



*"Behold, I will do new things, which shall presently spring forth, and ye shall know them:
and I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the dry land."*

~ Isaiah 43:19

May 2024

**Coming Alongside Our Guests
LOVE | HOPE | SERVICE**

Dear Friends,

Blessings! The spring is a time of rebirth and renewal and also a time for gratitude; warm days await us! Hope is before us. We are grateful that with your support last year, we were able to provide more than 30,000 individuals with food, shelter, clothing and so much more.

Over ten years ago, from a small back corner of an office at Lazarus House, an idea was born. A newly revealed vision of how to serve our Guests more fully. No sign was ever posted but still they came. Day after day, week after week, hundreds of Guests came to the Soup Kitchen for a hot meal. Many also came asking for diapers for their babies; shampoo, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes for their families; the basics that many take for granted every day. How would this small corner of an office be able to serve all of these Guests and meet this growing need?

Fast forward to today. Our Community Resources program is now an integral component of the services we provide that allow us to come alongside each Guest on their journey to self-sufficiency and independence. Our team of advocates are qualified professionals who connect personally with our Guests. As members of the Community, they have seen and felt the struggles firsthand; their lived experience is what makes their guidance so powerful for our Guests. They provide personal care items, coordinate critical wellness checks and link Guests to social service referrals, document translations, employment recruiters, etc. We offer a safe and clean place to shower and Notary Services free of charge. On the coldest of nights, our winter protocol program provides a night out of the cold and for some, assistance seeking rehabilitation from substance abuse.

We believe every Guest deserves the chance to thrive. As Executive Director, I turn to you once again – our devoted and dependable donors – to make a financial donation. Without your continued financial support, it would not be possible to offer this array of services through Community Resources and our other well established programs. Your donations enable us to provide critical resources to serve our Guests with the utmost respect, dignity and care. Please visit our website lazarushouse.org/ways-to-give/ to make your donation. Thank you sincerely for your compassion and investment in each of our Guests.

Gratefully,

Carmen H. Vega
Executive Director