



## SOCIAL WORKERS HELP GUESTS WITH LIFE CHALLENGES

### *BROTHER JERRY & LINDA BARNES MINISTER AT ST. BEN'S COMMUNITY MEAL & THE HOUSE OF PEACE*

Everyone who visits the House of Peace and Saint Ben's Meal will see our "two-sheet" – a color flyer describing the main ministries of our two sites. It features our new logo and icons to help better explain our services – nearly all of which are provided by the volunteers who bring their talents and share their time. We hope it's useful to everyone: guests, volunteers, staff, other service ministries and agencies, even first responders and public servants.

It is, however, only part of what happens at CCS. What if someone's needs don't appear on the flyer? What if there are new crises in the community that require a merciful response? While that side of CCS might be not be as visible, it is there. As Brother Carl Schaefer, the porter at Saint Ben's says, "If you don't ask, we can't say 'yes.'" This happens largely through the ministry of our social workers. Brother Jerry Smith received his Masters of Social Work at the University of Illinois-Chicago and ministered in Milwaukee jails for a decade before returning to Milwaukee in 2017 to begin ministry at CCS. Brother Jerry knows the "two-sheet," but his ministry is not limited to it. Just ask our guest Rick West.



▲ Capuchin Br. Jerry Smith & guest Rick West visit in St. Anthony's Chapel in the new Gatering Space for St. Ben's Community Meal.

Rick's story: "I first met Brother Jerry in 1992 in the old Milwaukee County Jail. He would come to the jail, talking with me, reading the Bible with me, and when I was in prison he kept writing letters to me, and when I got out, he's been my support. He's there for me when I got problems, I can talk to him, and he's a problem solver! Brother Jerry makes sure I always have my prescriptions, he makes sure I never run out of food. He's my mentor – I never had a mentor before. He's taught me how to control my anger, how not to be racist or prejudiced, not to judge people. He's a good person all in all. He's more than a friend – he is a brother. He is like a real brother."

Miss Linda Barnes, site manager and long-term minister at the House of Peace, not only helped create the "two-sheet" – she wrote the book, in the sense that she has shaped and changed the work of the House of Peace as people's situations change. These days she guides our "direct help" ministry, which is how CCS tries to keep families together and people in their homes by providing assistance in emergency financial situations. These interventions are private, patient, and, it is hoped, effective. Almost nothing can be accomplished if a person doesn't have a secure place to live. CCS desires that all be housed, and we work for that day.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
THE CAPUCHIN WALK FOR THE HUNGRY  
FRIDAY JUNE 12, 2020

# WORKS OF MERCY

Scheduling Spring Now

## House of Peace

*Food & Clothing Pantries - Prep & Assist:  
Mon-Fri 8am-4pm*

- Volunteers needed to sort food, clothing & hygiene supplies. Shelve food & prepare pantry packs. Inspect clothing & hang on rods. Pack hygiene bags.

*Empowerment Class Teachers Needed:  
Mon-Fri 8am-4pm*

- Do you have expertise to share? Can you teach a 1 hour class on financial literacy, wellness, parenting skills, job search skills, workplace habits or other topics? Contact us for consideration.



## St. Ben's Community Meal

*Meal Service: Sun-Fri 4:45-6:45pm*

- Volunteers needed for serving meals, pouring beverages, providing condiments, retrieving trays and resetting tables. Scheduling 2020 now.

*Front Office Reception:*

*Mon-Fri 9am-12:30pm & 12:30pm-4:30pm*

- Be the first person to welcome guests! Serve in the Front Office directing visitors & guests plus minor office duties.

*Warming Center Support:*

*Whenever the Polar Vortex returns*

- Help open the St. Ben's Warming Center whenever temperatures are forecast to be bitterly cold. Involves late night/early morning hours. Call for more details.

## Next Steps

To volunteer or ask questions, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Nicole Fair at 414-933-1300, x1123 or: [ccsvol@thecapuchins.org](mailto:ccsvol@thecapuchins.org).



▲ Call Nicole today if you'd like to volunteer. Here she helps a guest select toys for her family.

# Call and Response

*by Br. Robert Wotypka, OFM Capuchin  
Ministry Director*

## A heart like a social worker

What do you think of when you think of acronyms? In the pre-texting era, I mean – I can't keep up with what's being created for phones. Think of two institutions, vast and influential in different ways. The Church and the Pentagon. Both wield acronyms frequently: RCIA. CENTCOM. DRE. MAD. USCCB. SAC. I'm still trying to find a way to quickly and neatly add my suffix acronym to my signature: OFM Cap. Sorry if it's not legible on the letters.



► Br. Robert helped a guest load their car with donated holiday supplies.

But I consider this acronym to be above all: MSW. I first encountered social workers during college when I worked nights at a clinic. In my experience social workers are astute yet empathetic listeners. They observe carefully but don't judge. They might have a plan, but will give you the space and the respect you need to find your own way, too. If Jesus of Nazareth hadn't been a carpenter, he'd have made a noble social worker.

Capuchin Community Services ("CCS" if you will) is blessed with two social workers – three if you count our partners at the Ascension/Saint Ben's Free Clinic. Ms. Linda Barnes has a dual role at the House of Peace: site manager and social worker. And Brother Jerry Smith divides his time between the

► Br. Robert leads prayer at the 1 year celebration of the new Gathering Space.



HOP and Saint Ben's. When we have a guest with a situation or a challenge that requires precise and careful attention, they are there to respond. Jesus said, "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath" (Mark 2: 27) – this wisdom is at work when Ms. Linda and Brother Jerry carry out their highly personal ministries. They create unique and effective solutions and interventions case by case and person by person.

Should we all be social workers? I'm not sure. There's lots of paperwork! Should we be like them in our hearts? Let's say yes. Because when we take a social worker's approach



◀ Br. Robert checked in Robert Jordan to the Warming Center during a recent polar vortex.

we are imitating our brother Jesus most closely, and serving our sisters and brothers most compassionately. All are welcome to find their unique way to serve in our CCS ministries, as Ms. Linda and Brother Jerry do.

In the moment before he performed a miracle Jesus asked those stricken with an affliction, "Do you believe that I can do this?" (Mt 9: 28) They believed, and they were healed. Faith matters. Thank you for your faithful support of CCS.



# Capuchin Community Services' Ministry In Action

## Snapshots from our Winter Photo Album



▲ St. Ben's Meal's Sponsor Group leaders gathered to meet with Br. Robert.

▶ St. Francis Borgia Parish's volunteers put on their annual "Breakfast with Baby Jesus."



▲ Fr. Muthu visited St. Vincent Pallotti Parish School. He demonstrated how the habit is in the shape of a cross.

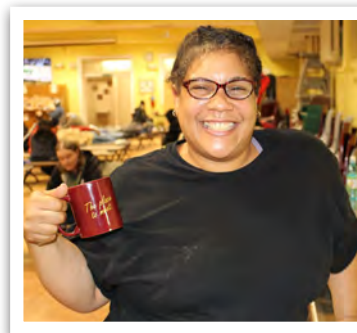


◀ The House of Harley - Davidson donated new & gently used boots.



▲ Mr. Willie is a regular diner at St. Ben's Meal. He enjoyed "Breakfast with "Baby Jesus" for his grandson.

▶ Monique celebrated finding a bunk in the women's dorm during the polar vortex.



## Foundations Support CCS in 2019:

The budget to operate Capuchin Community Services' two sites is a little over \$2.5 million each year. Much of our support comes from individuals, groups and organizations. Jessica Grochowski, MPA is the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph's Grantwriter. Jessie writes to foundations, trusts and donor advised funds for help with the budget at St. Ben's Community Meal and the House of Peace. In 2019 the following groups made grants to CCS:

### Foundation/Trust:

ANON Charitable Trust  
 Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation  
 Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration  
 Gesu Parish Endowment Fund  
 Greater Milwaukee Foundation  
 Hunger Task Force  
 Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation  
 The Kroger Co Foundation  
 Patrick and Anna Cudahy Fund  
 Patrick and Rachel English Fund  
 R. A. Stevens Family Foundation  
 Ralph J Huiras Family Foundation  
 Ray & Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust  
 Sargento Foods, Inc.  
 The Frank and Lucille Puncer Foundation  
 TJX Foundation  
 WE Energies Foundation  
 Wheaton Franciscan Sisters Ministry Fund

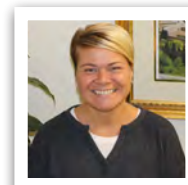
### Purpose:

St. Anthony-Capital Campaign  
 CCS-Supportive Services  
 CCS-Supportive Services  
 CCS-Energy Audit  
 CCS-Supportive Services  
 St. Ben's Meal & House of Peace Food Pantry  
 CCS-Supportive Services & Holiday Food Boxes  
 CCS-Holiday Food Box Program  
 CCS-Supportive Services  
 CCS-General  
 CCS-Supportive Services  
 CCS-St. Ben's Community Meal  
 CCS-Supportive Services  
 CCS-Holiday Food Box Program  
 CCS-General  
 CCS-Holiday Food Box Program  
 CCS-Supportive Services  
 St. Ben's Meal Hall Bathroom Renovation

If you have a donor advised fund or know of an organization that accepts grant applications, please let Jessie know. You can reach her at:

Jessica Grochowski, MPA  
 Grant Writer  
 Office Phone: (414) 374-8841, ext. 28  
[jgroch@thecapuchins.org](mailto:jgroch@thecapuchins.org)

Development Office - Grantwriting  
 Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order  
 PO Box 5830  
 Milwaukee, WI 53205-0830



# Pastoral Direction

by Fr. Muthu Savariappan, OFM Capuchin  
Pastoral Director

*"No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us and His love is brought to perfection in us." 1 John 4:12*

## To Do Good

We are never exempt from loving and helping our neighbors. Sometimes it's easy to come up with too many reasons why we can't help out and sometimes it may be hard to love someone who has done wrong to us.

But Jesus didn't tell us, "help others unless you are too busy or only help the people who have been kind to you." We are called to always make a positive difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters.

Today we are called to give help and love without making excuses or thinking about the consequences. Let's live like Jesus – let's love and heal our brothers and sisters every single day. Wouldn't the world be beautiful if we could all imitate Jesus for a day? Let us try today to love the unlovable, to help those in need and to remember Jesus's unending love.

► Fr. Muthu poses with Miranda, her husband Eddy & their daughter. They met during a holiday event and received gifts, food and hygiene supplies.



This year I'm coordinating the hygiene bag drives by reaching out to the different schools and parishes in and around Milwaukee. I have experienced exactly what I'm sharing in my reflection. Even though some of the schools have only a small number of students, their hearts are so big that they want to do the hygiene bag drive for our guests. It shows how much they love our brothers and sisters who are in need.

I'm grateful to all those who took initiative in this project especially involving and teaching the younger students to do the works of mercy. Yes, no one has seen God but we see God in loving the unloved, helping those in need. May God bless us all.



## Would you like a half sheet?

To receive a copy of the half sheet referenced on Page one, please drop us a line. You can email us at [ccsvol@thecapuchins.org](mailto:ccsvol@thecapuchins.org) or by phone at 414-933-1300, x1123.

**CAPUCHIN COMMUNITY SERVICES** **Need Help?**  
Capuchin Community Services House of Peace site can help you with:

- Food - Our pantry serves 53205 & 53233
- Clothing - Clothes are available free every afternoon, Monday to Friday, by appointment.
- Hygiene Supplies like soap, shampoo, toothpaste, brushes, deodorant & more, every morning except Wednesdays
- Eyeglasses - Tuesdays 1-3:20pm
- Social worker - free counseling
- Legal Clinic - Tuesdays 4-6pm
- Nursing Clinic - Call 414-933-1590 for information
- Spiritual Support - in our chapel

Visit the **House of Peace** site to learn more:  
1702 W Walnut St  
Milwaukee, WI 53205  
414-933-1300

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8AM - 4PM  
Food pantry offers extended hours Tuesdays until 5:45pm.  
Bus routes 57, 23 & Blue stop at our corner.

[www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/guest-information](http://www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/guest-information)

**CAPUCHIN COMMUNITY SERVICES** **Need Help?**  
Capuchin Community Services St. Ben's Community Meal Site can help you with:

- Front Door Ministry
  - Monday - Friday 9-4:30pm
  - Showers
  - Laundry
  - GED Help
  - Prescription Co-pays
  - Wednesdays, 1 pm-4:30pm
  - Hygiene Supplies
  - Bus tickets for medical appointments
  - Eye glasses
  - Eye & Dent Certificates (minimum \$5.00 co-pay)
- Legal Clinic - 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays
- St. Ben's Clinic - Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 9am-12:45pm

Visit **St. Ben's Community Meal Site** to learn more:  
930 W State St  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
414-271-0135

Hours: Monday to Friday 1-7PM  
Sunday 9:15 - 1:30 pm Meal Only

We're near the corner of 10th and W State Streets. Buses stop at 10th St, 30th St, 44th St, Blue & Gold on 10th. Walk to the bus route at 44th & 48th on W State Street. Bus route 33 runs on W State Street.

[CapuchinCommunityServices.org/guest-information](http://www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/guest-information)



▲ The CCS Ministry Council met for a dinner meeting at a neighborhood cafe. We support our community!

## Our Ministry Council

Diane Knight • Julie Darnieder • Anthony Myers • Chuck Cmeyla • Felice Green • Sara Zirbel • Duncan Shroul  
Br Robert Wotypka, Ministry Director • Jeff Parrish, Director of Provincial Ministries

[Twitter.com/CapuchinComSvc](https://twitter.com/CapuchinComSvc)

[Facebook.com/CapuchinCommunityServices](https://facebook.com/CapuchinCommunityServices)

[YouTube.com/CapuchinCommunityServicesOrg](https://YouTube.com/CapuchinCommunityServicesOrg)

Capuchin Community Services

St. Ben's Community Meal  
930 W State St  
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414 271 0135



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