



# Capuchin Community Services

[www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org](http://www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org)

## Homeless & Attending School, Guest Finds Support Capuchin ministry helps people to find ways to better their lives

“There’s a chain of events that have to happen to help people in my situation,” Brennan said. “From the donors who support St. Ben’s to the staff and volunteers who counsel us to guests who have to decide to make better choices.”

Brennan certainly epitomizes those who are working hard to turn their lives around. An intelligent young man, Brennan has benefitted from a number of Capuchin Community Services’ programs, mostly at St. Ben’s Community Meal. “The friars are helping me to get my life together,” Brennan said. “Br. Carl gives me my mail, I eat at St. Ben’s many evenings, they helped me with my ID and they’ve given me bus tickets so I could go to appointments. Now they are helping me earn my Adult High School Diploma.”

Carla Dupont, GED Coordinator said, “I met Brennan over a year ago. He had grown up in Detroit and left school after the 11th Grade. He came to Milwaukee and eventually realized he needed more education.”

Carla explained, “Br. Dave Schwab, the former ministry director and a former high school teacher started the program with me. St. Ben’s believes that whether guests graduate or not, getting more education always helps people to better their lives.” She paused and then added, “The grace of St. Ben’s Meal is that they look at the whole person.”

Brennan added, “A number of staff have helped me out. Kenny Howard has been a major support and he’s helping me to stay committed to making only good choices. Carla and others have given me good counsel and I can see where by the end of this year I’ll have my high school diploma.”

Carla smiled and said, “We were able to help Brennan apply to Milwaukee Area Technical College’s Adult High School program. We paid the fees, then helped with tuition and books. We only ask that the guests who qualify for school attend regularly and make progress. Brennan is one young man who I believe will complete the program before the year is out and receive his diploma in time for Christmas!”

When asked about his future goals Brennan said,

“I think I want to get a Culinary Arts degree. It’s a two year program and then I can use it to fund my travels.” Brennan hopes to someday travel to Africa, Canada and Japan among other countries.

“With the help of our donors guests like Brennan can shoot for the stars,” Br. Rob Roemer said. “It is always wonderful to be able to play even a small part in another person’s return to health and wholeness!”



▲ (L-R) Carla DuPont, GED Program Coordinator, Brennan Braggs, guest and student pose with Kenny Howard, Assistant Director at the St. Ben’s Community Meal site and Capuchin Br. Carl Schaefer.

**USE FORM ON PAGE 4 OR REGISTER ONLINE NOW!**  
[www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org](http://www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org)



# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

## House of Peace

Van Driving: Mon-Fri

- The House of Peace is looking for a volunteer to help us with some delivery driving. This would be one-two hours, twice a week. Volunteer must have a valid license, ability to lift at least 20 lbs., and be over age of 18 years old.

## Capuchin Apartments

May through June, 2018

5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

- The Capuchin Apartments is looking for groups of 5-7 people to come in to serve the residents a hot meal. This would be any Monday-Wednesday once a month. Groups prepare a well-balanced meal ahead of time, enough for 25-30 residents and serve them in the building's community room.

## Homeless Memorial Service

May 10, 2018

3:00 pm

- The service will be held in St. Benedict the Moor Church, 1015 N 9th St, Milwaukee, WI 53233. It is organized by Ascension Healthcare's St. Ben's Clinic.

## Next Steps

To volunteer or for more information please contact: Shirelle Jenkins, Volunteer Coordinator at 414-933-1300, x1123 or [sjenkins@thecapuchins.org](mailto:sjenkins@thecapuchins.org).

## HOW TO DONATE

To make a gift to our Capuchin ministry to the hungry & needy go to:

[www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org](http://www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org)

Or mail your gift to:

Capuchin Community Services  
P.O. Box 5830  
Milwaukee, WI 53205-5830

*Capuchin Community Services is a ministry of the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph. Unless otherwise directed, donations support the local ministry and the Province.*

*The Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph is a 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts made to our ministries, Capuchin Community Services, St. Ben's Community Meal and/or the House of Peace, are tax deductible as allowable by law.*

## Roaming Ministry

by Br. Rob Roemer, OFM, Capuchin Director

### Remembering Those We Lost

People come and go in our lives. In my seven years at Capuchin Community Services, I've seen a lot of people pass through both House of Peace and St. Ben's. Guests, staff, donors and volunteers. While some guests have been here for many years coming to use our services, others come in and out of our lives for a short time. They still leave a significant mark.

We gather this month to remember all the homeless who have died in the past year (27 to date of writing this). There are certain people who stand out. A film viewed recently called *30 Seconds Away* followed the lives of 5 homeless people in Milwaukee. One of them, Harold, was a regular each night at St. Ben's Community Meal, and was trying to overcome an addiction. Unfortunately, the addiction won.

Others stand out to me such as Cowboy, Michael S., Fred B., Ramon, and many others. They each had their own story. Some were quiet and went about their own business, never really opening the door to allow others to come to know them. They were important to the character of the ministry. They leave us with a sadness that we never got time to really know them.

Many who never knew any of those who died in the last year will come to light a candle and remember the names of each of those who passed alone on the streets. They deserve to be loved and remembered. Their lives mattered and they left an impact on us, whether they were outgoing or quiet. Let us never forget those who think they are forgotten and invisible. You are invited to join us for the memorial service, details in the sidebar.



We are sad to be losing Miss Gerri Sheets-Howard after her 17 years with us. She will be going into full-time ministry as pastor of her church. We are grateful to her for her many years of dedicated service to us and our guests and wish her the best in her new assignment. Please join me in thanking her for her dedicated service.

## Staff Arrivals

Capuchin Fr. Johnson Jayaraj has joined Capuchin Community Services as a pastoral director at the House of Peace. Fr. Johnson is a Capuchin Franciscan from a diocese in India.



▲ Capuchin Fr. Johnson Jayaraj learns how to pack a pantry bag at the House of Peace's Emergency Food Pantry. Derrick Crawford, guest and daily volunteer (center) helps Dominique McGhee, Pantry Director show Fr. Johnson how to pack bags meant to feed a household for several days.



▲ Br. Rob Roemer (right) introduces Bishop Jeffrey Haines at the Holy Thursday Easter Basket distribution. Each year volunteers from Fr. Gene's Help Center bring donations of food including hams from Badger Hams.



▲ Capuchin Fr. Johnson Jayaraj (center) joins Br. Rob Roemer (left) in thanking the students of St. Teresa of Calcutta Roman Catholic Church in North Lake. The students held a hygiene bag drive as their Lenten service project.



# St. Anthony Campaign

by Dan McKinley, Consultant  
for Community Engagement

## Final goal within reach!

Our Saint Anthony campaign met its immediate goals, construction is well underway on 60 permanent apartments for homeless people, and we anticipate a grand opening this fall! Over 1,400 generous donors made this campaign a wonderful blessing.

Our next challenge is to fully support the expanded services at St. Anthony and other sites that will empower many more destitute people. Even though the Capuchins attract over 3,000 volunteers who assist in essential ministries, our direct cost for services is now \$2.6 Million.

Thankfully, many people who supported the campaign want to continue to help. Earlier this year, for example, the Falsetti family asked to tour the St. Anthony building where their father had served as a doctor, and were inspired to make a memorial gift in his honor. There are many other compassionate people whose gifts will be memorialized in the new building.

## Blessings of Service

by Gerri Sheets-Howard, M.Div.  
Administrative Director

### To every thing there is a season...

I have been assigned many challenging tasks in my life. The task of submitting my last article for Capuchin Community Services' (CCS) has been the most heart wrenching for me. June 19, 2018 will be my last official day of employment at CCS. Approximately seventeen years ago, I was unemployed, and through a dear friend I learned of a temporary position at the House of Peace. Mr. Charles Clausen was the Executive Director who hired me as his temporary office assistant.

My husband and I have raised two extraordinary sons, who were permitted to participate in or volunteer for most of the events sponsored by CCS. They learned the importance of giving back, having empathy for others, and understanding the role that non-profit organizations play in the lifeblood of the community. Now as I look at my adult sons, I am so very appreciative of the life lessons that they learned. During the last seventeen years, CCS has been very supportive in my academic pursuit of two Masters' Degrees. Both degrees have been instrumental in me being able to provide supervision and implementation of many programs that CCS offers, as both the Executive Director of House of Peace and the Administrative Director of CCS.

► Br. Rob gives the Falsetti Family a tour of St. Anthony's Apartments under construction.



Perhaps you saw the story of how Tony and Patricia Busalacchi sold much of their art collection in order to furnish over 30 of the new apartments at St. Anthony--the April 5th CBS TV segment with their inspiring story is now posted on TheCapuchins.org.

Brother Rob is always Thanking God Ahead of Time, and this inspiration has blessed our work at St. Anthony since the beginning. I was grateful when Br. Rob asked me to help carry out the capital campaign. (I was recently retired and he saw I needed to do more than volunteer at St. Ben's Meal!).

My new role as consultant is simply to help more people become aware of the Capuchin mission and how it empowers those who are the least among us. Then invite people who are interested to become more meaningfully engaged in this important work. Thank you for your support!



I have had the pleasure of working with an amazing group of staff persons, donors, volunteers, guests, council members and partners. When I walked through the doors of the House of Peace seventeen years ago, I had no idea how much my life would be changed as a result of working alongside Capuchin Friars, to minister to the needs of the poor amongst us.

I had no idea of who I really was seventeen years ago, or what my purpose in life was. Today I am well aware of who I am, and what God has purposed for me to do with my life for His glory. I depart from working at a ministry that I have loved, to pastoring a congregation that I love, full time at Bradford Memorial AME Church. In the words of Bro. Booker Ashe, "It's amazing what the Lord can do!" It certainly has been amazing what the Lord has done in and through me as the Administrative Director at Capuchin Community Services. All of you have a special place in my heart, and I will miss you dearly!

## Who We Are

Capuchin Community Services is a ministry of **The Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph**, a religious community of friars inspired by St Francis of Assisi. Our friars live and work with those who are in need of help... the poor, the disenfranchised, and the needy.



## Our Ministry Council

Capuchin Community Services is advised by a volunteer Ministry Council consisting of leaders in our community. Current Ministry Council members include:

- Diane Knight
- Julie Darnieder
- Anthony Myers
- Chuck Cmeyla
- Felice Green
- Sara Zirbel
- Wendy Hermann
- Pam Meyer
- Duncan Shrout
- Gerri Sheets-Howard (Administrative Director)
- Br Rob Roemer (Ministry Director)
- Jeff Parrish (Director of Provincial Ministries)

The Capuchins'



Emcee  
**Bill Michaels**  
"The Big Unit"

**FOR THE RUN-WALK HUNGRY**

**POLISH FEST**

**JUNE 15, 2018 • 6PM**

4:00 pm Check-In at Main Gate of Polish Fest

Sponsors:



[www.PolishFest.org](http://www.PolishFest.org)  
Friday, June 15 - Sunday, June 17



For each participant, Usinger's will generously donate up to 1 pound of product.

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**5K RUN:**

A certified and chip timed/scored race.  
**\$30 Adult, \$20 Child [\$35 and \$25 after June 3]**  
Child must be 12 or younger on race day.

**AWARDS:**

Immediately following the Run-Walk, awards for 13 age divisions and 3 overall finishing times for Men and Women.

**2 MILE WALK:**

Non-competitive walk.  
Not eligible for scoring or awards.  
**\$25 Adult, \$15 Child [\$30 and \$20 after June 3]**  
Child must be 12 or younger on race day.

**TEAM INFO:**

Teams of 5 or more runners/walkers/or both are eligible to have your team name printed on your shirts AND you will receive the Early Bird Discount. Registration deadline is June 3.

Please register online at:  
[www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org](http://www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org)

**DRAWINGS:** All Capuchins' Run-Walk participants are eligible for wonderful prizes. Must be present to win.

**PARTICIPANT REWARDS: Commemorative T-Shirt • FREE Polish Fest Admission all Weekend**

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION:** Payment must be postmarked or completed online by **June 3, 2018**. After June 3, shirt sizes cannot be guaranteed.

**Individual registration is available below or through [www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org](http://www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org)**

*Have a team of 5 or more? Please register your team at [www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org](http://www.CapuchinsRunWalkForTheHungry.org)*

Photocopies are accepted. Detach along dashed line

**REGISTRATION FORM: PLEASE PRINT**

Team Name (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Run-Walk	Gender	Age Runners Only	T-Shirt			Amount
				Size	Adult	Youth	
1					<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth		
2					<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth		
3					<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth		
4					<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth		
5					<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth		

Individual who is completing form:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

My extra gift to the Capuchins to feed the homeless and hungry: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check (Payable to: Capuchins' Run-Walk for the Hungry) Credit Card:  VISA  MasterCard  Discover  Am Ex

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby waive all claims against The Capuchin Province of St. Joseph, Polish Fest, Inc., Polish Heritage Alliance, Inc., Milwaukee World Festival, Inc., City of Milwaukee and the Board of Harbor Commissioners, race personnel and all sponsors for any injuries from which I may suffer while taking part in this event or as a result thereof. I grant permission to all of the aforementioned to use any photographs, motion pictures, videotapes or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose. Participant Signature (or guardian if under 18).

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return Form & Payment to: Capuchins' Run-Walk for the Hungry  
P.O. Box 5830, Milwaukee, WI 53205 • Phone: 414-374-8841, Ext. 55**



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YouTube.com/  
CapuchinCommunityServicesOrg

**Capuchin Community Services**

St. Ben's Community Meal  
1015 N 9th St  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
414.271.0135



House of Peace  
1702 W Walnut St  
Milwaukee, WI 53205  
414.933.1300

Support our ministry: [www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/Donate](http://www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/Donate) or by mail to P.O. Box 5830, Milwaukee, WI 53205-0830