

Spring Appeal 2019

May 8, 2019

Dear Friend,

With the arrival of Spring, renewed efforts are in place to make a positive difference in our community.

This year alone, we are on track to deliver 25,000 services, 8,000 donated volunteer hours, and over 25 innovative programs for older adults and families at risk of homelessness.

Rather than focusing on specific examples, our approach with this year's appeal is to share the sentiments of the people we serve, "in their own words".

Reading comments from letters, emails, cards, and surveys are but a small sample of people served by our programs since we were founded in 1978.

These words of appreciation can only happen because of your generous support. Our number one priority is addressing unmet needs and your support matters more than ever. Please join us in support of our annual Spring Appeal so we may continue to help our neighbors need.

Best Regards,

John McNabola, Executive Director

Center  of Concern

"This service is what a senior needs; the help of a trusted Senior Companion who can help me and other seniors who need help. Especially the ones who do not have their family that live nearby and that can help you with errands, appointments to the doctor's office, grocery store. Your Senior Companion Program is the best for us seniors so thank you for the program."

"Thank you for your help and care and especially with all the food items. My situation has worsened much this month and all the food items were much appreciated. You are so wonderful." We could not believe the people that I spoke to were so courteous and especially the personnel who came to our home and interviewed us. A friendly visitor was given to us - to take us to the store and we never dreamed we would have such a person like her. She treats us better than family and words cannot express our thanks for what your organization does."

"I know that I wouldn't be here if it were not for her encouragement. I have done so much with the words she has said to me, and how she has treated me. We all know how hard it is to make it through life and she is the one that has helped me view the world as a playground, where I can do anything that I want, instead of a scary world where I am always afraid and frustrated with how life is going. My life is not perfect, but I am on my way to getting it there. Thank you to all at the Center of Concern for your amazing help... "

“I AM SO GRATEFUL FOR THE FUN ACTIVITIES AND FRIENDSHIPS I HAVE FOUND AT YOUR DAILY LUNCH PROGRAM AT THE DES PLAINES LIBRARY. AS A WIDOW WITH ADULT CHILDREN NOW LIVING ON THEIR OWN, MY KIDS WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME SPENDING DAYS ALONE SO THEY RECOMMENDED THIS PROGRAM AND I HAVE NEVER LOOKED BACK! THE MEALS ARE DELICIOUS AND I ENJOY ALL THE ACTIVITIES AND TIME SPENT WITH OTHERS WHO ARE SO MUCH LIKE ME AND THE CENTER’S WONDERFUL STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!”

*WHEN I AM WITH MY SENIOR COMPANION,
SHE IS MY EYES AS I AM LEGALLY BLIND.
WHAT A GODSEND IN THE GROCERY STORE
- AND MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS. THANK YOU,
CENTER OF CONCERN.”*

“I am in a difficult situation, am very ill, disabled and an adult orphan. Every help I can get is a blessing for me, and I am forever grateful...They have tried very hard to help me and bring sunshine and hope to my life. Please know how grateful I am”.

“MY CASE MANAGER WAS ALWAYS THERE FOR ME, SHE SAID SHE WAS AVAILABLE DAY AND NIGHT, AND SHE WAS THERE WERE MANY TIMES I HAD CALLED OR TEXTED HER BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. SHE WAS SO SUPPORTIVE, GUIDED ME THROUGH TOUGH TIMES, AND ASSURED ME THAT I COULD MAKE IT THROUGH ANY CHALLENGES THAT I WOULD FACE. SHE WAS ALWAYS ENCOURAGING ME TO SUCCEED AND BE THE WOMAN THAT I WAS MEANT TO BE. SHE ASSISTED IN FINDING BETTER JOBS SO THAT I COULD SUPPORT MYSELF, HELPED ME BUILD A GOOD RESUME FOR FUTURE JOB INTERVIEWS.”

“..I am able to go to work and not worry about my loved one (mother).
Your program is truly a blessing
to me”.