

JOSEPH'S JOURNEY

A Life Transformed: Bouncing Back from Being Hit by a Bus



Jamie knows what it's like to get hit by a bus. Literally and figuratively.

The first time was figurative.

It was 1993 and he was working two jobs and studying full-time for a nursing degree when one August day he and a roommate got in an

argument about money. The roommate pulled a gun. Jamie had a split second to react. Trying to defend himself, they struggled and the gun went off. His roommate was hit and killed.

In an instant, his life was shattered.

Without witnesses to corroborate his story, he was convicted of manslaughter and served six years in prison. His conviction meant he was unable to pass the background check required for a career in nursing—or many other jobs. He managed to make a living for a few years working as an unlicensed caregiver for family and friends.

Then he got hit by a bus—literally.

He was riding in a cab that was broadsided by a city bus. At first glance, it appeared that he had escaped major injury. But then his right knee started swelling and hurting. Unable to work, he lost his apartment. He had surgery, but struggled to rehab his knee while living in homeless shelters.

In September 2015, he was admitted to Joseph's Home, where he could rest his knee in the privacy of his own room. And perhaps even more importantly, he found that he could talk with the Joseph's Home staff and volunteers. With their support and encouragement, he worked to process his emotions, manage his health care and keep a positive outlook.

"Joseph's Home is like a home to me. There's still a lot of pain, but they've eased of lot of that for me." —Jamie

In March, Jamie found an apartment that accepted him in spite of his felony. He looks forward to participating in the Joseph's Home Alumni Advisory Board and, if possible, he wants to help encourage and mentor future residents on their journey out of homelessness. •



Blessed to be Part of Something Special

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Joseph's Home is a special place.

If I had to distill what I've learned in my first four months as executive director into one sentence, that would be it—and for many reasons:

- Our residents and alumni, who demonstrate remarkable courage and resilience every day.
- You—our supporters and friends—who thoughtfully and generously make profound healing of the whole person a reality for our men.
- Our mission, crafted by the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine with love and wisdom.
- Our role in the community, where we remain the only homeless service organization dedicated to serving individuals with acute medical needs.
- Our board, staff and volunteers, who see their involvement as ministry and often go above and beyond the call of duty.

It's a privilege and blessing to serve alongside you in this ministry. Homeless individuals with medical conditions desperately need specialized care. Without your support, those needs would go unmet. Friends like you have already helped hundreds of men transform their lives and I am thrilled at the prospect of what we will do together in the months and years ahead.

Our work to chart the future for this ministry is ongoing, but because of your partnership, we have a strong foundation on which to build. I look forward to updating you on our progress in the months to come.

Right now, I'm learning a lot about the current needs of the homeless and how Joseph's Home fits into the network of available services. I'm getting a lot of my information firsthand from our residents and alumni. They've made it clear that the quiet, peaceful environment here is priceless to them.

Something as simple as a private bedroom—a rarity in the realm of homeless services—is actually quite therapeutic.

I'm also learning about the value that our partner agencies bring to the table. And I'm working to build relationships with current and potential strategic partners, such as health care providers and government agencies.

One thing I've already noticed is that our residents and alumni want to be more than mere consumers of our services. They want to participate in making things work! So we're finding ways for current residents to weigh in on daily decision-making and planning. They are offering ideas for outings and group activities. With strong participation, these activities can really help build a positive peer dynamic. And, we're preparing to launch an alumni advisory board. This will give them a formal voice and opportunities to give back long after they leave us.

I'm particularly excited that we've recently hired two alumni to work as resident support associates. Their experiences make them an invaluable role model for current residents. And they will be a great resource for the rest of the staff. (See page 8 for more details.)

Thank you for your partnership with Joseph's Home! Because of friends like you I am confident that as long as there is a need, homeless individuals will have a place to restore their health and heal their lives here in Cleveland.

Your partner in service,

Christine Horne

CHRISTINE HORNE, Executive Director

THANK YOU GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Hundreds of caring neighbors in and beyond Northeast Ohio gave generously to make healing possible for the men of Joseph's Home in 2015.

The annual Joseph's Home Donor Honor Roll is one of the ways we say "thank vou." All supporters who made at least one financial contribution are listed. unless they requested to remain anonymous. Know that the residents, board and staff of Joseph's Home are deeply grateful for each and every gift and for your partnership with us. Please continue to keep Joseph's Home in your thoughts, prayers and charitable giving plans.

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If your name has been misspelled, listed incorrectly or omitted, we sincerely apologize and ask you to please contact Director of Development Nathan Munn at 216.875.4634 so that we may correct our records.

2015 Joseph's Home Angels

Financial supporters weren't the only ones who touched the lives of Joseph's Home residents in 2015. We want to also thank and recognize these partners for their contributions of goods and services, and/or hours and energy spent volunteering, collaborating or advocating on behalf of Joseph's Home and our residents.

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YOU ARE SOMETHING SPECIAL. AND BECAUSE OF YOU, SPECIAL THINGS HAPPEN.

Homeless men like Jamie and Richard get back on their feet. They regain their identity and sense of purpose in life. Some of them, such as John and Michael, even find employment helping others through the same journey of healing. If that's not special, what is? The prayers, advocacy and support of caring friends like you make it all possible. Thank you!

Please make your gift to the 2016 Joseph's Home Annual Fund today. Your gift of any amount will help an acutely ill homeless man recover his health and heal his life. He won't know your name, but you'll have a special place in his heart. Send your check or money order payable to Joseph's Home using the enclosed envelope. Give online at josephshome.com. Or call 216.685.1551.

Find Us Online *Visit josephshome.com* to get news and updates, connect with Joseph's Home on Facebook, subscribe to our e-newsletter, make secure online donations, learn about additional volunteer opportunities and more.

_____Lives Healed, Empowered, Transformed

ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NEW BEGINNINGS



Richard, 2015

Richard, a veteran of the U.S. Navy, gave up a job he loved with the TSA in Las Vegas to care for his aging

father in the Cleveland area. When his father passed away earlier than expected. Richard was caught unprepared. "I didn't plan for it," he said. Finding work proved impossible with restrictions due to bad knees and a nerve problem in his right arm. His only source of income was a partial disability award. When he no longer had a place to stay, the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center helped him find emergency shelter. With surgery on the horizon, he was referred to Joseph's Home in July 2015. He underwent surgery on his arm, pre-operative testing for a knee replacement and treatment of vascular issues revealed by the tests while at Joseph's Home. He also worked on applying for full disability to support himself until he could return to work. He moved to an apartment in November and plans to have both knees replaced. After that, he hopes to return to work for a federal agency so he can accumulate the less than two years of service time he needs to qualify for a 20-year retirement.

David, 2015

David had worked in information technology for a homeless shelter for nearly 10 years. He never imagined he'd be the one needing help one day. But that changed in 2013. He woke up in a hospital bed to learn that he had suffered a stroke and was in total renal failure because of chronic, uncontrolled high blood pressure. Medical needs quickly took over his life and led to the loss of his job and home. He came to Joseph's Home in July 2015. With the help of the staff

nurse, he learned to manage his many medications and began feeling better. In December, he moved to an apartment on Cleveland's west side. By managing his health, he hopes to prove that he is a good candidate for a kidney transplant. David was profiled in a 2015 Good News Giving story in *The Plain Dealer* and on cleveland. com. A link to the story can be found at *josephshome.com/news.html*.



Exectutive Director Christine Horne and John

John, 2016

John came to Joseph's Home in urgent need of surgery for an enlarged prostate. The problem was so severe it had caused kidney problems and complications that left him unable to work as a pharmacist-or even think clearly enough to get the treatment he needed. His condition snowballed until he was penniless and homeless. Within weeks of surgery, John was healthy again. He found a part-time retail job in April 2015. He used his earnings to pay off debts from the time of his illness. On days off, he took continuing education classes to regain his pharmacy license. He moved into an apartment in January 2016 and expects to have his pharmacy license back soon so he can return to the career he loves. But Joseph's Home holds a special place in his heart. So when Executive Director Christine Horne approached him in early 2016 about supplementing his income by working as a resident support associate on an asneeded basis, he said yes. "It's nice to help the other guys if I can," said John. "Being here reminds me of where I was."

UPDATES

Michael, 2010

While a resident at Joseph's Home in 2009, Michael underwent shoulder



surgery and physical therapy, which allowed him to return to the workforce and maintain permanent housing. He has remained in contact with Joseph's Home in the years since. He met Executive Director Christine Horne for the first time at the 2015 Christmas party. They had a lengthy conversation about Michael's ideas to enhance Joseph's Home. Their conversation continued by email in the following weeks. When Christine asked in one of her emails if he might be interested in working for Joseph's Home, Michael's immediate answer was an enthusiastic ves. "I was elated." said Michael. "This fit right into what I wanted to do. And I owe Joseph's Home so much because they took me out of the gutter." He became a part-time resident support associate in February. Intent on making a career out of helping others, Michael is scheduled to begin work on a college degree in social work this summer.

Andy, 2015



Former resident Andy Herbcha provided the music for the Feast of St. Joseph Mass on March 18.



Following are excerpts from an article about the work of volunteers from St. Angela Merici in Fairview Park. To read the full article, visit www.josephshome.com/volunteer.html.

When St. Angela Merici Social Justice Committee Chair Trena Pacetti scheduled a 2015 Advent Day of Service project at Joseph's Home, she didn't quite know what to expect.

The plan was for a team of volunteers to make a meal and serve it to the homeless residents, and then lead them in a craft or musical activity. The success of the plan depended on the residents' interest. Trena and her team had never previously attempted a creative activity with homeless individuals. The evening got off to a good start with a meal that the residents gave an enthusiastic thumbs-up.

"They were all very friendly and welcoming," said Trena. "When we sat down to eat with them, I found it much easier to start a conversation than I expected. It was truly a Eucharistic experience."

As they ate and talked, the residents opened up and shared their stories. Even with the shared meal and meaningful connections, Trena was still apprehensive about the residents' interest in doing activities. She sensed right away that the group wouldn't want to sing. So, she showed some examples of the Christmas ornaments she brought for them to decorate. One resident, Frank, wanted to do it, but he didn't want to be the only one. He worked to convince the others to try it.

Frank's peer pressure worked. After dinner, nearly all of the men stayed to work on ornaments. "It was such a positive experience on both sides and such a gift for me," said Trena.

The evening was so rewarding for everyone that Trena and her team resolved to return again the next month, and to get others from the parish involved. What was supposed to be a one-time service project has turned into a high-priority recurring appointment for Trena and the St. Angela Merici Social Justice Committee.

"Few things are more therapeutic than genuine acceptance and personal relationships. Trena and her team are truly God's instruments of healing for our residents. They are a wonderful example of incarnational ministry."



Warm Hands, Warm Hearts Happy Hour

On January 28, more than 60 Joseph's Home supporters gathered for the second annual Warm Hands, Warm Hearts social at Market Garden Brewery. Guests socialized and enjoyed the food and beverage offerings of the popular Ohio City gastropub in front of a roaring fire on what could have been (but wasn't) a cold and snowy mid-winter evening. Thanks to Market Garden Brewery and all who joined us!



(l to r) Bob Carroll, Neal Packard, Carrie Packard, Tony Oslejsek and Steve Horne



Jen Pfleiderer (left) and Joseph's Home

Executive Director

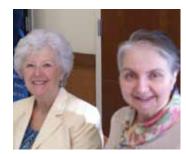
(l to r) Joseph's Home Board Vice Chair Nadine Ezzie, Tom Nahra and Joseph's Home Board Chair Kathy Heigle



Teresa Andreani (left) and Joseph's Home volunteer Janet Leff

Feast of St. Joseph

Joseph's Home hosted its annual celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph March 18. More than 40 friends and supporters joined us at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center for a Mass and reception. Many thanks to Fr. Peter Kovacina, parochial vicar, St. Anthony of Padua (Parma) for officiating Mass, former Joseph's Home resident Andy Herbcha for his beautiful music, and everyone who attended.



Kathleen Rolinc and Joanne Best



Norbert and Mary Ruffing









Joseph's Home Alumni Featured in The Plain Dealer

Joseph's Home alumni David Jones and David Henderson were featured in *The Plain Dealer's* Good News Giving story series on December 13. If you missed it, a link to the story is posted on josephshome.com/news.html.



Carole Carpenter (center) volunteering at Perseverance in Hope 2014 with Sisters of Charity Health System colleagues Jen Arbogast and Sue Gaughan.

SAVE THE DATE!



Perseverance in Hope 2016

Perseverance in Hope: The 2016 Joseph's Home Benefit Luncheon is June 23 at Windows on the River in Cleveland. Dan Moulthrop, CEO of The City Club of Cleveland, will serve as emcee and will moderate a panel discussion and audience question-and-answer session on the issue of homelessness, its impact on individuals and communities, and strategies for effective intervention. Plus, there will be door prizes, a raffle and silent auction. Funds raised will provide meals, shelter and other care for the residents of Joseph's Home. Sponsorships and tickets are available. Visit josephshome. com for more information or to reserve your place today.

In Loving Memory:

CAROLE CARPENTER

Carole Carpenter, senior staff accountant for the Sisters of Charity Health System, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on October 26, 2015. She joined the health system's finance department in 2000, providing accounting support for Joseph's Home, which had just opened its doors. She fulfilled that responsibility with professionalism and enthusiasm. Joseph's Home staff and board members deeply appreciated her expertise, reliability and commitment to the Joseph's Home mission. Carole was a loving mother and grandmother, a passionate Browns fan and a highly valuable member of the Joseph's Home team. She will be deeply missed.

JOSEPH'S HOME

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JOSEPH'S HOME MISSION ::

Empowering men experiencing homelessness and acute illness to heal in a nurturing, faith-based environment and achieve independence.



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