

Good
Samaritan
Home

New Beginnings

Volume 22

December 2023

Safe place to live and -

The New York Times recently reported the number of elderly in prison is up 400 percent. That means many of the people coming to us are not looking for a job, but just a safe place to live what little life they have left.

TOMMY

I wrote about Tommy last year. Well, he is still with us. Like many of our residents, our house is likely the only stable home he will have.

Tommy is only 62 years old, but suffering from severe COPD, and with only Social Security to live on, he has few options on the outside.—and Tommy knows it.

“I don’t have anyone else. I don’t know what I would do.”



I think GSH manager Josh Green said it best. “It is an understatement to say that sometimes our residents can test our patience. Today Tommy showed me the good in him and the powerful help that we all provide.”

JIMMY

When I first wrote about Jimmy in 2011, he had been with us four years. As an ex-offender, battling mental health issues, and with only his meager Social Security income and no one to help him manage his money, he was often broke, homeless, and sleeping in a car—until it was repossessed for some reason he never could remember. On several occasions he nearly died on the streets.

He was one of the reasons we started a long-term housing program for some of our residents. Here he had a safe, warm place to live, more than enough food to eat, and even some money saved in the bank—something he never could do on his own.

“This is my home now,” Jimmy said to Kathy Graham when cold weather first came in November.

Jimmy stayed with us until March when, at age 80, he died. But he was happy for the last 16 years of his life, surrounded by people who cared for him.



MARK

Mark’s health was not good when he came to us in 2019. He tried to work, but could never hold a job. Mostly it was his seizures. He moved into our transitional housing when his health got even worse. He tried to find his own place, but the one time he ventured out, he fell and broke his neck and back. He was in and out of the hospital several times as his health deteriorated. Finally he died in October. But he wasn’t alone. Good Samaritan Home staff made sure of it.

Growing again



Dr. John Graham
Executive Director
P.O. Box 382

Phone: (937) 417-5733
Email: gsh.johngraham@gmail.com
www.goodsamaritanhome.org

GOOD SAMARITAN HOME



When we started housing men coming from prison in 2002 in our own house, we never envisioned needing 19 houses! But we do. Just this year our referrals increased by 10 percent.

We can't say "Sorry. We have no room. You have to live on the street!" So we keep looking for more houses to meet the need.



And this year we added two more. When the duplex next to one of our Dayton houses went up for sale, we grabbed it, knowing it needed a lot of repairs. Ten months later, it was totally remodeled—even after the water pipe froze and flooded the kitchen for two days! This will give us room for 10 more men.

Then when a five-unit apartment building needing very little remodeling came on the market, we grabbed it.

Now we have long term housing for 10 more men like Tommy, Jimmy and Mark.

Since we started Good Samaritan Home in 2001, we have housed more than 2,500 men and women. We had no idea then where we would be today.



Director publishes novel—finally!

Ten years ago I started writing a story about second chances. After two dozen rewrites and 464 pages, on December 1, it was finally published.

RUNNING AS FAST AS I CAN is the fictional story of Daniel Robinson, who spent his whole life running from the poverty and abuse that was his home.

He wanders the country for years trying to make a new family with all the misfits he meets on the road

For years I preached statistics about the financial benefits of giving ex-offenders a second chance. My doctoral thesis even offered evidence that the community benefits emotionally and spiritually when we offer broken people a new start. But no one listens to facts and figures.



This book shines light in dark corners...highlighting social issues our society still struggles with today.

Lorraine Cobcroft

RUNNING AS FAST AS I CAN is a page-turner story about someone like you and me, who because of birth or wrong choices, needs help from a lot of people to finally find his place in the community.

I believe we will reach more people with this very real story about one man's struggle to find love and forgiveness than any fact sheet I can offer.

Daniel is not some stranger coming from prison. He is your neighbor, your son, your daughter. He is you and me.

Check it out on my website: www.johndavidgraham.com or look it up on Amazon.com.