



February 2020

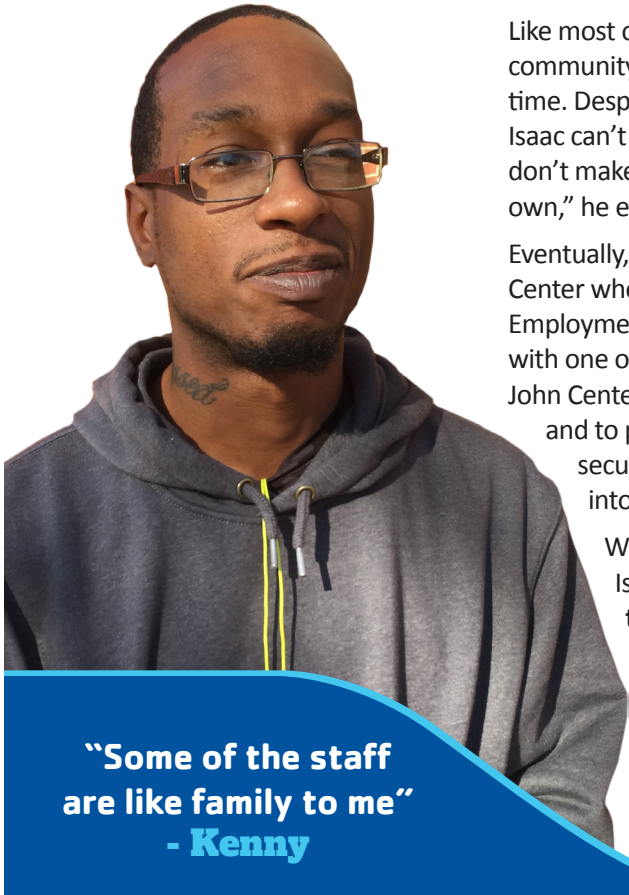
DAYLIGHT

Happenings at St. John Center for Homeless Men



Raisin' Rent and Building Community

Five years ago, Isaac moved from Detroit to Louisville. When things didn't turn out as he planned, he found himself without a job, without support, and without a place to live. "I don't want to have to rely on other people for anything. I want to be responsible for myself," Isaac said.



"Some of the staff
are like family to me"
- Kenny

Like most of us, however, Isaac needed a community to support him during a tough time. Despite working nearly fulltime, Isaac can't afford an apartment. "I just don't make enough to get a place of my own," he explained.

Eventually, he found himself at St. John Center where he found support from the Employment Specialist. He is also working with one of the housing counselors. St. John Center is able to support Isaac, and to provide first month's rent and security deposit so he can move into his own room.

With a community of support, Isaac can begin again. **You are that community for Isaac, and the more than 3,000 people St. John Center served in 2019.**

Every year, St. John Center invites our community to Raisin' the Rent, an event inspired by the

Harlem rent parties of the 1920s when neighbors gather to raise support for other neighbors. Over 500 people gather for a buffet dinner, a live and silent auction, games, and an opportunity to support our homeless neighbors. With the commitment of presenting sponsors Miranda Construction and Atria Senior Living, all our sponsors, and this community, we will raise \$300,000 to provide resources, shelter, and a place of refuge.

Sometime soon, Isaac expects to move into his own apartment. "I would be able to relax because I will have a safe place to sleep and I will be able to stay away from people I should avoid."

This community's participation in Raisin' the Rent means Isaac and so many others can get through tough times and begin again. Make plans now to join us.

Buy tickets and raffle chances at sjcenter.cbo.io.

TAKE A CHANCE ON SOMETHING WONDERFUL

As part of Raisin' the Rent 2020, St. John Center is offering chances on five amazing raffle packages. You'll want to buy your chances well in advance, because the most popular items sell out before the event!

The raffle drawing will be held at 8:30PM on March 7 at Raisin' the Rent at the Mellwood Art Center (1860 Mellwood Ave.) You do not need to be present to win. For more information and to purchase raffle chances and event tickets, visit www.sjcenter.cbo.io



Vacation in the South of France

Seven day stay at Maison Rose, a 400-year-old rowhouse in St-Jean-de-Cole, a village of 150 inhabitants in the Dordogne region of southwest France. The beautifully restored three-bedroom home has a sleeping capacity of six. **Raffle chances are \$100 each and only 150 will be sold.**



Vacation in Asheville, NC

Escape on a 7-night quiet retreat in a 5 bedroom home in the mountains of Asheville, North Carolina. Asheville is known for a vibrant arts scene and historic architecture, including the famed Biltmore Estate, and, of course, the majestic beauty of the mountains. Relax and unwind with your family or closest friends. **Raffle chances are \$50 each and only 200 will be sold.**

Fine Dining at Home

Chef's Table Dinner for six with wine pairings, a specially designed and printed invitation, five hours of house cleaning services, and a beautiful floral arrangement. **200 chances sold at \$30 each.**

River Cruise for Two

A seven-night American Queen Steamboat Company river cruise for two on their newest vessel, The American Countess. **200 chances sold at \$30 each.**

Deluxe Bourbon Getaway

Two-nights in a beautiful two bedroom apartment in NULU above Taste Fine Wines & Bourbons, dinner for two next door at Harvest, a public bourbon tour for two from Mint Julep Tours that includes guided tours and tastings at two bourbon distilleries and a complimentary lunch. **200 chances sold at \$30 each.**



It takes such courage to begin again

When Clifton first came to St. John Center, he found himself in a room full of people also experiencing the crisis of homelessness. “I knew I was struggling,” he thought, “but I didn’t realize how far I had fallen.” He was sad and overwhelmed, but something deep inside urged him to begin again.

It takes such courage to ask for help. Clifton found the courage to do so.

What We Can Do Together

Now he has a job. In spite of clocking 89 hours in a recent pay period, his schedule is sporadic, making budgeting difficult. Finding housing he can afford takes tenacity, time, and skill -- qualities that describe St. John Center’s housing counselors.

Providing that help also takes cash

Raisin’ the Rent makes it possible for St. John Center to cover the \$35 application fee, or the initial (hefty) outlay of cash for a first month’s rent plus security deposit. When we all pitch in, the costs don’t have to be insurmountable for Clifton and the 200 more people we will house in 2020.

Your support makes it possible for so many to have the courage to begin again, build a track record of success, and find the stable housing they desire and deserve.

It takes courage to set a goal like housing 200 people in 2020. SJC staff coordinates thousands of services for hundreds of clients to reach that goal. We know we can’t do it alone. I invite you to attend the Rent Party, helping a big and bold dream come true.

Maria A. Price
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Executive Director



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The 14th Annual Raisin’ the Rent is Saturday, March 7, 6-10 p.m., at the Mellwood Art & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Ave. Buy event tickets and raffle chances at sjcenter.cbo.io, or contact Jenn Young at jyoung@stjohncenter.org or 502-398-3495. We do expect to sell out of both event tickets and raffle chances this year, so plan to buy early.



Wish List

- Facial Tissue
- 55-gallon Drum Liners
- Sugar (bulk, not individual packets)
- Dishwasher Detergent (pods)
- All-Purpose Cleaner (Lysol)

For more information contact
Keith Steer at 502-398-3504
or rks@stjohncenter.org.