



July 22nd, 2024

Greetings Friend of Out of the Cold,

You're invited!!! Please join us for "Sheltering Hope," Out of the Cold's annual fundraising dinner taking place on Thursday, October 3rd, at 5:30pm at the Penn Stater!

I hope this letter finds you doing well! Out of the Cold: Centre County is a low barrier homeless shelter located in downtown State College. We're actively serving 20+ individuals and we have another 45 people on a waiting list. Despite Out of the Cold not being able to provide overnight shelter for the people on our waiting list, they are able to utilize the day shelter and resource center for lunch, showers, laundry, case management support and a safe place to spend time. As a low-barrier shelter, we believe that shelter is a human right regardless of the decisions that a person has made in the past or is currently making. Therefore, we find ourselves serving some of our community's most vulnerable members: people with disabilities, mental health concerns, substance use disorder, no family support, etc.

In September 2023, Out of the Cold completed the renovations to our permanent shelter and we were able to move in with all of our guests! In the last year, we have seen amazing progress in the lives of so many people as they transition out of shelter and into stable, independent living. So far this year, over 200 guests have been served through Out of the Cold. The number of individuals experiencing homelessness is rising in our community!

Last winter, we were scared for all of the people on our waitlist due to the blistering cold temperatures at night. We worked with State College Borough to develop a Code Blue Plan, during the nights below 25 degrees, we would open our doors as a warming location for anyone experiencing housing insecurities. We helped over 20 different individuals throughout the winter who needed a place to stay warm at night!

Since we have our permanent location we have been focusing on providing supportive and educational services to our guests. We have been doing financial development, interviewing skills, food safety and cooking classes, health and wellness education and so much more! We have seen that providing these classes and opportunities for our guests have allowed them to develop skills and confidence in their ability to thrive living independently.



Out of the Cold: Centre County is hosting our annual fundraising dinner on Thursday October 3rd, 2024 at the Penn Stater. We're looking for event sponsors and thought that you may be interested. All money raised through our fundraising dinner (sponsorships and night of giving) will be used to maintain and expand Out of the Cold's services to our community. This year we will be offering sponsorship levels based off of the success stories of some of our guests. Please see the attached sponsorship levels below and our guests' stories.

Please contact Jordan at jordan@outofthecoldcc.org if you're interested in serving as a sponsor for "Sheltering Hope".

Please also plan to join us for the dinner to hear exciting updates about the shelter and guest stories of impact. You can RSVP by emailing Jordan. The dinner will be free to attend but guests will be asked to make a contribution at the end of the evening.

Gratefully,

*~Kendra Gettig
Out of the Cold: Centre County
Board Chair*

*~Jordan Taylor
Out of the Cold: Centre County
Executive Director*



Sheltering Hope Sponsorship Levels

Richard: \$25,000



Rich came to Out of the Cold when he had nowhere else to go. He was scared, hurt and uncertain if he could get his life back together. Once his basic needs were secure, we worked on developing a positive, comforting, and stable relationship with Rich to allow him to feel supported. Over time we watched Rich start to trust again and be

ready to advance in life. He worked with our case managers to obtain a stable and reliable full-time job. Rich's second goal, after having stable employment, was to obtain reliable transportation. Rich saved up most of his paychecks to purchase a reliable vehicle for work three months after working! Finally, the day came where Rich felt secure and stable, and was ready to live independently. Now, Rich still has his job, his vehicle and his own apartment. He still comes back to Out of the Cold for case manager support and for the enriching activities that we provide.

If you choose to sponsor at Rich's level, you get:

- *Name and logo recognition in the program.*
- *Name and logo recognition on display boards in the lobby.*
- *A full table (8 guests).*
- *Public recognition from the podium.*
- *Recognition on Out of the Cold's social media, leading up to the dinner.*
- *Naming rights to dinner (This dinner is brought to you by Out of the Cold and _____.)*
- *Table promoting your business/organization at dinner venue.*
- *Name on our Giving Wall*



Gary: \$10,000



Gary's story is one of episodic homelessness. For years, he was stuck in a cycle of stability and then needing to utilize our services again. A cycle like that is more common than you might think. This is why it's crucial to establish extra support once someone finds independent housing. After an extra difficult situation, Gary came back to our overnight program ready to ask for help and work on his goals. In just THREE MONTHS Gary was able to secure stable employment, set up a checking and savings account, and move into one of our transitional apartments.

If you choose to sponsor at Gary's level, you get:

- *Name and logo recognition in the program.*
- *Name and logo recognition on display boards in the lobby.*
- *A full table (8 guests).*
- *Public recognition from the podium.*
- *Recognition on Out of the Cold's social media, leading up to the dinner.*
- *Table promoting your business/organization at dinner venue.*
- *Name on our Giving Wall*

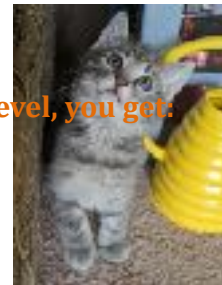
Anna and Dan: \$5,000



Anna and Dan formed an unexpected friendship when they met at Out of the Cold. Though they came in at different times, they were able to support and motivate each other to gain the skills they needed for independence. They decided to move into an apartment together in May 2024. Since then, they've both worked with our transitional case manager to maintain stability and have even rescued a kitten! Their story is one that shows how important it is to find support in all areas of your life.

If you choose to sponsor at Anna and Dan's level, you get:

- *Name and logo recognition in the program.*
- *Name and logo recognition on display boards in the lobby.*
- *A full table (8 guests)*
- *Public recognition from the podium.*





- *Name on our Giving Wall*

Joe and Michelle: \$1,000



Joe and Michelle came to us in a unique case. Though Michelle had been a resident of Centre County in the past, she and Joe had spent the last 5+ years living in Alabama! Michelle's kids were what brought her back to Centre County, and Joe, her husband, came along for the ride. They didn't expect to face homelessness, but were grateful to find Out of the Cold when they had no other options. Michelle was able to secure employment for the first time since 1994! 5 months later, they were able to move out and are happily living in independent housing and still checking in every so often for case management services.

If you choose to sponsor at Joe and Michelle's level, you

get:

- *Name recognition in the program.*
- *Name recognition on display boards in the lobby.*
- *4 seats at the dinner.*

Shannon: \$500



Shannon came to Out of the Cold from Willow Tree Inn in April 2024. She showed great progress and stated "Out of The Cold has given me the support and headspace to get my life back on track for the first time in 2 years." She's a hard worker and so resilient. By July 1st, she was able to secure independent housing! She's been doing great since moving out into her own place and is very hopeful for a happy and successful future.

If you choose to sponsor at Shannon's level, you get:

- *Table sponsorship will cover the cost of food at one table.*
- *Name recognition in the program.*
- *2 seats at dinner.*