

Bishop Sullivan Center

FOOD JOBS AID

ADVENT 2023



Welcome

"...MAKING PEOPLE FEEL THE WAY I FELT."

Former guest pays a warm welcome forward

It's our mission to shorten the gap between the helpers and the helped, and there's nothing as special as the perspective of someone who has experienced both.

Ernestine Nikki Felder discovered One City Café as a guest. She was new to Kansas City, and had found herself homeless for the first time in her life. She was humbled by the experience, and believes that finding out what that felt like was part of God's plan for her life.

"People mistake 'homeless' for 'dumb', 'stupid', 'worthless', and 'nobody'," said Ernestine.

"You're checking those boxes, and you don't even know who the person is."

But walking into the Café for the first time was "beautiful", she said. **"I can't tell you how wonderful it was to be greeted, to be welcomed.** I don't want to get teary-eyed, but **that experience makes you feel like somebody."**

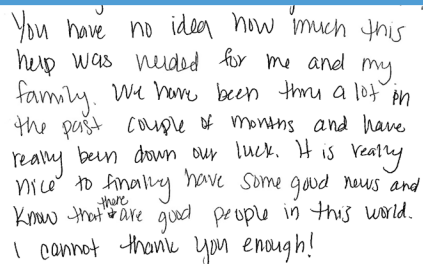
Today, Ernestine is well-employed, has a safe, warm home, and spends her spare time volunteering. **Each week, she stands at the door of One City Café, greeting guests as she was greeted.**

"No amount of money in the world can compare to the joy it is to make someone feel welcome and full of worth," said Ernestine.

"And now that's exactly where I am — making people feel the way I felt."

Ernestine's advice to those experiencing hardship, and to those looking for a meaningful way to give back?

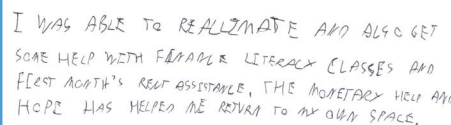
"When you put God first, know thyself, and love yourself, everything else will follow."



You have no idea how much this help was needed for me and my family. We have been thru a lot in the past couple of months and have really been down our luck. It is really nice to finally have some good news and know that ^{there} are good people in this world. I cannot thank you enough!

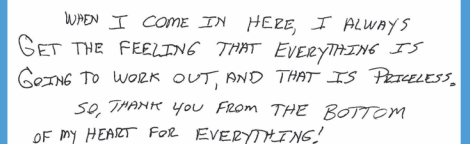
Katy is a mother of 4 working full-time to make ends meet. Due to recent hardship, the family fell behind and spent a week without gas. Your support restored the family's service.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER TODAY:



I WAS ABLE TO REALZIMATE AND ALSO GET SOME HELP WITH FINANCIAL LITERACY CLASSES AND FLEET ACFTH'S REAL ASSISTANCE. THE MONETARY HELP AND HOPE HAS HELPED ME RETURN TO MY OWN SPACE.

Alex was able to "reacclimate" after completing BSC's Long Term Housing Case Management program. He was previously homeless, and your support gave him the help and hope to return to his own space.



WHEN I COME IN HERE, I ALWAYS GET THE FEELING THAT EVERYTHING IS GOING TO WORK OUT, AND THAT IS PRICELESS. SO, THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART FOR EVERYTHING!

Brian is a cancer survivor, and his treatment left him unable to do the physical work his job required. Your support helped him find a new job, and outfitted him with professional clothes that fit his new frame.

REFUGE & RESILIENCE

Celebrating freedom, family,
and a livable home

The challenges faced by our low-income neighbors are significant. But sometimes, they pale in comparison to the challenges they've left behind.

Swabeyda moved to America with her husband as a teenager fleeing oppression and genocide in Myanmar (Burma). She remembers bombs, killings, and being imprisoned in refugee camps after she left for Thailand.

When Swabeyda and her husband faced the choice of where to move,



they chose the USA because of its promise to uphold religious and individual freedoms.

Now, the couple has seven children, many of whom live with serious health conditions.

When their central air unit went out last summer, the family relied on a window unit they put in front

of their bedridden 6-year-old. **With your support, our Emergency Assistance program was able to help the family replace their central air unit.**

Swabeyda shared how wonderful it is to have a comfortable home for her family, and how grateful they are to celebrate their freedoms daily.

3 NEW WAYS TO MAKE THIS MISSION YOUR OWN

Looking for a fresh way to give back? There are so many opportunities to bring your own unique skills, passions, and resources to the table in support of neighbors in need. Here are a few to consider this giving season!

1. JOIN THE #FOODFIGHT

This giving season, we're raising funds to support food insecurity programs. **Join us on Instagram and Facebook** for video updates, and consider a gift that's meaningful to you (the cost of a dinner out, a week's worth of groceries, etc.) Challenge friends & family to do the same, and **use the hashtag #FoodFight to share your story and spread the word!**

2. PACK A CARE PACK

BSC Care Packs help unhoused individuals with a few basic needs to help make their day nourished and bright. **Grab a gallon bag and stock it** with anything from canned tuna, to granola bars, to band aids and kids' art. **Contact Hannah to learn more:** (816) 442-7272, hannah.brockway@bishopsullivan.org.

3. PLAN YOUR LEGACY

With a little planning, **your support can change lives today, and live on for generations to come.** BSC is able to accept donations from donor advised funds, among other tax-efficient planned giving strategies. **Contact Michelle to learn more:** (816) 231-2971, michelle.carlstedt@bishopsullivan.org.

PRINTING GENEROUSLY DONATED BY **NEXTPAGE.**
THANK YOU!   

6435 Truman Rd • KC, MO 64126 • www.bishopsullivan.org • 816-231-0984

PS: SAVE THE DATE!

BSC's Dignity Benefit:
A Night for the Neighborhood
Friday, April 5th, 2024
The Abbott KCMO