

A SERVING OF HOPE

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

by *Todd Walker*

Holiday Newsletter 2016



In October, JCOC celebrated 30 years of helping the homeless and hungry in our community. Being the only organization that feeds and shelters those in need throughout the year, I cannot help but reflect on all of the lives that have been touched through this ministry.

Because of your faithful support, we provide more than 85,000 meals annually, temporary housing for 110 individuals, transitional housing program for sixteen homeless veterans, and permanent supportive housing for eight chronically homeless individuals with disabilities.

To commemorate this milestone, we had a gala fundraiser where NFL Hall of Famer Bruce Smith was the keynote speaker. Senator Bill DeSteph and Dominion Enterprises COO Jack Ross also spoke passionately about their commitment to JCOC's mission. The night was festive, and I was overwhelmed as I witnessed the outpouring of encouragement and support from the community. We celebrated our past accomplishments and current successes, and revealed our plans to rebuild the deteriorating campus. I am truly honored and humbled to be a part of a great organization, and I am confident the best is yet to come.

JCOC is thankful to Dick Powell, the former Executive Director and founder of JCOC. Speaking with Dick recently, I found him in good spirits and very thankful that JCOC continues to make a positive impact in the community.

All those who attended the 30-year anniversary gala were deeply touched and inspired to continue their support. They listened to testimonials by former residents who revealed how bad choices caused them to become homeless and how JCOC played a significant role in helping them overcome barriers and find their own place to call home. They were proud to tell how their lives were changed, how they are



leading productive lives today, and how they are glad to give back and help others. Most importantly, they shared how God has sustained them through the bad times so they can experience the blessings reserved for them. After thanking the audience for their support of JCOC, a standing ovation was given. This was an uplifting, fun event and you will not want to miss it next year.

Think about people in your life who have helped you achieve some level of success in your endeavors. No one does it alone. God strategically places people in your life



to help you move toward your destiny. Many of you who have supported JCOC over the years have a desire to assist those who are less fortunate realize their potential, find a place to call home, and live productive lives.

That is why during this holiday season of giving, as you celebrate this special time of the year in the warmth and comfort of your homes, we ask that you reflect on those less fortunate, those who are experiencing the pain of being alone, of having nothing. We ask that you make a generous year-end monetary donation to help JCOC continue to give the gift of hope and help combat the issues of hunger and homelessness in our community.

Thank you for being a part of the solution.

Blessings and warm wishes during this holiday season.

30TH ANNIVERSARY G A L L A

There was a special feeling in the air as people gathered to celebrate JCOC's 30 years of helping the neediest in our community. Many attending had been dedicated to supporting and/or volunteering at JCOC over the years; some came to learn about JCOC; and some came because friends invited them. But all left touched by learning how lives are changed when people are given hope and a second chance. The event would not have been a success without the help from our long-time partners Jack Ross, President & COO of Dominion Enterprises, and Senator Bill DeSteph. Having Hall of Fame NFL player, Bruce Smith, as our keynote speaker definitely added prestige and excitement to the evening, and "our" Joe Flanagan was the perfect Master of Ceremonies! JCOC is very grateful to these men and to our generous sponsors:

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RENOVATION

Presently JCOC is an eye-sore. We are doing an extremely good job with what we have to work with, but there is no doubt that a renovation needs to take place. JCOC is working out of decrepit buildings. It is no longer cost-effective to continually repair and patch; we need to renovate our aging campus. This project will increase usable space to increase program capacity while operating current programs more efficiently. Money will be spent on services and programs instead of putting a "Band-Aid" on the problem.

Drawings of the different phases of our renovation project will be posted on our website in the very near future for everyone to view. The renovation will have a huge impact on our ability to assist those at the oceanfront and throughout Virginia Beach, and will allow us to more effectively support our mission to help individuals and families recover from crisis situations and return to being self-supporting, productive, and independent members of our community.

Some of the benefits that will be seen from this refurbishment include:

- increased capacity to continue growing our programs
- increased allocation of donated funds going toward programs and services
- ability to enhance partnerships with other community providers
- increased space and technology to provide efficient delivery of housing focused case management, employment training, and food services, among other resources

OUR VISION FOR THE NEW CAMPUS

In 2011 a 4,000 square foot building on campus was condemned. As Todd Walker, Executive Director said, JCOC needs to rebuild its deteriorating campus so we can be around for another 30 years.

When the question, "What does JCOC mean to you?" is asked, responses include hope, peace, life-saving, a blessing, encouragement, and a second chance.

We look forward to a new campus that the community will be proud of: buildings that are clean and bright and have access to natural light, which as you would expect makes people feel better!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

JIM WHITE FITNESS FOUNDATION

Jim White Fitness Foundation's mission is to create a foundation of wellness to empower individuals in need. This is exactly what they have done at JCOC since 2014 through their L.I.F.T. Program. Seventy-four of our residents have participated in this program that offers four weeks of educational classes on fitness, nutrition, cooking, and motivation along with a fitness boot camp.

Jim White Fitness Foundation has been instrumental in helping our residents build a better quality of life. To learn more about this organization, visit www.jimwhitefit.com.



For information on individual and group volunteer opportunities, please contact Krishna Loya, Volunteer Coordinator at 491-2846, ext. 102 or kloya@jcoc.org.



CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS



Each year, JCOC provides Christmas Food Baskets to individuals and families in need. This year, we have over 200 people requesting a basket. With your help we will be able to meet this need. **We are collecting the following items:**

TURKEYS AND HAMS

MASHED/SCALLOPED POTATOES, BOXED

SWEET POTATOES OR YAMS, CANNED

STUFFING MIX, BAG OR BOXED

GRAVY, DRY MIX OR CANNED

MARSHMALLOWS, MINI

CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP

GREEN BEANS, CANNED

VEGETABLES, CANNED

CRANBERRY SAUCE

Would you consider making this an outreach project for your family, Bible Study group, community organization, or with your co-workers? Express your thanks for your good fortune by spreading kindness to those who are less fortunate.

DROP OFF DONATIONS BY TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH AT THE JCOC OFFICE OR KITCHEN.

1053 Virginia Beach Blvd, Virginia Beach, VA 23451 • Drop-off hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

For more information, please contact us at 491-2846 or jcoc@jcoc.org.

LIVES SAVED RECAP

“Housing is a fundamental need, a basic human right, and protects people from illness, violence and death.” Because JCOC exists and gives people a safe haven while they recover from their crisis, lives are saved. Here are two testimonies out of thousands of former residents who have been helped:

#1 No one leaves high school and says, “I want to become homeless, jobless, on drugs, and in and out of jail.” But that is exactly what happened to me after 13 years of military service. But today, because of the grace of God and the support of those who helped me along the way, I am no longer living that lifestyle. I have not been in jail or used drugs for 20 years. I have been a member of the same church for 19 years and am now a part of their leadership program.

#2 I was sentenced to 53 years in prison, although eventually all but 11 years were suspended. When I was ready to come home, I had NO place to go. I contacted JCOC and they accepted me. While I lived there and got back on my feet, I worked as an Assistant Manager at their Thrift Store and I met a gentleman who lived there also... later we married. We now own our own home, but without JCOC, I wouldn't have known where to go or what to do. They gave me hope and guidance, and I can tell you from my own experience, that the support they give to people in need can mean the world. Even though I do not live there anymore, I never forget how JCOC helped me. When I can, my husband and I donate to them, because they do so much for those in need.

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JCOC WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS

(in alphabetical order) who for 5 years or more have faithfully and unselfishly provided meals for the hungry and the less fortunate. JCOC is grateful for your service!

All Saints Episcopal Church	Gaililee Episcopal Church	Ohel Sholom Temple	St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
Azalea Garden Church	Girl Scouts of Bayshore Service Unit	Old Donation Episcopal Church	St. Nicholas Catholic Church
Bayshore Service Girl Scout Unit	Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church of Princess Anne	Pleasant Grove Baptist Church	St. Simons By the Sea
Chesapeake Seventh Day Adventist Church	Holy Family Catholic Church	Providence Presbyterian Church	St. Stephens COGIC
Church of the Ascension	Holy Spirit Catholic Church	Resurrection United Methodist Church	Star of the Sea Catholic Church
Community United Methodist Church	JCA Foundation	Sai Center of Hampton Roads	Suburban Christian Church
Courthouse United Methodist Church	Kempsville Church of God	Saint Luke Catholic Church	Temple Emmanuel
Emmanuel Episcopal Church	Knights of Columbus San Lorenzo Council 12378	Saint Nicholas Catholic Church	Virginia Beach Beacon Baptist Church
Fellowship of the Inner Light	Lynnhaven Colony Congregational Church	Sandbridge Community Chapel	Virginia Beach Friends School and Meeting
First Baptist Church - Norfolk	NAS Oceana Chapel of the Good Shepherd	Spring Branch Community Church	Virginia Beach Kiwanis
First Presbyterian Church of Virginia Beach	Nimmo United Methodist Church	St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church	Westminster Canterbury
Foundry United Methodist Church	Norfolk 7th Day Adventist	St. Michael Lutheran Church	Zion Worship Temple
Francis Asbury United Methodist Church		St. Marks Catholic Church	

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JCOC WEBSITE

We are excited to share that JCOC's website will have a new look soon, thanks to And One Marketing, a women-owned digital marketing and PR company. Visit their website at www.andonemarketing.biz for more info.

AND ONE

Judeo-Christian Outreach Center

1053 Virginia Beach Blvd. | Virginia Beach, VA 23451
O: 757.491.2846 | F: 757.425.2607 | jcoc@jcoc.org | www.jcoc.org



Our mission is to empower homeless families and individuals to recover from crisis situations and return to being self-supporting, productive and independent members of our community.