:30pm 6:30pm 10:00am





Language Interpreters **Volunteer Interpreters for Spanish, Russian,** and Polish are needed to help us better serve our clients. Volunteers should be available 7:30 AM- 4:00PM, Monday-Friday, but need not to be present the whole day.

**Marketing Committee** We are seeking individuals with a professional and educational background in marketing and public relations to join our Marketing Committee.

**Summer PADS Cooks** The summer PADS Program is in great need of cooks Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday nights.





JOURNEYS | The Road Home 1140 East Northwest Highway | Palatine | Illinois 60074 Phone 847 963 9163 | Fax 847 963 9120 Hours 7:30am-4:00pm | Monday-Friday Connect with us!

**Board of Directors** 

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**Women's Luncheon** Wednesday, April 24, 2019 Inverness Country Club





Palatine St. Patrick's Parade Saturday, March 16, 2019 Downtown Palatine

PALATINE IL 2019



**Superhero 5K** Saturday, June 15, 2019 Palatine Towne Square

