



Volunteers The Heart of our Program

Hello! My name is Robert Harris and I'm the new Marketing/Volunteer Coordinator. Over the past few months I've had the opportunity to meet so many volunteers, and I hope to meet the rest of you very soon. To all of you, THANK YOU!!!

The time and compassion you show to the people we serve is an inspiration to me and everyone that works at St. Francis House. We all know how stressful it can be for the people who find themselves in need of the services we provide, and your words and actions go a long way toward helping them keep their dignity.

For those of you who are active volunteers, I want you to know your hard work hasn't gone unnoticed. On Thursday, April 25th we will recognize our volunteers for their service by hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Lunch. It will take place at the newly renovated Port in the Storm Homeless Youth Center at 1375 Arapaho Avenue. Watch your email and our Facebook page for more information.

For those of you who are not volunteers, but are interested in volunteering, contact me at Robert.Harris@stfrancishelter.org or call 904.824.8987, ext. 2. We would love to have you join our team!

Thank you all for being drivers of change in our community.



Visit us and Like us on Facebook



ST. FRANCIS HOUSING CRISIS CENTER and PORT IN THE STORM HOMELESS YOUTH CENTER

Programs of St. Augustine Society

GLIMPSE
Through Our Door

Compassion
Shelter
Opportunity

You Make Mealtime Special

No matter who you are or where you are, mealtime is always a special part of the day. For the homeless who are often not sure when the next meal will be, each meal is a gift.

Here are two ways that groups and individuals make mealtime special for the homeless individuals, families and youth we serve. There is a day for you!

Chef's Night Out is a fun group experience in the St. Francis House kitchen. Each night groups from businesses, churches, and neighborhoods cook dinner for our families and single adult residents. Our chef is there to assist in the kitchen as your group cooks or heats up the dinner for our 40-45 residents. Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m.

Fuel for Success is a lunch sponsorship program for Port in the Storm Homeless Youth Center at 1375 Arapaho Avenue. Individuals and groups bring prepared meals for



our youth. Our staff will assist you in bringing the food from your vehicle to the youth drop-in center. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m.

For more information about any of our volunteer opportunities or to talk about how you or your group can help, contact me, Robert Harris, Marketing/Volunteer Coordinator – Robert.Harris@stfrancishelter.org or 904-824-8987 ext. 2

St. Francis Housing Crisis Center

70 Washington Street,
St. Augustine, FL 32084
904-829-8937

Port in the Storm Youth Center and Administrative Offices

1375 Arapaho Ave.
St. Augustine, FL 32084
904-824-8987

HOUSING CRISIS?!

These pictures are disturbing. I know. They bring up many questions. How did they get to this point? Where is their family? Why don't they get a job?



Some sort of crisis in their lives has led them to this spot. The **Why**, is different for every family, every individual.

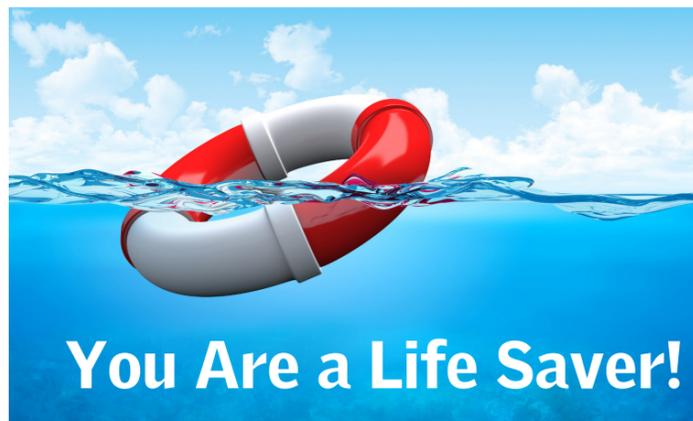
But the reality is that no one should have to live like this – even for a little while.

You have the power to help. You can provide a safe, clean place for people to regroup and get their lives back together. Your gift today to St. Francis House gives individuals and families access to the support and care that can launch them out of homelessness. Give today!

Visit www.stfrancishelter.org to donate online.



St. Johns County's only comprehensive housing crisis and homeless youth center. Providing housing-focused solutions for homeless men, women, children and youth in St. Johns County.



You Are a Life Saver!

Have you ever thought of yourself as a lifesaver? Well you should. Port in the Storm Homeless Youth Center is here because of YOU. Before there was nothing. Now, there is a safe place, off the streets for homeless youth to go for help. That day when Jake was thinking that his life was not worth living – no one else had ever thought it was – he opened-up to staff at Port in the Storm. It saved his life!

Not every rescue is as dramatic. Some happen over weeks or months. But all of them are life-changing.

We need your support to continue to save kids. Are they worth it? Aren't they all worth it? Please send your gift today to save our kids.

Renovated Port In The Storm Building Opening Soon

By the time you read this newsletter the renovations of our Port in the Storm building will be almost complete. An occupancy date of mid-April is becoming a reality.



To celebrate we are planning 2 days of events in June.

- The evening of June 13th a VIP party will celebrate all you have done to make this dream a reality with tours, entertainment and refreshments. Tickets for the evening will be \$50 per person.

- On Friday, June 14th, we will host a Media Open House for tours of the facility and the opportunity to speak with staff, board members and supporters about this incredible asset and what it means for our kids and our community.

Watch our FaceBook page and your mailbox for your invitation and information about these events. If you would like to receive an invitation for the VIP party please contact Robert Harris, Marketing/Volunteer Coordinator at Robert.harris@stfrancisshelter.org or 904-824-8987 ext. 2.




PORT in the Storm Port in the Storm Homeless Youth Center

A safe, caring environment with the structure and stability needed to build a positive future.

Day Drop-In Services
Shelter Beds
Available April 2019

ST. FRANCIS HOUSING CRISIS CENTER and PORT IN THE STORM HOMELESS YOUTH CENTER
Programs of St. Augustine Society
Compassion ♦ Shelter ♦ Opportunity

www.stfrancisshelter.org/port-in-the-storm-youth-program

The Power of Your Gifts

We don't like to weigh you down with statistics, but it's important for you to know the impact your gifts are making in our community. If you just read the papers or see the news or follow social media you will not get the whole picture. Yes, we have a homeless problem ... like most other cities in our country. Of course, this one is **ours** and we are a historic city and a tourist destination, so the issue always seems to be in our face.



So, what have we, the only comprehensive housing crisis center in St Johns County, been doing with your gifts to address homelessness? By addressing homelessness, I mean helping solve homelessness. This process happens one person, one family at a time. The ultimate goal is to help homeless individuals and families return to permanent housing. **You're the one who actually makes this happen.**

Here are your bragging rights!

At the Advocacy & Referral Center **YOU helped 3,458 people** with showers, food boxes, meals, hygiene items, clothing, assistance applying for social security, disability and food stamps and much, much more. Each interaction is an opportunity for staff to guide that individual or family toward housing.



YOU sheltered 525 individuals and family members at St. Francis House. Each one had a safe clean place to stay while they worked on their plan to overcome homelessness. Through this program, YOU helped 200 people obtain suitable housing.

Out on the streets, **YOU engaged 721 people** through Street Outreach. 88 people found appropriate housing.

At Port in the Storm **YOU touched the lives of 88 youth** to engage them with caring adults and access life skills classes and programs.

Some battles were won. But there is more to do. As long as we face the shortage of affordable workforce housing it will be an uphill battle. Your gifts are making a difference, one person, one family one youth at a time. Every gift helps a family, individual or youth who needs your help.

Please give today!

