



# Brother Francis Shelter

## More than a roof

*Your support provides comprehensive shelter services, which means neighbors like Dale have additional assistance and access to more providers on their journey to permanent stability.*



*ABOVE: Dale has been able to access resources and training at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Resource & Navigation Center while staying at Brother Francis Shelter, helping him move closer to permanent stability.*

Between the rising cost of living and housing availability, Dale hasn't always been able to make ends meet. But **you provide Dale with support, skills training, and community** while he gets back on his feet.

Dale moved to Alaska from upstate New York after losing his wife to a terminal illness. Eventually, he found himself experiencing homelessness and staying at Brother Francis Shelter.

At Brother Francis Shelter, Dale works with case managers to navigate the housing system, and he recently received job

skills training from the Hope Center's Culinary School. And while he gets all the pieces in place for permanent stability, he's connected with other guests by attending a creative writing group at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Resource & Navigation Center.

Your support of shelter programming means **neighbors like Dale are supported physically, mentally, and emotionally, so they can exit homelessness and establish permanent stability.**



RIGHT: Volunteers Jack and John document any foot health concerns so Brother Francis Shelter can ensure guests receive aftercare, if needed.



## Helping guests put their best foot forward

For 14 years, volunteers have been tending to one of our guests' most important health concerns: their feet.

When you support Brother Francis Shelter, you care for guests' health and wellbeing in a variety of ways. Between Medical Respite, the Caring Clinic, and volunteer-led programs like the foot clinic, you ensure guests at Brother Francis Shelter have every opportunity to look after their physical and mental health.

Judy Everard started organizing the Brother Francis Shelter foot clinic 14 years ago. "I had always been active in the parish, but I felt like it was time to reach out into the community a little bit." Now, she coordinates about 50 volunteers to host regular clinics, helping treat and prevent issues like frostbite, infections, and more.



LEFT: Judy and fellow volunteer Tara helping out at the foot clinic.



RIGHT: Volunteer Linda tends to a guest's feet to prevent potential health complications.

Through the work of the foot clinic and the development of Brother Francis Shelter, **foot health has greatly improved for our guests** over the years, leading to improved overall health.

By supporting Brother Francis Shelter, **you've made our neighbors' health a priority and improved lives.** Thank you for providing our guests

with the compassionate care they need to put their best foot forward!

*"During each foot washing, volunteers chat with guests, sharing love and letting them know there's people who care about them and are interested in them."*

—Judy Everard, Foot Clinic Organizer

## 40 Years of Brother Francis Shelter



In late August, we celebrated 40 years of service at Brother Francis Shelter. Founded in 1983, Brother Francis Shelter remains Anchorage's longest operating low-barrier shelter. **Thank you to our community, the Archdiocese of Anchorage, and all the individuals who built the legacy of Brother Francis Shelter together.**

LEFT: Mathew Meggs, Mary Gore, Father Pat Travers, and Jenny Michaelson, representing the Archdiocese of Anchorage at the Brother Francis Shelter 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

**Thank you for supporting our community from Brother Francis Shelter's inception...**

### The 1980s: Answering the Call

In the early 1980s, Brother Dave and Brother Bob partner with the community to establish Brother Francis Shelter, Anchorage's first shelter for people experiencing homelessness.



### The 1990s: Evolving Programs

Through the 1990s, Brother Francis Shelter developed new programming to provide better care for guests and helped launch an emergency shelter in Kodiak.



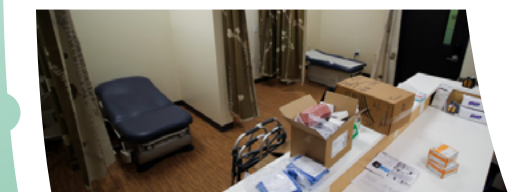
### The 2000s: Building Up

In the 2000s, Brother Francis Shelter partnered with the city to build a new permanent shelter providing guests with laundry services, showers, medical clinic, and computer labs.



### The 2010s: Connecting to Healthcare

During the 2010s, Catholic Social Services formed the Healthcare and Homelessness partnership to address the role that healthcare plays in homelessness.



### The 2020s: Navigating Forward

In the 2020s, Catholic Social Services expands its homeless services network with specialized facilities like Complex Care and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Resource & Navigation Center.



**And for years to come.**



# Winter is hard for our neighbors experiencing homelessness

*Supporting and providing compassionate shelter is more important than ever.*

As costs go up and temperatures go down, winter is a dangerous time to go unsheltered. **Your support, the collaboration of providers and local government, and the hard work of staff will save lives during the months ahead.**

With your support, through four decades of operating shelters and many hard-won lessons, we've learned that



*ABOVE: Guests services staff Larson and Fua pictured with Ron, center, a former guest at Brother Francis Shelter who liked to help out wherever he could. Ron is now a paid staff member at Brother Francis Shelter through the MASST program.*

**smaller, specialized shelters are the only dignified and sustainable way forward** for our community. Small shelters create better staff-to-client ratios, more peaceful environments, and lighter impact on the surrounding neighborhoods. With your support, Brother Francis Shelter, Clare House, and Complex Care have demonstrated how small shelter populations enable

client-centered, trauma-informed care and connection to resources like case management, healthcare navigation, and community-building activities for our neighbors experiencing homelessness.

By giving to Catholic Social Services and supporting our shelters, **you can meet an essential need in the moment and help pave the way to a stronger future for our city.**

## Hope endures. So can your giving.

Your donation to the Brother Francis Shelter Endowment Fund is a gift that keeps on giving and growing, providing a permanent resource to sustain the mission of Brother Francis Shelter. You can contribute to the endowment by donating online at [cssalaska.org/donate](https://cssalaska.org/donate) or mailing a check to:

**Catholic Social Services**  
4600 Debarr Road, Suite 201  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Please specify that your gift is for the BFS Endowment Fund. To learn more, contact Amalie Couvillion at 907-222-7355.

