

brother francis shelter

Opening our doors to Anchorage's homeless for more than
30 years.

THE KEYS TO HOPE *Case Managers: Unlocking The Doors to Self-Sufficiency*

Case managers connect Roger to permanent housing



While at Brother Francis Shelter, Roger and his wife received case management services that helped them move into a permanent home.

Roger used to be homeless but now lives in a new apartment off Muldoon Road. Roger calls his new digs a castle

because he has not rented or owned a home in 16 years. For a short time, Roger and his wife slept at Brother Francis Shelter. Being homeless was something Roger never expected would happen and he quickly decided it wasn't for him. He started meeting with a case manager and eventually got into **La Verna Quarters**, which helped him save and budget for his apartment. Roger now has a permanent home for his grandkids to visit him. He says this accomplishment came from Brother Francis Shelter case managers who gave him hope to succeed.

Case managers help Christina find permanent housing

Christina began using Brother Francis Shelter in September for its overnight services – dinner, access to laundry and shower, and for sleeping. After about a month she became more involved in shelter services that aid guests in ending their cycle of poverty. She used the **Good Night, Good Day Sleep** to stay energized to keep her job. Now she is staying at **La Verna Quarters** which helps her save 70% of her earnings in order to obtain permanent housing. Christina says she is very grateful for

the resources Brother Francis Shelter provides, which includes case managers through CSS's **Homeless Family Services** program. Christina says that her case manager, Shawna, taught her how to have self-control over her money which is helping her get one step closer to living in her home. "The entire team of case managers are a blessing" says Christina. "Because they help us see that we are better than just being homeless and jobless."

Homeless Family Services

is a case management program that helps individuals and families with children that are homeless address barriers that prevent them from being self-sufficient.

Good Night, Good Day program

is for clients re-entering the workforce. Often they work the night shift, requiring them to sleep during the day. This helps them keep their newly gained employment.

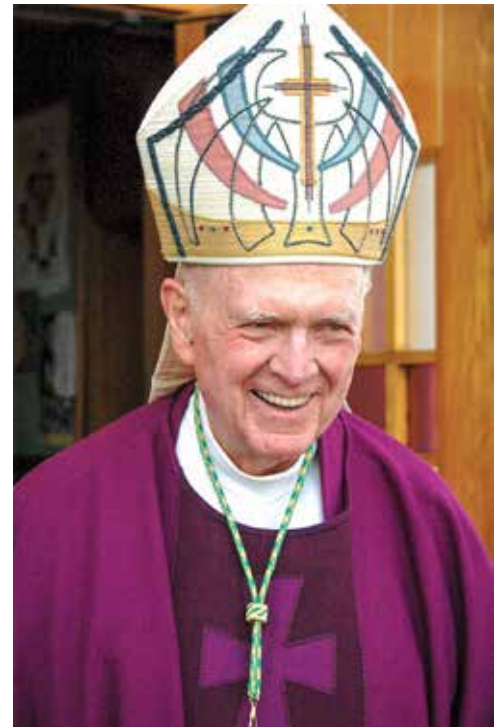
La Verna Quarters

allows clients to stay in a private room for up to 90 days. They are required to save 70 percent of their income for permanent housing while developing independent living skills.

Remembering ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS FRANCIS T. HURLEY

We are deeply saddened by the recent death of Archbishop Emeritus Francis T. Hurley. His deep and sincere compassion for the poor and vulnerable had a substantial impact on shaping Catholic Social Services and Brother Francis Shelter over the years, and left an indelible mark. His personal charm, warmth, pragmatism, humor, many practical lessons, and true commitment to all of God's people will be profoundly missed. We will work to carry on the mantle of service he inspired and continue to dedicate ourselves to the dignity of every individual we serve.

Over the years, honoring ...



Archbishop Emeritus Francis T. Hurley



Archbishop Hurley's passion was the driving force behind the creation of BFS



Archbishop Hurley helped expand the St. Francis House Food Pantry and celebrates its ribbon cutting.



Archbishop Hurley taking in a homeless halibut

CSS says goodbye to Mary Beth Bragiel

After more than 14 years at Catholic Social Services, Deputy Director Mary Beth Bragiel is leaving to take a job with the Archdiocese of Anchorage. As the former Human Resources Director and Supervisor, at one time, of all of CSS's programs including Brother Francis Shelter, Mary Beth says it was her husband, Greg, who introduced her to the organization. On their second date, Greg brought her to BFS to volunteer serving dinners to guests on Fridays. And she has been volunteering and working for CSS ever since. Although she is leaving, Mary Beth and Greg plan to continue their Friday dinner visits. We asked Mary Beth to reflect on her time at CSS and Brother Francis Shelter.



Q What will you remember about Brother Francis Shelter?

A *I will remember the staff and volunteers who are the most dedicated people in this world. I will also remember the stories from guests which regardless if they are of successes or obstacles, touch your heart and remind you that we should thank God for our blessings and show more love for people who are in need. Because at anytime this could be any of us.*

Q How have you tried to be an inspiration to Brother Francis Shelter guests?

A *I just celebrate successes no matter how big or small they are. Like someone getting a job or securing permanent housing or overcoming addiction. Those are all accomplishments that should be recognized and supported as we move toward the ultimate goal of ending homelessness.*

Q As you say goodbye, what would you like people to understand about homelessness in Anchorage?

A *Every one of our guests is a beloved child of God. it's easy to judge and say they don't have their act together, but we all have issues and if we expect mercy from God, we have to show it, too.*



Brother Francis Shelter 1021 E. 3rd Ave

DonationWISHList

You Can Help

In-Kind Needs

Fleece Twin Blankets
Garbage Bags
Industrial Toilet Paper
Body Wash/Shampoo

Use this link at Amazon to order and ship these items:

<http://amzn.com/w/37WJP00DD43G0>

For a complete list of needs go to cssalaska.org

To make a secure donation online, please go to cssalaska.org

Brother Francis Shelter ADVISORY Council Members

Tom Kron, Chair
Pat Byrne
Jeanne Fischer
Kay Gajewski
Deb Johnston

Marc June
Don Lederhos
Lottie Michael
Sherry Sedwick
Chuck Szopa



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ash Wednesday Service—February 10th at 1 PM

Walk for Warmth—February 20th

Lent Project for Clare House—February 10th-March 27th. Check cssalaska.org for more information

BFS Good Friday Walk—Friday, March 25th, 10 AM

Easter Mass, Brother Francis Shelter — T.B.A. Check cssalaska.org for information. Everyone is welcome.

25th Annual Wilma Carr Charity Ball — Saturday, May 7th at 5:30PM Hotel Captain Cook. To support CSS go to cssalaska.org

CSS 50th Anniversary Celebration — Friday, May 13th. CSS afternoon of service tours/program sites

Mass, Our Lady of Guadalupe — Saturday, May 14th 11 AM Picnic to follow in conjunction with Archdiocese of Anchorage, 50th Anniversary



Catholic Social Services

Brother Francis Shelter
3710 East 20th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

- Brother Francis Shelter
- Clare House
- Charlie Elder House
- Family Disability Services
- Homeless Family Services
- Pregnancy Support & Adoption Services
- Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services
- St. Francis House Food Pantry

THANK YOU!



Over \$5,000 was raised by Dimond's & South's hockey teams for Brother Francis Shelter at the Star Wars BFS Charity Game.

MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU!



Please support *Brother Francis Shelter* through **Pick.Click.Give**. On the PCG website to

donate all or part of your PFD!

Thank you!

For additional gift opportunities or to include Catholic Social Services in your will, insurance or stock plans, please contact Tricia Teasley at 907-222-7355 or tteasley@cssalaska.org