



Eddie Washington Center Advisory Council Report

2015 is shaping up to be a tremendous year with the Celebration of our 2015 Eddie Washington Center graduates in March, followed by our always wonderful Golf Outing, where we are fortunate to have Mr. Steve Pemberton as our keynote speaker. There is still time to join us for golf or a sponsorship!! The work of the advisory council is never done, as it is a constant process to devise creative, and effective ways to generate funding and awareness for the Eddie Washington Center. We are always accepting new membership into the Advisory Council and if you feel you can contribute resources, ideas, or contacts please feel free to email Sydney Boone at mjones@waukegantownship.com for more information. Enjoy the remainder of the summer and I hope to see you all for a great day of golf on August 21, 2015.

Dr. Phil Carrigan
Advisory Council Chairperson

Contact Us

Eddie Washington Center
424 South Ave
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 244-0805
Visit us on the web at
www.waukegantownship.com



The Late Honorable Eddie Washington
State Representative
1953 - 2010



EDDIE WASHINGTON CENTER

A Waukegan Township Publication



THE PHOENIX

Eddie Washington Center Newsletter

Summer 2015

On Friday, August 21, 2015 The Staben House and Eddie Washington Center transitional facilities, will host their 11th Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser. Last year's winners competed to win the beautiful traveling trophy. Winners are able to display the trophy for an entire year along with obtaining bragging rights with other perks. Will you be a part of this year's championship team?

Last year's Golf Outing featured former Chicago Bear, Desmond Clark! This year's Award Dinner guest speaker will be Steve Pemberton, Chief Diversity Officer at Walgreens Inc., and author of the critically acclaimed book; "A Chance in the World: An Orphan Boy, a Mysterious Past and How He Found a Place Called Home". Amazon calls Steve's book, deeply inspiring and empowering with far reaching life lesson. It offers a compelling message that victory over seemingly insurmountable suffering, can emerge when one holds fast to an existential goodness by reaching within. We are excited to announce that Mr. Pemberton has also committed to a book signing at the event! Not playing golf? Please consider joining us for the Awards Dinner for \$50.



Friday, August 21, 2015 Foss Park Golf Course

3124 Argonne Drive,
North Chicago, IL

11th Annual Staben House & Eddie Washington Center Golf Outing

- Fee \$125.00 per player
- \$500 per foursome
- Hole Sponsor \$100
- Don't golf - join us for Dinner \$50.00
- * Entry Deadline 8/14/15



**Dedicated to
Lucious Minor**

The Day of the Golf Outing:
Registration..... 11:00am
Lunch 11:30am
Shotgun Start 12:00pm



Foursome Winner: Winners will receive a team traveling trophy for an entire year. Last year's 2014 Golf Foursome Winners were: Bill Biang, Don Weakley, Bob Sobol, and Ted Kuderko.

The Mayor's Cup: Each mayoral team will have the opportunity to compete for the grand prize. The winning team will receive 'The Mayor's Cup' traveling trophy for an entire year along with city or village bragging rights.

**Register online/purchase tickets at www.waukegantownship.com. In person:
149 S. Genesee Street or 414 S. Lewis Ave. Credit Card/Paypal accepted.**

Proceeds to benefit the Staben House and Eddie Washington Center; transitional housing facilities for women with children and men, respectively. The mission of each is to eradicate homelessness in Lake County.

For ticket & event information contact:

Cheryl Dunlap, Event Coordinator - 847-244-4900

Advisory Council Dr. Phil Carrigan, Chairperson

- Secretary Cynthia Vargas — Lake County State's Attorney's Office
- Waukegan Fire Chief, Ricco Farrell — Fire Dept. Counselor
- Kenneth Robinson — Treasurer of the North Chicago
- Demar Harris — Lake County Workforce Development
- Brenda Sparks — JJ Henderson
- Kenyatta Jennings — First Midwest
- Rick Haapanen — Haapanen Bros.
- Waukegan Battalion Chief, George Bridges Jr. — Waukegan Fire Dept.
- Pastor Mark McCorley — Lake County Jail
- Pastor Todd Fletcher — Lake County Jail Intake Specialist
- Martin Walker, Esq. — Walker Law Firm
- Pastor Anthony Conley — Antioch Baptist Church
- Ann Courtright — Independent Writer
- John Rivers — Drug & Alcohol Counselor
- Moises Soto — Kenosha Christian Center
- Dr. Evelyn Chenier — Family First Center
- Tameka Wilson — Youth Build
- Nina Geater — Youth Build
- Ezell Robins — CDBG
- Pastor Alex Soler — City Reach Church



A 5K For Labor Day at Independence Grove in Libertyville, IL - 9/5/15!

US Track & Field Certified!!

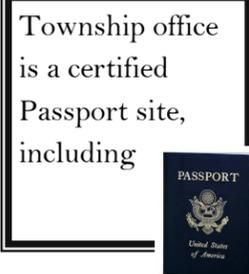
*Free Transportation To & From Park Place Provided!

Please join us
Register at

www.waukegantownship.com



65% on Prescriptions - 59,000+ Pharmacies, no paperwork to fill out. No hidden fees for card, no health restrictions. Everyone is accepted, brand or generic drugs. Save 50% to 80% on lab/imaging. Call (847) 244-4900 for info, pick up your card today and start saving! RX cards available at Supervisor's Office 149 S. Genesee Street or Park Place 414 S. Lewis Ave; Waukegan, IL.



Township office is a certified Passport site, including



Please recycle this Newsletter

Marc Jones, Department Director



A message from the Director's pen

Did you know?

"There are risks and costs to action but they are far less than the long range risks of comfortable inaction"

Summer has brought about change not only in climate of the weather, but in the climate of our state legislature as well. As most of Illinois is currently in a bit of a stand-still awaiting for an approved budget, the work of assisting those in need must continue. In that vein, it was very nice to host our 10th congressional representative, Mr. Robert Dold, who took time to tour our facility and ask how he could contribute towards the success of the program (pictures on page 3)

We are encouraging people now more than ever, to make any contributions of time, resources, toiletries, clothing, or funds, as we continue to change the lives of men, and evolve them into functioning and contributing members of society. That being said, we are extremely appreciative of the amazing members of the Eddie Washington Center Advisory Council, leaders in the community from both the private and public sector. Great supporters that take time out of their busy schedules to meet and formulate ways to raise funds, and awareness towards the overall mission of the Eddie Washington Center. I invite you to enjoy the pictorial of our advisory council with this edition of The Phoenix. Also, new within this issue are some facts for you to read and absorb relating to the status of homelessness in our great state of Illinois. You may think you have an idea of how severe the homelessness situation is, but when you actually read the facts and statistics, it is truly staggering.

What keeps me encouraged is seeing the pride, dignity, and self-respect return to a man's eyes once he has begun to work, save money, and turn his life around. It's like the fire that burned in them was extinguished due to the circumstances of life and to see that fire lit inside them again is the reason what we do here, is so gratifying. Also in this issue, enjoy reading an alumni testimony penned by, Mr. Anthony Patton, sharing his journey from "Homeless man to business man". Also, find out information about the upcoming Staben House/ Eddie Washington Center rummage sale, find out how it is to walk the day of the life of our facility case manager, and finally our cover story, the 12th ANNUAL EDDIE WASHINGTON CENTER GOLF OUTING. Our keynote speaker for this year's outing is Mr. Steve Pemberton, chief diversity officer at Walgreens Inc. Mr. Pemberton has a very compelling, heartfelt, and real story of overcoming obstacles and not becoming a victim of circumstance. You DO NOT want to miss it!!

As always, we have many things happening within the walls of the Eddie Washington Center, and within the pages of "The Phoenix" enjoy!!!

Marc Jones
Director

Eddie Washington Center

The number of people in poor households living doubled up with family and friends grew to 7.7 million people, an increase of 3.7 percent from 2012 to 2013, with 39 states seeing increases. Since 2007, the number of people living doubled up has increased 67 percent." Stated by the National Alliance to End Homelessness in their April 1st, 2015 article. *The State of Homelessness in America 2015.*

Meet our Eddie Washington Center Advisory Council

Tameka Wilson



Tameka Wilson, Development Director for Youth Build of Lake County, speaking at the July advisory council meeting, about mentorship programs such as "My Brothers Keeper".



Top: A group photo of some of the EWC advisory council members.
Bottom: A snapshot of Advisory Council members enjoying their lunch.

Please join us for our upcoming Advisory Council meetings. Meetings are open to the public.
Waukegan Park District Field House
800 Baldwin Ave, Waukegan, IL 60085
September 9, 2015 12:00pm-1:00pm
November 12, 2015 12:00pm-1:00pm

**Cynthia Vargas
Advisory Council Secretary**



Cynthia Vargas, communications director, for the States Attorney office, informing the council about the programs that the States Attorney office are implementing that may benefit some of the residents at the Eddie Washington Center.

Why Are Men More Likely To Be Homeless?



When you walk down the streets of American cities and towns do you notice folks without a home are usually males. The problem of homelessness is particularly heart-wrenching for children. The common wisdom is that the kids are most often with their mom and men make up a majority of the single homeless. After a period of economic melt-down the number of homeless has increased dramatically and this is an issue worth talking about.

The National Coalition for the Homeless is one of the major homeless advocacy groups in the United States, and as it happens they have a fact sheet on who is homeless.

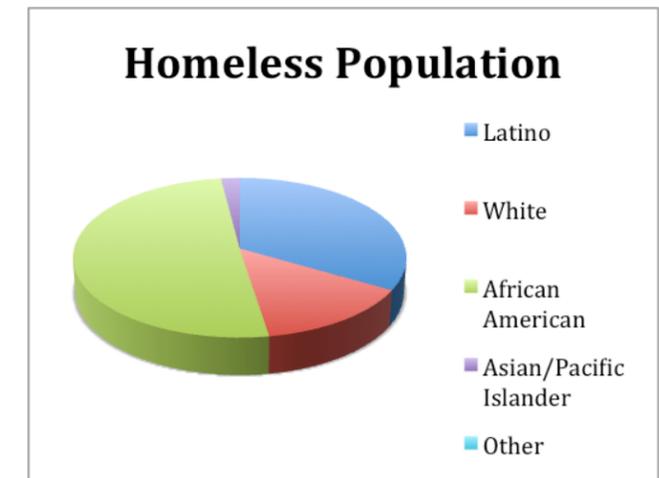
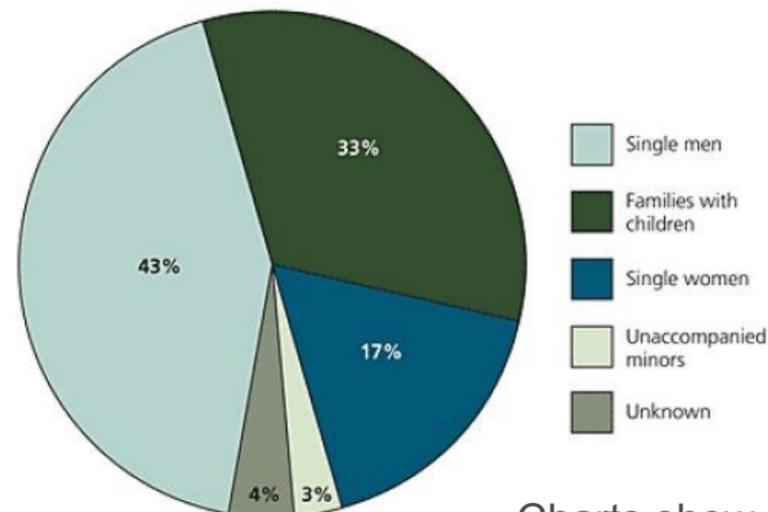
Most studies show that single homeless adults are more likely to be male than female.

First, it is necessary to consider aspects of the male gender role that might make men more likely to be homeless: for instance, men's greater likelihood of being veterans, or the tendency of men to not seek treatment for their mental illnesses and substance abuse. Looking at it without the gender lens risks missing important aspects of gender.

Second, it is necessary not to erase the existence of women who are homeless. Even though men are more likely to be homeless, homelessness is a lot more gender equal than a lot of people present it. The primary causes of homelessness, poverty, lack of affordable housing, and unemployment affect everyone regardless of gender. A large percentage of the increase in homeless families is probably caused by the recession: unemployment and lack of affordable housing were the two most commonly cited causes of the increase in homeless families.

Third, it is important to note that there may be reasons why women are more likely to be housed than men that still don't mean the women are in a particularly good situation.

by Tom Matlack from The Good Men Project



Charts show studies from the Urban Institute.

Volunteer Appreciation

Soup Kitchen Coordinator: Kay Jansen

We would like to extend a special thank you to Kay Jansen and the St. Anastasia soup kitchen for bringing meals to the Eddie Washington Center residents every week of the month (including holidays) for over 10 years now.

We salute you, your selfless giving and your contributions to the Eddie Washington Center!!!

St. Anastasia is located at 624 Douglas Avenue, Waukegan, IL 60085. The phone number is (847) 623-2875.



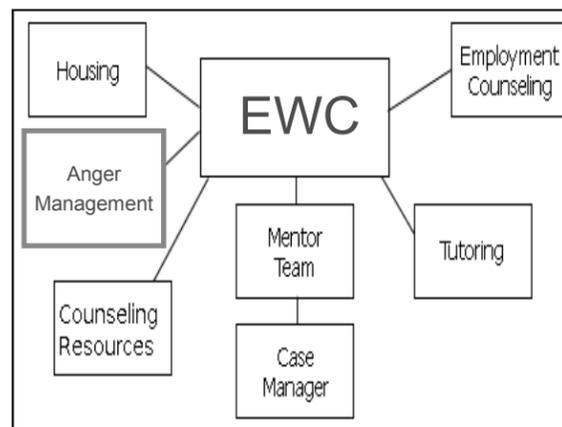
Photo of the St. Anastasia Church

Graduates of EWC

March 2014 - June 2015

We've had 38 great men who have been residents within the last 15 months.

- ◆ Of those 38, there has been a 100% employment rate.
- ◆ On average, 38 men found employment paying them \$10.00 per hour.
- ◆ The men have found employment within the state of Illinois and Wisconsin.
- ◆ 16 of the 38 men were hired on as full-time employees after starting as Temps.
- ◆ The average stay in the Eddie Washington Center, is 6.5 months.
- ◆ 33 of the 38 men still reported to be employed 6 months after leaving the program.
- ◆ 100% of the graduates found permanent housing.



Congressman Robert Dold's Eddie Washington Center Tour



From left: Case Manager Cyril Jervis, Waukegan Township Trustee Percy Johnson, U.S. Representative Robert Dold, Director Marc Jones, Waukegan Township Supervisor Patricia Jones, Advisory Council Chairman Phil Carrigan, and Waukegan Township Trustee Jeff McBride.



Photo of the Eddie Washington Center

On July 20th, 2015 U.S. Representative Robert Dold visited the Waukegan Township Eddie Washington Center. Congressman Dold's presence was exceedingly pleasant as Supervisor Patricia Jones explained the Eddie Washington Center's twenty-two year journey. In addition, Waukegan Township's board of Trustees Pastor Percy Johnson and Jeff McBride explained their personal participation with the men of the Eddie Washington center. Current resident Richard Krupa, a Round Lake Beach native had the opportunity to introduced himself to Congressmen Dold, explain his life challenges which led Mr. Krupa to the Eddie Washington Center, and where he stands proudly today. To conclude, Director Marc Jones led Congressmen Dold on a tour of the Eddie Washington Center.



Current Resident, Richard Krupa sharing his testimony with Congressman Dold.

Louis Larkins, House Manager



Employee Spotlight

Did you know?

According to the National Alliance to End Homeless-ness' article *The State of Homelessness in America 2015*, published April 1, 2015. "On a single night in January 2014, 578,424 people were experiencing homelessness — meaning they were sleeping outside or in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program".

Mr. Larkins was born in Chicago, IL in September of 1966 by Ms. Alice Larkins and the late Louis Johnson. In 1984, Louis graduated from Dunbar Vocational High School where he studied Brick Masonry. After graduating from high school, Louis worked several jobs. Although he was raised in a moral and loving home, the attraction of the street life caught Louis' eyes. Eventually, the street life pulled Louis into a world that went against his mother and father's teachings. After a while, the excitement of the street began to fade and Louis decided that it was time for him to change his life.

Not knowing exactly what avenue to take to proceed with this change, Louis was referred by his cousin, Elder Lawrence Larkins, to the "Staben Center." In 2005, Louis completed the program at the Staben Center and began working at the Ramada Inn in Waukegan, IL. However, Louis began to stop by the Staben Center to encourage other men as they were going through the program. This led to him becoming a part-time employee and volunteer for special events at the Center. He is now a full time employee for the Eddie Washington Center.

This change in Louis also brought about a difference in his personal and spiritual life. He met and married the love of his life, Leslie Larkins, in 2006. He also began attending the Peace of God Outreach Ministries where he became an ordained Deacon. Louis enjoys mentoring and helping others to succeed in life. On any given day he can be found living out the quote: "We must honor God with our life by helping others. To live a life of integrity. Not be selfish." - Joel Osteen



Managing Hope: The Day in the Life of a Case Manager

On any given day, we have individuals that walk through our doors dejected, broken, emotionally, physically and spiritually lost. They are men for the most part, with very little hope or most cases without any at all.

Men walk through the doors of our facility to inquire as to whether we can help the put an end to the downward spiral of despair and assist them in turning their lives in another direction. That is the genesis of my journey with these men, as the case manager of the EWC.

First of all, I sit with them and listen as they tell me the story of how they arrived to this point in their lives. What is most interesting about these stories is that they could be coming from a 19 year old who has only been out of High School for a single year; it could be a seasoned 60 year old man who has been in the workforce for years. It could be from a man who has spent most of his life struggling with addiction, or a man who spent most of his youth incarcerated; without any of the freedoms that many of us take for granted. It could be a distinguished, once prominent gentleman, with a higher education who made a grave mistake and somehow found his life totally out of control. It can be any combination of things in between these from any and all walks of life.

What keeps my attention, my focus, and my desire to do whatever I can to assist these men is a phrase that my Pastor, Apostle Harry Stackhouse, always says,

“But for the **grace** of God it could be me!”
No truer words have ever been spoken.

So, inspired by those words, I listen to everyone who sits in that chair in my office and then I evaluate the best way we, at the EWC can help them. This means for some, acceptance into the program; for others, simple advice on eligibility for the program, or maybe a referral to a partnering agency like the Salvation Army, Nicasa, PADS, Haymarket, or the Lake County Health Department is the best option to get them the appropriate help they need.

At the end of the day, even if everything did not go exactly as I would have liked; in most cases these men leave the interview knowing that their voice was heard, and are also inspired to have a sense of **hope**. It truly is awesome and extremely rewarding to have this kind of responsibility with so many emotions involved. This job is absolutely worth it.

The residents and staff of the E.W.C. welcome your support. Your gifts will help acquire, maintain and provide our residents greater access to our services.

Yes I/We would like to make a gift donation to the Eddie Washington Center in the amount of \$_____

() Enclosed is a check payable to:

**Eddie Washington Center - 424 South Ave.,
Waukegan IL, 60085**

Did you know?

The National Alliance to End Homelessness states that there are 633,782 people experiencing homelessness on any given night in the US. 142,168 (22.1%) are children, 62,619 (13%) are veterans, and 269,991 (42.6%) are disabled and unable to work.

Donations

The Eddie Washington Center kindly accepts donations. Some of the donations needed include hygiene items, laundering items, towels, cleaning supplies, pillows, etc.

To donate products, contact call us (847) 244-0805.

Please be advised that Your donation to the Eddie Washington Center and the Staben House , in part, may be tax deductible, check with your tax professional

Tax ID 36-6006493

Thank You!



From homeless man to businessman

Written By: Anthony Patton

After going through life from 1996 to 2008 existing and not living I came to a crossroad in my life when my mother passed away I had reached such a deep depression that if it had not been for a phone call from my ex-wife I would taken my own life. After that call and a later comment from my father, the fire that had burnt out was once again lit. At this point I realized that I needed some help. I was not able to obtain a ride from the far south suburbs of Chicago; I packed my bags and caught public transport. At this point nothing was going to stop me from doing what I had to do. I entered ATP with a plan, or so I thought, it seemed that God had his own plan for me. I became the lead of a self-help group; people had started asking me to pray for them. It was at this point that that I had a revelation about God’s plan for me. About two weeks at ATP, I discovered the lady I wished the most to **not** be my counselor, actually was my counselor. At our first meeting she asked what I wanted to

do after leaving ATP and I told her that I wanted to go to the Staben Center; she then told me that the odds of me gaining admission to the center were low because of how briefly I had been in ATP, but after the meeting with Silas Herndon, God made the decision for him to take a chance on me.

I entered the then called Staben Center in September of 2008 until March of 2009. The Center gave me gave me the time off I needed from the heavier responsibilities of life, while also providing me with a planned path back to becoming a productive member of society. After about two weeks into my stay I managed to obtain a job as a temp laborer at EMCO while also attending a 30 day outpatient health program. After completing program, I went on to obtain a second job at Wal-Mart. After I left the Staben Center, I went to stay at the Hervey House where I lived for two months before I moved back to the south suburbs. I continued to work for Wal-Mart and returned to the business that I started in 2001 (4A’s Maintenance & Remodeling) Life happened again in 2010 and I went to school to be a medical assistant; after completing program in June of 2011, I became a home healthcare assistant which allowed me to take care of seniors like my father.

In November of 2012 I met a friend that owned a painting company which had a contract with the YMCA Senior Building. I helped take his business from mostly painting jobs to contractual remodeling of apartment buildings. In June of 2013 God decided that since I no longer had parents or kids to take care of, that it was time to take care of myself. Shortly, afterward I received a call from a recruiting agent stating that he had a 30-Day painting assignment at a school called Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire. I accepted the job, and I started on June 28th, 2013 at around 8 in the morning; by the mid afternoon they asked me if I wanted the job permanently! I have worked at Stevenson High for 2 years now, and I have become a handyman for several people around Lake County, including a prominent doctor in Lake Forest. I have filed my business application with the county in hopes to take my business to the next level.

My mission this year is to employ, empower, and inform the residents of the now-named Eddie Washington Center, as well as the youth in my community.



According to the CPS (Chicago Public Schools) a record of 22,144 homeless students in the 2013-14 school year, a year’s increase of 18.6%. Of this, 98.2% were children of color and were 20% diagnosed with disabilities or developmental delays.”

Join our Annual Staben Center and Eddie Washington Center



RUMMAGE SALE



August 13th and August 14th
9:00am to 5:00pm

3000 Grand Ave, Waukegan, IL 60085

All proceeds will benefit the Eddie Washington Center and Staben House facilities