



The Blessing of Giving

Description

Building a Support Structure to Minimize Homelessness



Celebration of Distribution of Blessed Handmade Quilts at the soon to be Community Resource Center located in Mountain View, Anchorage, November 19, 2022.

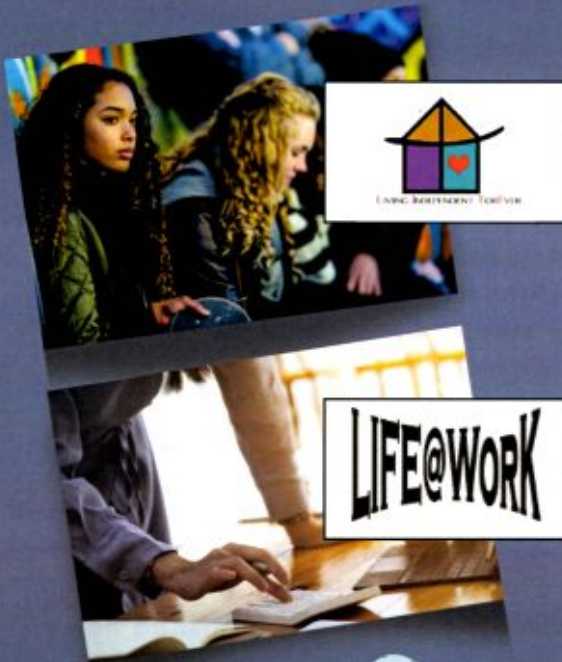
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DISRUPTING THE CYCLE OF HOMELESSNESS

... by removing barriers
to safe, affordable,
and sustainable
housing.



OUR PROGRAMS:



LIFE PROGRAM

The Living Independent For Ever Program offers housing in single and shared units to young adults between the ages of 18 and 24. The purpose of the LIFE Program is to assist young adults with housing they acquire independent living skills.

LIFE @WORK PROGRAM

The LIFE@Work program is a work readiness program for young adults that offers a comprehensive array of services to assist young adults to attain work readiness skills and training credentials to secure employment.

For more information please contact the Program Office at (907)-770-2993 or D. Shenee Williams, President and CEO at shenee.williams@shilohhousing.org or schiprograms1@gmail.com



A lot of people in Anchorage have spent a lot of time **talking** about how to address homelessness in our community. It has become a prevailing theme of elected Assembly Members, but one Faith-Based Organization has been addressing this issue in the neighborhoods of Fairview and Mt View for a couple of decades. We can speculate that hundreds of Alaskans young and old have gotten on their feet and are now productive citizens because of a hand-up instead of a hand-out by **Shiloh Community Housing** .

Read more about Shiloh Community Housing HERE:

<https://donnliston.net/2022/09/shiloh-community-housing-has-big-plans/>

Participants of **Shiloh Community Housing LIFE Program** (Living Independent Forever) and **Life At Work Program** were given beautiful quilts made for them by a local quilting group in a magnanimous expression of love and hope. Some 35 quilts had been blessed by two local church congregations over two separate Sundays in preparation for this pre-Thanksgiving gathering and celebration.



D. Shenee' Williams, CEO/President of Shiloh Community Housing, Inc. dishes turkey as the first station at this table of wonderful food while **Frances Wesley** dishes gravy.



Shiloh Community Housing, Inc. Resource Center Cohort Member, Rick Williams fills his plate.

Shenee' explained how the quilters became involved with **Shiloh Community Housing**, "I applied for a grant from **St. John Methodist Church** which is located here in Anchorage, to fund a program serving our transitional housing program for young adults 18 to 24 that are experiencing homelessness. The women's ministry of this church heard about our program and thought what a wonderful idea, to make quilts for program participants. They reached out to the women of **Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church** and others in the community to work with them to make quilts. Long story short, 35 quilts were made with donated items. The skill required and the time that these women took out from their life to make these quilts is priceless!



Representative of the quilting group, **Barbara Knapp** explained why members of her quilting group love to work with fabric, cutting it into pieces and then sewing them into patterns. Quilters:

Judy Castrock, Susie Harnasch, Roz Headley, Linda Heim, Mary Quesnel, Jane Russell, Bruce Kakel, Barbara Knapp, Clea Moreau, Diane Miller, Caitlin Risi, Joan Seaman, and Susan Westervelt.



Making a quilt is just like life; you patch the pieces together to create something beautiful.

Barbara Knapp



Shiloh's LIFE and Life At Work programs include both young women and young men.



I'm really hoping the young adults we work with, some of whom have come to a conclusion that no one cares, will recognize that some complete strangers made these quilts for them, said Williams – that they understand how much time, effort and love went into making these quilts, for them. They need to realize that people DO care about them, and this is what they've done—just out of the goodness of their heart.





President and CEO D. **Shenee' Williams**, Community leader and elected Senator **Loki Tobin**, **Cheryl Cox-Williams**, **Barbara Knapp**, **Carmen Nikolai** and program participants.

Category

- 1. Alaska Hope

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