



**Bishop Sullivan Center**  
**FOOD JOBS AID**  
**SPRING 2024**

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Director of Volunteers & Outreach Hannah Brockway shares a recent story of the community coming together.

"This all started about a year ago. **Steven, a blind, unhoused neighbor, would show up for a meal**, and it was heartbreaking to lead him around One City Café and just let go of him at the exit door. I would watch him struggle as he tried to avoid all of the obstacles on the way to the 39th & Troost bus stop. Sometimes, he would just sit up on the retaining wall with his face in the sun.

"I got his sister Cheryll's phone number to talk with her about Steven's situation and learned that **he had worked hard laying concrete before an injury on the job took his vision three years ago. He was now out of work and living on the street.**

"We started give him things like backpacks or jackets when I noticed that his had been stolen or lost. Kayla, our Programs Assistant, began to talk with him and learn more about his needs. Sometimes he'd show up with bruises and cuts, which was

always so hard to see... knowing he was defenseless was an added challenge. Sometimes, he wouldn't show up at all, and Kayla would patiently wait for him to resurface. The thought of a blind, unhoused individual wandering around in the cold with no assistance was just — emotional — I think for everyone involved.

"Things really started to move last December. With his family's support, **we worked with Save, Inc. and the University Health PATH program to help Steven find housing.** Our team helped secure ID, proof of income, and financial support. We worked with Flourish KC to get his new place furnished, and we were overjoyed that we were finally able to see a great outcome.

"Through PATH, **Steven is working with a psychologist, and vocational rehab is on the horizon to help him live his dream of getting a job.**"

## THE FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Thoughts from Steven's sister Cheryll

"You all have been a blessing to him. We've fought some battles, and it's been so hard fighting them by ourselves.

"Steven laid concrete and built bridges — and now, he can't drive, can't cook, can't pick out his own clothes. He has family, but he also has pride and wants to do things for himself, and **sometimes you just have to hear it from someone else.**

"With BSC's help, he was able to come to terms with the fact that there are times you need to ask for help. **There was no judgment, and he felt like people could understand him.** It was an accepting place.

"**You all have become friends, liaisons, and helpmates** for him. His blindness has caused him heartache and pain, and if it hadn't been for BSC helping him maneuver through, going above and beyond, he'd still be out there."



Your support in 2023 has touched the lives of thousands. From the whole Bishop Sullivan Center team, thank you for making this impact possible.

## 70,716

meals were served at One City Café

## 1,245

households received help with rent or utilities

## 775

families received groceries each month

*You don't know how much, but I appreciate you helping me.*

This community member was fleeing a bad situation with three young children while relying on a limited income. Your support set up the utilities in their new home.

*From my family and I, we wanted to say thank you for helping us out during this time. Not a lot of words could ever be enough to show how grateful we are for your kindness. It has been a rough past years but this year we are determined to give ~~my~~ our boys the best life they deserve and starting here moving forward I know we can do it but we couldn't have done it without your help in which I am grateful for. My heart is full because I can be at peace knowing will be okay thank you again.*

This family has faced homelessness with four young children for years. Your support provided the funds needed to secure an apartment & beds for the children.

*Thank you so so much for the help in getting me in my apartment. May God Bless you and always be with you.*

This senior neighbor on fixed income was forced to sleep in her car when her apartment became too expensive. Your support covered first month's rent in a budget-friendly home.

## SAVE THE DATES

### BLUE TEE TAILGATE

Friday, June 7th  
One City Café  
3936 Troost Ave.

### TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, October 5th  
Visitation Church  
5141 Main St.

Have questions, or want to get involved? Contact us today to learn more at [info@bishopsullivan.org](mailto:info@bishopsullivan.org).



## HAPPY 15TH ANNIVERSARY, SHILO!

**Fifteen years ago, Shilo Foster joined the team.** Today, she serves behind the scenes as our Programs Director, leading the team in serving our KC community. **Building relationships is her favorite part of the job.**

"I have celebrated with clients when they have secured housing, shared a meal with many, and I have grieved with those we have lost along the way as well."

We are so grateful for the decade and a half of impact Shilo has made on our community.

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