

WINTER
2019

THE CENTER

love in action



Think
Change
Grow

The center is committed to a plan for financial sustainability.

by Pennie Kellenberger

Think. I am a goal setter. I like them they make me feel safe, I have been accused at times of thinking too much, and at other times not thinking before I act. I do believe keeping your thoughts right is important! *Paul said, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things.* So for the new year I have spent many hours thinking about what God wants to do at The Center for 2019.

Change. Sometimes it's as natural as breathing. Other times it's as elusive as the Holy Grail itself. Whether it comes easily or reluctantly, change is a fundamental requirement for success in today's volatile and unpredictable non-profit world. Doubters need only look back at the last year several not for profits that have struggled to change with the community and are failing.. We did not receive a grant we were counting on, and thought this is a good time to rearrange our administration staff. It brings a time of change. The Center has made the painful decision to go from five staff to three. We now have one social worker, an associate director, and a director. We believe we can serve people better this way and be better stewards of what God has provided us.

Grow. We are set for growth for 2019. If we want see growth there are five areas we need to actively assess.

Awareness. We understand our need for change for growth

Motivation. We have a desire to change to keep doing what God has asked to do. Seeking another Social Worker when funds are available to serve people!

Skills and Abilities. Like no other time I believe that the Center has has a staff with Godly leadership ready to learn and move into 2019.

Opportunity. This is new ground for us, but already see so many new opportunities for us with new behavior sets, skill sets, and abilities.

Feedback. We are in the process of developing a process to create a system to receive feedback from the people and systems we serve.

All this to say, God has blessed us with a new vision! We are ready. Would you like to be apart of our team? Maybe volunteer, maybe prayer, maybe financial..... Come join us in 2019

Center Partner News

House of Refuge

Serving the Lord on Sundays at 11:00, Bible study Wednesday night 6:00, and Friday nights at 6:00. Daily at the Cafe 9-1

Food Pantry

More than 5,000 people served in 2018! 23% more food given!

QCHarm Reduction

252 lives saved in 2018 with overdose reversal kits! Outreach workers saving lives daily!

Street Team

Working with Kings Harvest Emergency Shelter, providing showers and services to people who are not housed. Laundry Love Project every other Tuesday 9:00-11:00

QC United

Look for new book by Kim Reilly-Quinn, "Pete's Grand Plan". Taking the area by storm! The musical is on the road too!

The Sanctuary Church

Church REALLY- COME AS YOU ARE! better yet come as God created you to be! Sunday at 3:00 with a meal.

skatechurch

Winter brings more students inside! WE LOVE IT! BUT we are planning for the summer. We need volunteers--give a call.

In these winter months lets remember that the real work of Christmas is still here! After all is said and done and we begin to look at Valentines day, let us not forget the work of Christmas.

Thurman was a prophetic preacher active in the civil rights movement wrote this poem:

The Work of Christmas
**When the song of the angels is stilled,
 When the star in the sky is gone,
 When the kings and the princes are home,
 When the shepherds are back with their flock,
 The work of Christmas begins:
 To find the lost,
 To heal the broken,
 To feed the hungry,
 To release the prisoner,
 To rebuild the nations,
 To bring peace among brothers,
 To make music in the heart.**

By the numbers At the Center 2018:

- 47 people helped with rental assistance
- 65 average people a day come through the door
- 170 showers a month
- 65 meals a day at the cafe
- 5,000 visits to the food pantry
- more than 2,000 students at skatechurch
- 252 lives saved from death by overdose
- 75 average clothing vouchers free clothing
- countless conversations about the Love of Jesus!



A FULL CENTER at Christmas. The Cafe serves lunch and breakfast



“I love the New Years Eve Lock-In! I come every year. Thanks to the people who make it happen!”

Diego
 skatechurch student

- We are in need of
- \$500 for our Laundry Love Project (helping people with the dignity of clean cloths)
 - pop for our snack bar at skatechurch
 - Hamburger for our cafe to make lunches.
 - Fresh Produce for lunches

WHAT WE NEED PLEASE HELP

You can help! We are in need of keeping our budget balanced!
 Enclosed with this letter is an envelope if you are able please help as you can- any amount helps!
 also---



I put on facebook our want for one of these bad boys and a friend ordered it in less than an hour!
 God is so Good!

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...From Rockford to Davenport

I'm so glad I am called to serve here at the Center. Whether that's serving the staff or the community. It feels good to be able to see a need and to do what you can to meet it while getting to know the person. For example, someone came in looking for a ride to the Silvis Drivers Motor and Vehicle Department to get his ID for a job. I was glad to do it because it was a way for me to serve. The next day he came in again because someone had stolen his wallet and needed his ID again. The Lord gave me another chance to serve.

Between the two trips we got to spend over an hour of driving, getting to know each other. That's how God works. He is always at work, always moving.

I am reminded that seeking Jesus isn't a "one and done", it's a life long journey. Everyday I want to serve my community as I learn more about serving Jesus. One of my favorite authors is A.W. Tozer and he is quoted to say, ***"We need not fear that in seeking God only we may narrow our lives.....The opposite is true. We can well afford to make God our all, to concentrate, to sacrifice the many for***



Connor's new positions: **Associate Director** includes maintenance, skatechurch and business administrator- all with a smile.

the one." As I seek Jesus more my life has become more fulfilled in every way!

I am excited, and up for the challenge this new change God has set before us for 2019!

"My soul clings to you, your right hand upholds me"

Psalm 63:8



Students at SkateChurch enjoy more than just skating, riding bikes, and scooters. We play pool, have a full snack bar, AND small group bible studies. Here in this picture skater Justice Kellenberger shows us his moves at the pool table.

"SECOND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WAS A BLESSING FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD"

Mens group from Asbury United Methodist Church cooked and served a marvelous meal for over 200 of our neighborhood guest. We handed out gifts, danced and ate lunch together.

"Joy of the Lord is our Strength"



SOME THINGS AROUND THE CENTER



Kids doing crafts at The Center for Christmas. We love having students around it brings joy and creativity.

We love our Neighborhood!



Gloves, hats, and winter supplies sent to us!

We love friendly givers!

We love our students



Shawn Miller, our newest volunteer from *Calling All Skaters*, sitting in the middle of students.

First time server, Trent, from UNI serving our guest breakfast.



We love our volunteers

INSPIRE

Inspirational **stories** have the ability to lift us up, make us smile, encourage, motivate, and teach us valuable life lessons. Here are some motivating **stories** that will hopefully help you spark that motivational feeling.

Below are two Center stories I would like to share with you. I change the names to protect our guest. When you give to The Center you help us help people.



lets call him "Bill"

He comes to The Center everyday because people here care for him! He has been without a home for the last ten years. This last December he was housed. He continues to come daily to help the Center. Honestly we don't know what we would do without him!



lets call her "Sue"

She showed up in town without anything; no ID, no documents, no plan. We have helped her with documents and a plan to become a person with an income and housed. Her personality has brought complete joy to the Center!

“Loving Unconditionally is the best way to show the love of Jesus. Love people without asking them change, love them without judgement, love them with your actions”

Pennie Kellenberger
The Center Director

