



CHATT Foundation

Center for Homeless Advancement for Today and Tomorrow

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Recognizing Our Outstanding Volunteers

CHATT Foundation could not meet the needs of hungry, homeless, and vulnerable people in our community without our amazing volunteers.

Last year, volunteers contributed over **20,000 hours of service** and helped serve **142,289 meals, shelter 93 families** in the Maclellan Shelter for Families, prevented **71 households** from being evicted, **housed 54 households**, gave away **\$359,772 in clothing** and provided **5,911 emergency shelter beds, 817 footcare appointments, 3,438 laundry services, 1,077 haircuts, and 7,157 showers.**

This year, we recognized special volunteer groups and individuals for their outstanding service:

Outstanding Volunteer of the Year

Meta Pope



Outstanding Group of the Year

Olivier's Friends:
"He's not done with us."

Seth Gladden,
Philippe Lemaitre,
Paul Frederichsen
& John Shimer



Outstanding Secondary School of the Year

The McCallie School

(L to R)

Deron Levy
Alex Dermody
Sam Ostrow



Outstanding Post-Secondary School of the Year

University Of Tennessee
At Chattanooga

Dr. Pamela Riggs-Gelasco



Message from the CEO

“Busting Myths About Homelessness”



As I speak with people regarding homelessness in Chattanooga, one common myth I am confronted with is the idea that people are homeless because they are lazy and unwilling to work. There are hundreds of paths to homelessness and while some people might fall into that category, the vast majority of homeless people we serve are either actively employed or looking for employment. In fact, approximately 50% of the CHATT Foundation's workforce has an experience of homelessness.

At CHATT Foundation we see gainful employment as a key foundational component to helping homeless individuals reach a place of sustained self-sufficiency. To this end, we have created two programs to assist men and women in achieving employment.

The first is our 90-day job program. Our Spring newsletter details this effective program and how it leads to permanent employment with CHATT Foundation and hundreds of other Chattanooga-based employers.

Our second program, Project HIRE was launched this spring and continues to gather momentum. Working in partnership with the Enactus Business students at Southern University, we have developed a grassroots job placement service where area businesses willing to offer homeless individuals employment opportunities can have access to a workforce eager to get back to work. This benefits the Chattanooga businesses struggling to find enough workers in a historically tight labor market while providing homeless individuals that key foundation of employment. Other aspects of Project HIRE coming online this fall are job fairs, resume' assistance and interview coaching.

Are you an employer? If so, I would love for you to join this no-cost opportunity to help your business AND help end homelessness in Chattanooga!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Baron S. King".

Baron S. King, MS, LPC, NCC

ARTS *Build*

CHATT Foundation is an ArtsBuild Community Partner. Children and parents at our Maclellan Shelter for Families are happily enjoying weekly 13 weeks of art instruction from SPLASH - a Youth Arts Workshop.





Renovating Our Kitchen to Transform Lives

Central to meeting basic needs and building relationships with our participants is our feeding program. Our building on 11th Street is over 100 years old and the last remodel was 13 years ago. This month, we will begin renovating our Welcome Center, Dining Room and Kitchen to improve efficiency, ventilation and provide much-needed equipment upgrades. Construction will be completed in three phases.

Phase 1: redesign the back of the kitchen's storage rooms, restrooms, and office space. Our kitchen will remain fully operational and meals will continue to be served in the dining room in Phase 1.

Phase 2: remodel our dining room and welcome center. Our kitchen will remain fully operational in Phase 2. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served in our Community Center. Services provided in the Community Center will continue and not be interrupted.

Phase 3: remodel, redesign and upgrade our kitchen. Our kitchen will not be operable in Phase 3. Meals will continue to be served in our Community Center and the Community Center will remain fully operational.

Phase 3 is anticipated to begin August 16 and end in late October. We are asking ministry partners and friends for their help in one of the following ways:

- Bring prepared food that is ready to serve
- Bring prepared dishes that can be stored in our cooler (ex: potato salad, pasta salad, cole slaw, ham salad, chicken salad, egg salad, tuna salad)
- Make sack lunches to be stored in our cooler

We can provide the food and aluminum trays.

To sign-up for a meal, please go to chattfoundation.org/meal-providers-kitchen-reno

If you would rather help by making a donation, please go to our homepage and click on the donate button. Select "Kitchen Reno" and your gift will be designated accordingly.

We appreciate your patience and support in this critical project!

CHATT Foundation 90-day Program: Pathway to Self-Sufficiency

Joel was residing in Florida last year when he was in a car accident. He fell behind on his bills and was evicted from his apartment. He lost everything and became homeless. He moved to Chattanooga to reconnect with family as his daughter, son-in-law and grandsons live here. But he did not want to be a burden to them. Instead, he wanted to show his grandchildren – through his example – resilience.



Joel at his new apartment with Brittany.



When he arrived in Chattanooga homeless, he immediately asked others who could help. They told him, “If you can get with Brittany, she can help you.” Brittany is one of CHATT Foundation’s case managers.

Joel started his journey to a better life by going to the Homeless Health Care Clinic located across from CHATT Foundation on 11th Street. From there Joel received an assessment and a referral to meet with Brittany.

In November, Brittany recommended Joel for CHATT Foundation’s on-site 90-day job training program, which includes safe, overnight shelter at our St. Matthew’s men’s shelter and a bicycle to help with transportation. Brittany describes Joel as “happy, humble and hard-working” adding that “family is his motivation”.

With the support of Brittany’s advocacy and CHATT Foundation’s pathway to self-sufficiency, Joel was able to save money and receive a housing voucher. In February this year, he not only moved into his apartment, he became a full-time regular employee at CHATT Foundation. Joel’s message to others experiencing homelessness in Chattanooga, **“Don’t give up and don’t give out.”**

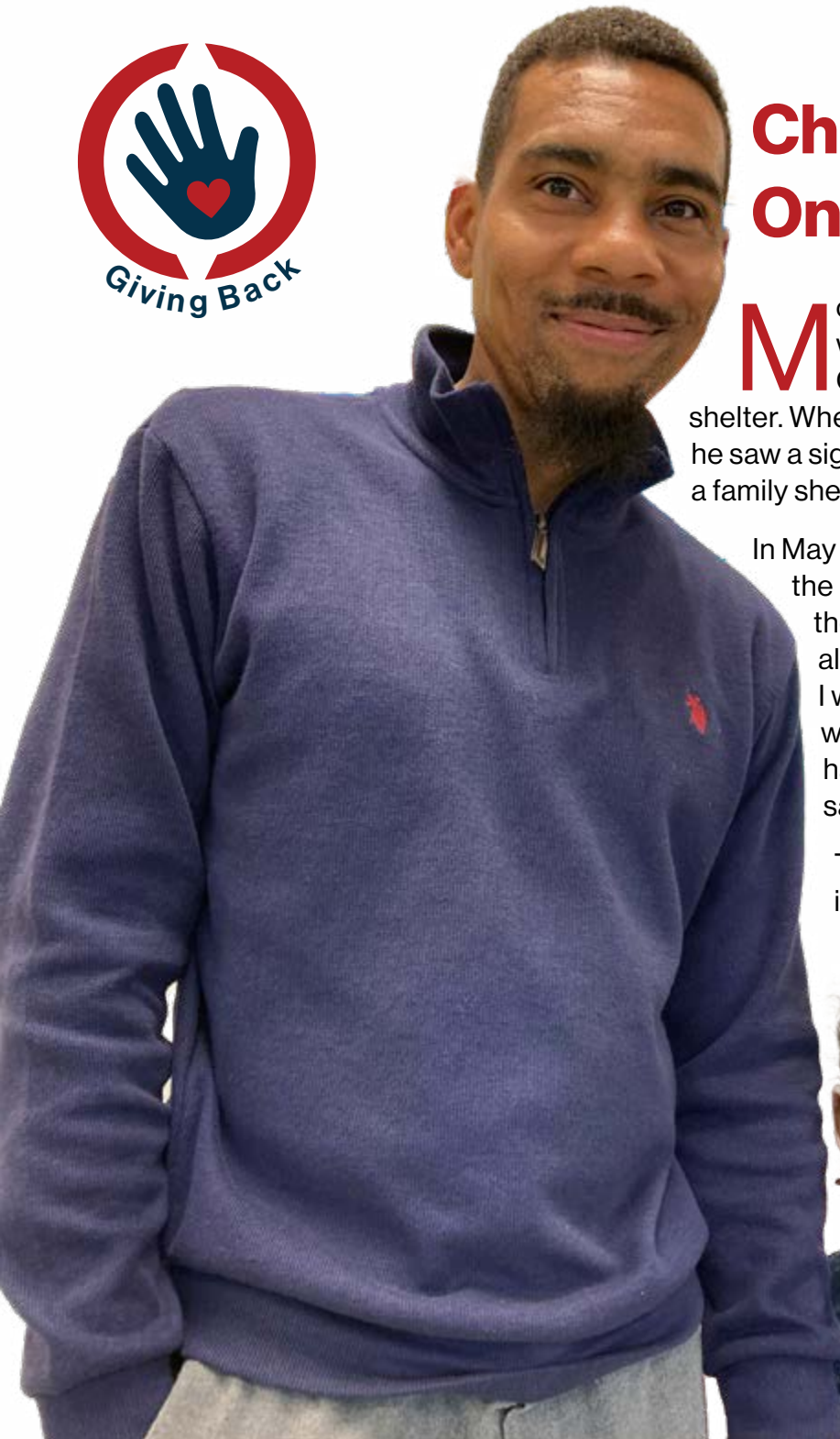


Changing Lives One Family at a Time

Moving back to Tennessee from Florida, Keenan was without employment and without a home. Caring for his daughter, he was in search of shelter. When he drove to 11th Street early one morning, he saw a sign that changed the trajectory of his family's life: a family shelter.

In May 2022, Keenan and his daughter moved into the Maclellan Shelter for Families. "I felt at peace there," Keenan stated. "The time in shelter allowed me to think and plan. My daughter and I went to nearby Olivet Baptist Church and took walks in the neighborhood. We developed good habits there. Once I found a job, I was able to save money."

Today, Keenan works at Orange Grove Center in human resources. He and his family have achieved independence and enjoy supporting and volunteering at CHATT Foundation.



Summer Needs

Sandwich bags and lunch bags

Men's underwear and socks

Women's underwear and bras

**Laundry pods
Bottled water**



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Charity Navigator has given Chattanooga Church Ministries, Inc. (EIN 62-1151413), a 100% rating for the accountability and finance beacon, which represents IRS Form 990 data up until FY2020.



Today, Chattanooga Church Ministries continues its mission as CHATT Foundation, where 85 cents of every dollar goes directly into local programs.

Thank you for being a partner in our work to change lives!

