

# Bishop Sullivan Center

FOOD JOBS AID

FALL 2023

## "LIFE IS MUCH COOLER NOW."

### Twenty three hot summers of BSC's Project ElderCool



*ElderCool Intern John installs an AC unit.*

As the temperatures begin to fall, the Bishop Sullivan Center team is looking back on another hot summer filled with comfortable homes and inspiring conversations thanks to your support of Project ElderCool. **Now closing out its 23rd year**, the program provides AC units and utilities support to

low-income seniors and those with respiratory disabilities, offering refuge from the deadly summer heat.

"Many of our seniors try not to run AC until they are desperate for it," said Programs Director Shilo Foster. **"When they go to turn it on and it doesn't work, it can be a matter of life and death."**

One recipient, a gentleman named Michael who suffers from COPD, noted that **the temperature in his home had at times surpassed 100 degrees.** He viewed the installation as a gift from God and asked how he could volunteer in the future.

"I knew hearing people's stories would be part of the job," said Kayla, one of this summer's ElderCool interns, "but I didn't realize how impactful the program would be — both for me and for those being served."

With your support, the program provided AC units to more than 100 community members this summer. **Thank you for helping us provide relief for so many!**

## THANKS FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!

We're thrilled to share that we received an overwhelming response to this summer's survey. Thank you to all who participated! **We're so grateful for the more than 150 supporters who sent feedback**, and we're already hard at work

incorporating your suggestions into our plans for the years ahead.

Didn't have a chance to share your perspective? We want to hear from you! **Send us your thoughts today at [info@bishopsullivan.org](mailto:info@bishopsullivan.org).**



*Interns Francisco and John smile with an AC unit recipient.*



## IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS...

Okay, maybe we have a few more months before the winter wonderland sets in. But for **the families we serve, the financial stress that comes with the holiday season is already looming.** You can help local families make Christmas magic by supporting our **Santa's Helpers Christmas Drive.** **Scan the code today to learn more!**

# HOME SWEET HOME

BSC's newest program takes aim at barriers to stable housing

Bishop Sullivan Center's Household Assistance program has provided neighbors in need with rent and utility assistance for decades. But in recent years, the often large up-front cost of renting paired with a lack of financial literacy resources have proven to be insurmountable barriers for many of the unhoused community members we serve.

Earlier this year, BSC introduced a **new program to help combat the issue of homelessness — a roadblock that impacts an estimated 1,800 members** of our Kansas City community.

**The Long-Term Housing program** is the newest to fall under BSC's pillar of "Aid", helping unhoused individuals to access housing,

## NEW: SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

*Murray Davis's profound impact lives on in his memory*

Murray Davis, a longtime Bishop Sullivan Center supporter, was passionate about serving those in need.

Today, his legacy lives on through the newly-instated **Murray Davis Scholarship, a \$2,500 scholarship to be awarded to 3 high school seniors** headed to an accredited four-year college or university, trade school, or community college.

minimize evictions, and pave the path to financial stability.

So far, the program has helped twelve families with first-month's rent, with seven families having already moved through the first three months of the program and another two just getting started.

"We've already surpassed our goal of ten families helped this year," said Shilo Foster, BSC's Programs Director. **"We're excited to grow the program in the years ahead."**

The scholarship will be granted to students who display both academic strength and a commitment to serving the community.

"My father loved young people," said Davis's son, also named Murray. **"To contribute to the continued growth of those who choose to give without expecting anything in return would excite him tremendously.** He'll be there

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The **Long-Term Housing program** offers those who are employed:

- 3 months of rental assistance
- Complete home furnishings through partnership with Flourish Furnishings
- Financial literacy & basic renter's education classes

A case manager provides follow up & resources over a 12-month period, walking with participants to minimize evictions and pave the path to financial stability.

in spirit to see those who are recognized."

**Applications close Wednesday, November 1st. To learn more and apply, visit [bishopsullivan.org](http://bishopsullivan.org).**

## PS: SAVE THE DATE!

**BSC's Dignity Benefit:**  
*A Night for the Neighborhood*  
**Friday, April 5th, 2024**  
*Details coming soon!*

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