



NIGHTLIGHTS

SUMMER 2019

The Night Ministry to Enhance Services with Move to a New Facility

The Night Ministry is moving key portions of its operations to Chicago's Bucktown neighborhood. A red-brick building at 1735 North Ashland, whose iconic water tower is decorated with the blue stripes and red stars of the Chicago flag, will serve as the home of The Crib, The Night Ministry's overnight shelter for young adults, as well as the agency's Health Outreach Bus and central administration.

"This move is about enhancing the services we provide as well as supporting efficiency and innovation in our programs, as called for in our strategic plan, *Serving in the Next Decade*," said Paul W. Hamann, The Night Ministry's President & CEO.

Renovation at the building is underway with a move-in goal of early 2020.

A New Home for The Crib

The three-year strategic plan The Night Ministry launched in 2017 calls for addressing facility challenges faced by The Crib, currently located in the basement of Lakeview Lutheran Church.

"We won't be increasing bed capacity but creating a more dignified experience for guests," Hamann said.

Improvements will include a dorm room with beds, a dining room, private spaces for one-on-one meetings between staff and guests, and multiple showers and bathrooms.

"The impact of torrential rains earlier this summer, when flooding in the basement of the church that currently houses The Crib prevented guests from sleeping and ruined the mats they sleep on, underscores the necessity of these improvements," Hamann said.



The Night Ministry is moving The Crib along with Health Outreach and administrative staff to a new location in Bucktown.

Bringing the Bus Home to Staff

Getting the Health Outreach Bus ready to hit the road each night is complicated. The Bus must be retrieved from its overnight parking space, more than three miles away, before being loaded up at The Night Ministry headquarters. It must then be brought back to that space at the end of the evening, after unloading at headquarters.

Making that process more efficient is another component of the current strategic plan.

1735 North Ashland will have on-site parking for the Bus, as well as for the vehicle that serves as a back-up and the Outreach & Health Ministry Program's vans. There will also be a loading dock and enhanced storage space for health care equipment and supplies.

A New Central Hub for The Night Ministry

The Night Ministry began searching for properties that could address the facility challenges faced by The Crib and Health

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

"This move is about enhancing the services we provide as well as supporting efficiency and innovation in our programs, as called for in our strategic plan."

- Paul W. Hamann,
President & CEO

HOUSING • HEALTH CARE • HUMAN CONNECTION

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The Associate Board Rededicates to Service and Partnership Building

By Benita Natalini and Chintan Mehta, Co-Presidents, The Associate Board

At this year's Lighting Up the Night, The Night Ministry's Annual Awards Dinner & Auction, President & CEO, Paul W. Hamann, Associate Board member Sam Ritchey, and other speakers provided reflections on the importance of human connection to the mission of The Night Ministry. "Reflections" and "human connection" are terms that perfectly capture the current state of the Associate Board, a passionate group of young professionals who support the work of The Night Ministry. After seven years, 2019–20 is our year to rededicate the Associate Board to what attracts us most to serving with The Night Ministry and what about its mission resonates with us all.

We had a great planning meeting in March, resulting in more defined roles and responsibilities for Associate Board members as well as new strategies for how we can best give back to the Chicago community through supporting The Night Ministry. While we will continue to focus on our major fundraising event, Night Lights, which will happen on Thursday, October 17 (see page 3 for more information), this year our events will be centered on volunteering and community partnerships. We will be spending more time at The Night Ministry's programs,



Members of The Night Ministry's Associate Board at last year's Night Lights, their annual gala.

"We are excited about our plans for the future and are on the lookout for prospective members to join us on this journey."

including serving meals to clients, while also connecting to the local business community via special events. We are excited about our plans for the future and are on the lookout for prospective members to join us on this journey. Thus, if you, or anyone you know, is

interested in becoming a member of the Associate Board, please reach out to associateboard.tnm@gmail.com or visit www.thenightministry.org/associate-board. ♦

How will you leave your legacy?

After securing economic stability and providing for the needs of your loved ones, you may choose to make a lasting charitable impact with a bequest to The Night Ministry. If you have already included The Night Ministry in your will, please let us know — we would like to acknowledge your generosity and welcome you as a member of The Legacy Society.

Contact Christy Prassas
Vice President of Development
& External Relations
christy@thenightministry.org
or (773) 506-6023.



"Planned giving is a great way to invest in the future of The Night Ministry and the noble mission we seek to carry forward."
— Ike Hong, Legacy Society Member since 2018 and former Board Member

THE NIGHT MINISTRY IS ON THE MOVE!

We are moving our central office from 4711 North Ravenswood to 1735 North Ashland early next year. The Health Outreach Bus program will be based out of the new location, which is also where we will be accepting in-kind donations. The Crib overnight shelter, currently in the Lakeview neighborhood, will relocate to 1735 North Ashland as well. See the article on the front page for more details and stay tuned for updates on the timing of the move.

In the meantime, we will continue to accept in-kind donations at 4711 North Ravenswood, and we look forward to seeing our Health Outreach Bus volunteers at the Ravenswood office and The Crib's volunteers and meal servers at the program's current location at 835 West Addison until we make the move.

The Night Ministry's Big Move

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Outreach Bus Program two years ago. The initial search for The Crib centered in Lakeview, but when a suitable and affordable spot could not be found in the neighborhood, the search was widened to other areas of the city.

In the meantime, in the spring of 2018, The Night Ministry learned that the Ravenswood building where its administrative and back-office functions have been located since 2002 had been sold. With its lease ending on December 31, 2019, The Night Ministry started to consider moving its central office.

Barbara Bolsen, The Night Ministry's Vice President of Strategic Partnerships & Community Engagement, was leading the property searches when she located the building on North Ashland.

"I realized that we could possibly move all three—The Crib, Outreach & Health Ministry, and central administration—to this location," she said.

The new facility will have 15,000 square feet available for Outreach & Health Ministry and central office staff, up from less than 9,000 square feet in the Ravenswood location. The increase in office space will accommodate expanded operational needs that have come along with growth in The Night Ministry's programs, completing a third goal of the strategic plan that had originally called for modifying the Ravenswood building.



An upgraded kitchen will be one of the improvements to The Crib when the shelter program moves into its new space.

How to Support the Move

The Night Ministry estimates the cost of the move and renovation of 1735 North Ashland, for which it has signed a multi-year lease, will be \$5.6 million. It also projects an additional need of \$1.7 million for capacity building and sustainability for the first three years of operation at the new building, as rent, utility, and occupancy costs will be greater than its current locations for The Crib and administrative offices.

Funding the move is part of a capital campaign The Night Ministry launched earlier this year. For information about supporting the move, contact Christy Prassas, Vice President of Development & External Relations, at 773-506-6023 or christy@thenightministry.org. ♦

**AIDS
RUN
&
WALK
CHICAGO**
OCTOBER 5, 2019

Support The Night Ministry's mission by participating in the AIDS Run & Walk! Join our team or make a donation toward our team goal, which will support our HIV Outreach Program. Contact **Kaitlin Donnelly**, Coordinator for Foundation & Corporate Relations, at **(773) 506-6005** or kaitlin@thenightministry.org.

High schoolers from Michigan, Indiana, and Wisconsin joined The Night Ministry's Health Outreach Bus to serve dinner in New City and several other Chicago neighborhoods earlier this summer. Rev. Charles Strietelmeier of Augustana Lutheran Church in Hobart, Indiana, said it was a great opportunity for the students to challenge their preconceptions about people experiencing homelessness and poverty. "When you are actually standing out in the street talking to people, you find out how much they are like you."

Congregations, businesses, professional associations, families, and friends are welcome to join the Bus and serve a meal in New City, South Shore, and any of the other five neighborhoods it visits. Contact **Brittany Caine-Conley**, Community & Congregational Relations Coordinator, at **(773)-506-6004** or BrittanyC@thenightministry.org to sign up.



THE NIGHT MINISTRY'S ASSOCIATE BOARD PRESENTS

NIGHT LIGHTS

AN EVENING OF PHILANTHROPY AND FUN BENEFITING THE NIGHT MINISTRY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, 2019

6-9PM RIVER ROAST

315 N. LASALLE DR, CHICAGO, IL

\$85 in advance | \$90 at the door

www.thenightministry.org/events



Criminalization Perpetuates the Cycle of Homelessness

Homelessness is not a crime, but in municipalities across the country, more and more individuals experiencing homelessness face jail time or fines for sleeping on the sidewalk or in a car, camping in a public place, panhandling, or engaging in other activities they must do to simply survive on the streets.

“It’s a vicious cycle,” said Sylvia Hibbard, Case Manager with The Night Ministry’s Street Medicine Team. “Being homeless can be criminalized to the point where you are kept homeless.”

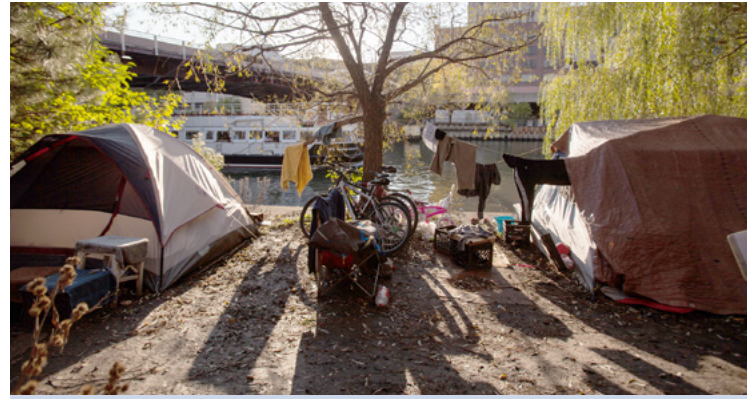
“Having a criminal record makes you ineligible for many housing programs,” said Taylor de Laveaga of The National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty. “Even a history of police interaction, which is common for people experiencing homelessness, can support a housing provider’s decision to deny admission.”

And while some ordinances call for a ticket rather than arrest, a citation may lead to time behind bars.

“If you’re unable to make a court date or pay those fines and fees, which many are not, an arrest warrant could be issued,” said de Laveaga.

According to the Coalition for Juvenile Justice, every year more than a million young Americans will have some type of involvement with law enforcement or the justice system. That involvement increases the likelihood of a youth or young adult experiencing homelessness.

“There is a huge gap in legal services for runaway and homeless youth in America,” said Darla Bardine, Executive



Laws criminalizing homelessness, including ordinances banning camping in public places, have increased by more than 40% in major American cities over the last decade, according to The National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty.

Director of the National Network for Youth. “There is a pretty serious need for legal services for this population so situations don’t spiral. It’s very difficult for young people to resolve these legal matters on their own.”

Meanwhile, having a prior contact with the police or courts may deter some young people from seeking supportive services.

“They know or they think there may be a bench warrant out for them, so they don’t want to become involved in a system that will report them,” Bardine said. ◊

“Being homeless can be criminalized to the point where you are kept homeless.”

*- Sylvia Hibbard,
Street Medicine Program
Case Manager*

WALK TO END HUNGER

Join The Night Ministry at the Greater Chicago Food Depository’s 34th Annual Hunger Walk on Saturday, September 7, at Jackson Park. Walk with us to earn food credits for our Youth Housing Programs.

Please contact **Bethany Collins**, Coordinator for Individual Stewardship, at **(773) 506-6006** or **BethanyC@thenightministry.org** for more information or to sign up.

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Nurse's Corner: Practicing on the Street Is a Good Fit for Stephan Koruba

Having made house calls while working for a safety net clinic in suburban Aurora, The Night Ministry's Senior Nurse Practitioner, Stephan Koruba, has experience bringing health care directly to people where they live. He's still doing that today as a member of the Street Medicine Team, but most of the patients he sees these days don't have a permanent place to call home.

Along with a Case Manager and Outreach Professional, Koruba travels the city in the Street Medicine Van, addressing the immediate needs of individuals living in encampments, under viaducts, and along roadways. It's a job, he said, that suits him.

"I like to be outside and in the elements. I like to work with people who have fallen through the cracks. It's important to me to be in a profession where I am trying to serve people."

Providing help, Koruba said, is complicated by his patients' precarious living situations.

"A lack of stable housing is such a big deal because without housing, people are harder to find, and checking up with them is difficult. It's hard to bring resources to bear and give them the best chance of getting better if they're out on the streets."

Koruba said there are also challenges for the Street Medicine patients who do end up receiving care in a hospital or physician's office. That's why, he said, the Street Medicine Team is opening up lines of communication with traditional health care providers.



Senior Nurse Practitioner, Stephan Koruba, consults with a patient about foot care in the Street Medicine Van.

"Not having housing is such a big deal because without housing, people are harder to find, and checking up with them is difficult."

*- Stephan Koruba,
Senior Nurse Practitioner*

"Our patient population has different needs. They don't have the follow-up resources that you or I might have, and many of them have substance use issues. So the emergency room and the inpatient providers have to treat them differently." ◇

STREET MEDICINE LUNCHEON

Friday, September 13, 11:30 am

The Standard Club, 320 South Plymouth Court,
Chicago, IL 60604

Join Paul W. Hamann, President & CEO of The Night Ministry, and our special guest, Dr. Jim O'Connell, President of Boston Health Care for the Homeless, as they share local and national perspectives on the opportunities and challenges facing street medicine programs.

Please contact **Christy Prassas**, Vice President of Development & External Relations, at **(773) 506-6023** or **christy@thenightministry.org** to register. We kindly request a \$100 donation for attendance.



Celebrating Human Connection

More than 400 friends and supporters of The Night Ministry gathered to celebrate human connection at Lighting Up the Night, our Annual Awards Dinner & Auction, on June 11. During the event, members of The Night Ministry community spoke about the importance of human connection in their lives and in the work of The Night Ministry. Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management was honored for supporting The Night Ministry's mission through the Kellogg Board Fellows Program, the professional development and education of the organization's staff, and fundraising and volunteer activities. The event, emceed by WTTW host and producer, Geoffrey Baer, raised nearly \$500,000 in support of The Night Ministry's mission.



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*for your generosity and compassion!
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Ministry to provide housing, health
care, and human connection to the
most vulnerable of our community
members.*



Phoenix Hall Expands Its Mission to Serve a Wider Base of Students

It's been a year of milestones at Phoenix Hall, capped off by six of the program's residents graduating from high school.

Located in Chicago's West Lawndale neighborhood, Phoenix Hall is The Night Ministry's residence for high school students experiencing homelessness or housing instability. It's named after the mascot of North Lawndale College Prep High School, which, along with Old St. Pat's Church, helped launch the program in August of 2017.

When it first opened, Phoenix Hall was one of the first housing programs in the country for students from a specific high school. But the program has now expanded its mission to serve students from other Chicago high schools.

"We were finding that the need for supportive housing for homeless students was as prevalent in the wider community as it was inside North Lawndale College Prep," said Allison McCann-Stevenson, Assistant Director of Long Term Residential Services at The Night Ministry.

Phoenix Hall staff work closely with both residents and their parents or guardians, with an end goal of resolving challenges that families may be facing and reunification, if possible.



Phoenix Hall provides a stable and supportive living environment for high school students experiencing homelessness or housing instability.

"We want to make sure that the family views us as partners," said McCann-Stevenson, "because parental engagement is a cornerstone of the work that we do with young people at Phoenix Hall."

Devontay, who came to Phoenix Hall in February as a high school junior, says Phoenix Hall feels like home to him. "It's a nice safe haven," he said.

The program, he said, has helped him concentrate on his school work. "When I was staying with a friend, it was hard to study because it was so noisy," he said.

As the graduates begin a new chapter in their lives, McCann-Stevenson said The Night Ministry is committed to making sure they make a successful transition.

"Whether a young person goes off to college, goes to junior college, or goes to vocational training, we need to make sure that they not only make it to that stage but also through it," she said. ◇

Thank you to those who generously gave at the \$250 level or higher between March 1, and June 30, 2019.



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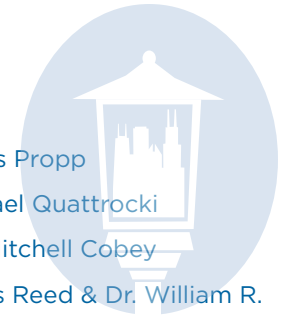
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