

Would YOU Become a Monthly Donor?

| WHAT YOUR \$8.00 MONTHLY GIFT CAN PROVIDE: | WHAT YOUR \$10.00 MONTHLY GIFT CAN PROVIDE: | WHAT YOUR \$50 MONTHLY GIFT CAN PROVIDE: | WHAT YOUR \$200 MONTHLY GIFT CAN PROVIDE: |
|--|---|--|--|
| eight meals for our guests -or- a combination lock for a guest staying at A Friend's Place emer- gency shelter -or- bus tickets for a week's | ten meals for our guests -or- a copy of a birth certi- ficate for someone with- out ID -or- a prescription for a much needed medicine | 50 meals for our guests -or- one month utilities for a newly-housed family -or- four nights of emergen- cy shelter for one adult | 200 meals for our guests -or- two weeks of emergen- cy shelter for one adult -or- *annual health care premiums for 15 peo- ple |

When you become a monthly donor, your gift is combined with other monthly gifts to help provide Shalom with a steady and reliable stream of income that allows us to plan for a sustainable future.

For as little as \$8/month, you can increase the power of your gift and put more of your dollars into Shalom programs such as A Friend's Place, Rapid Re-Housing, guest daily personal services, Hunger Relief, effective case management, and so much more.

**Contact Dorothy Granger at (812) 334-5734 X123
to discuss ways to increase the power of your gift.**

You may also make a gift online with your credit card at: www.shalomcommunitycenter.org. or
mail a check to: Shalom Community Center, PO Box 451, Bloomington, IN 47402-0451.

Please note that monthly contributions can be changed or stopped at any time.

Shalom—For All Who Seek Home

Our Mission

Shalom Community Center is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to aiding and empowering people experiencing homelessness and poverty. As a home away from home for people who are living in poverty and experiencing its ultimate expressions, Shalom provides day and overnight shelter, hunger relief, life essentials, case management, street outreach, housing support, including Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing, employment assistance, and access to many government and social service agencies.

Our Vision

Shalom Community Center envisions a community that honors every person's fundamental right to sustenance, a safe home, quality health care, and meaningful work.



To Contact Us:

PO Box 451/620 S Walnut St.
Bloomington, IN 47402-0451
(812) 334-5734
shalom@shalomcommunitycenter.org
www.shalomcommunitycenter.org



On the Front Lines of Hunger and Homelessness

DIGNITY

The Newsletter of Shalom Community Center

Fall 2019

"I Couldn't Imagine Where My Daughter Would Be!!"

Deborah Moore was one of the very first residents to move into Crawford Homes, our Housing First program. Crawford works with people struggling with long-term homelessness due to disabilities.

Deborah struggled with many challenges too difficult to name. Among them, she started out her young life with epilepsy, which first emerged at twelve years old. She had 8-10 grand mal seizures a month, had brain surgery, and now keeps those seizures somewhat at bay through a nerve stimulator and medication.

Due to a traumatic relationship, Deborah fled her home, and her daughter, Susan, ending up homeless and on the streets for many years.

But with the support of Shalom and Crawford, she was able to find a home, graduate from college, maintain a job, and reunite with her daughter.

Just a few months ago, she and Susan moved out of Crawford and into a new home.

"It feels wonderful [to not be on the streets anymore]. It's even more wonderful to have my daughter back!!"



Deborah Moore,
and her daughter, Susan

The Systematic Racism of Homelessness

If you're a person of color in the United States, you are



Rev. Forrest Gilmore,
Executive Director

more likely to be homeless, especially if you're African American, American Indian, or Hispanic/ Latino.

Although African Americans comprise 12% of the US population, they account for more than 38% of the overall homeless population. American Indians and Native Alaskans account for 1% of the population and 3% of the homeless population. And Hispanics/ Latinos represent 18% of the US population and 22% of the homeless population.

The numbers are similar in Bloomington. African Americans are 4.3% of the population and 10.2% of the homeless population. American Indians/ Alaska Natives are less than 0.5% of the population but 1% of the homeless population, and Hispanics/ Latinos are 3.9% of the population and 4.1% of the homeless population.

Poverty accounts for some, not all of the overrepresentation. African Americans represent 22% of those in poverty, sub-

Anders Jorgensen: Chef to Shalom



I really only think about food and farming...all the time.”
— Chef Anders

We are pleased to introduce Anders Jorgensen, Shalom’s new Head Chef. Anders started with Shalom as a weekend cook but quickly proved himself more than qualified to assume the Head Chef role.

Calm, organized, attentive, focused, and always thinking about the best ways to utilize fresh fruits and veggies, Anders brings an eye for the creative to Shalom’s kitchen.

Anders lives in Brown County where he is a hog farmer, loves to garden and has a passion for baking — lucky us! His passion led him to cook for many Greek organizations at IU, which is where he worked prior to arriving at Shalom.

He owns a farm in Brown County that is mostly forest and he cares for hogs, chickens, and a garden. He and his partner have a son and daughter, although too young yet to help around the farm.

He is very passionate about social justice issues, agroecology, and regenerative systems design.

“The transformative power of love is the foundation of all meaningful social change.” - bell hooks

Racism and Homelessness (cont. from page one)

stantially less than the 38% of African Americans experiencing homelessness. And Hispanics/Latinos represent 19% of people in poverty, below the 22% in homelessness.

Wealth accumulation could be another factor. In the US, white people have nearly 10x the median net worth of African Americans and 8x that of Hispanics/Latinos.

Racially biased incarceration rates are another huge factor as any kind of record can greatly hurt your chances at finding employment or a home. One in

three black men will go to prison in their lifetimes and people of color account for 60% of those imprisoned.

According to HUD, people of color are more often denied leases based on their credit history compared to white renters and are shown fewer apartments to rent.

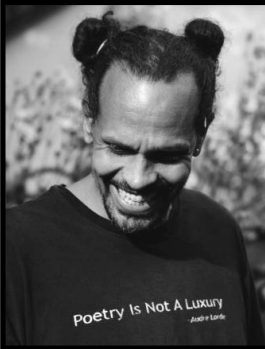
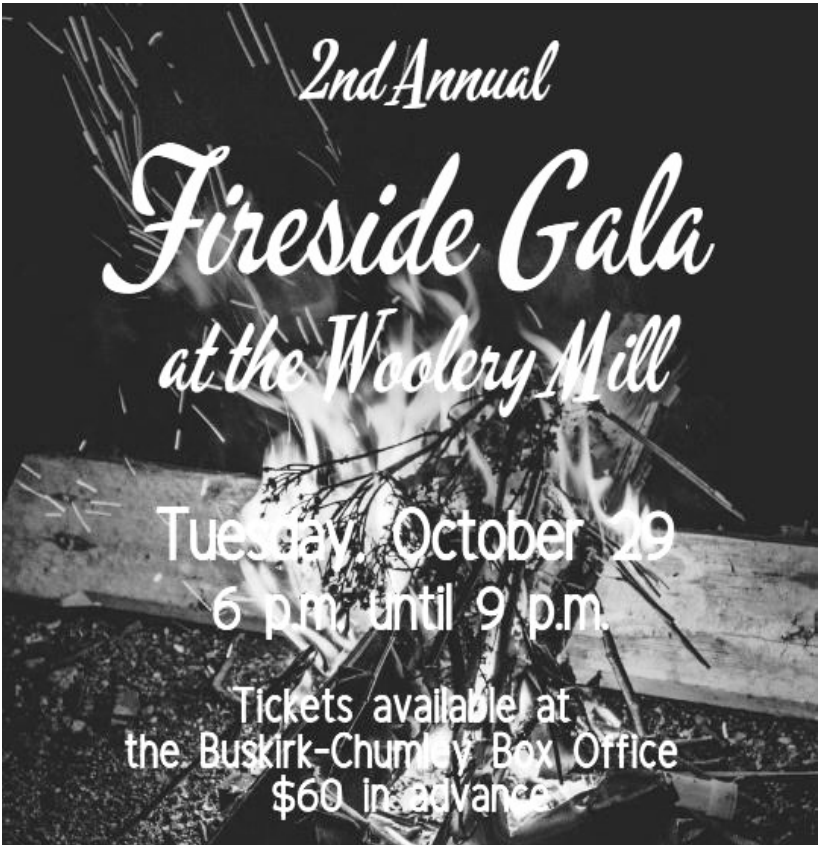
We also know African Americans are twice as likely as whites to be unemployed and job applicants with identical resumes but stereotypically “black-sounding” names receive fewer callbacks for job

interviews than candidates with “white-sounding” names.

All of this and more creates a systemic bias against people of color in their efforts to find a home. And as long as there is racial bias in who has a home, people of color will be disproportionately harmed by the horrors of homelessness.

To end the systemic racism within our nation, one thing we must do is make homelessness a thing of the past, ensuring a safe and secure home for everyone.

Join us for the Fireside Gala!! October 29th, 6-9pm



We’re very excited to announce the incomparable Ross Gay will join us at our Fireside Gala!!

Ross Gay is the author of three books of poetry, including *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*, winner of the 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award. What a treat it will be to hear him offer some of his poetry and writings.

As we hit the peak of autumn, come join us by the warmth of the fireside for an amazing night!!

Shalom’s 2nd Annual Fireside Gala will feature poetry from **Ross Gay**, music and song from **Amanda Biggs** and the Hoosier Youth Philharmonic, appetizers from One World Catering, and tapas from local Celebrity Chefs, including Sylvia McNair, Ivy Tech’s Jennie Vaughan, IU’s Doug Bauder, and Monroe County Commissioner Penny Githens.

The popular silent auction will feature unique items such as a **stay in New Orleans**, classes at Asabela Aerial Studio, and a lovely evening with some special goats at **the Goat Conspiracy**. You can start bidding now by going to handbid.com or downloading the Handbid app, even if you can’t come to the event.

Plus an exciting live auction featuring **coffee with author Michael Kortya!!**

Shalom’s most important fundraiser of the year, your support raises essential funds for people living in poverty... while having fun at the same time.

Get tickets now
bctboxoffice.org

or call Dorothy at 812-334-5734 X123.

**Save
the
Date!!**

**Our 20th Anniversary
Celebration is coming!!**

Friday eve, January 24th

More details soon!!