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Providence Ministries

Nourishing hope. Rebuilding lives.

Since 1980

Summer 2018

PMN Programs

Kate's Kitchen

51 Hamilton Street, Holyoke
413-532-0233

foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen

413-536-9121

Loreto House

51 Hamilton Street, Holyoke
413-533-5909

Margaret's Pantry & St. Jude's Clothing Center

56 Cabot Street, Holyoke
413-538-8026

Broderick House SRO

56 Cabot Street, Holyoke
413-536-9109

McCleary Manor SRO

40 Brightside Drive, Holyoke
413-536-9109

**Consider paying tribute to a friend
or loved one by dedicating a gift in
their name to Providence Ministries**



Established by the Sisters of
Providence in 1980



Greetings from Executive Director Shannon M. Rudder

Happy Summer! As I near the mark of my one year anniversary, I remain awestruck by the powerful force of collective compassion in action; THANK YOU for such a remarkable journey so far. I am excited by our progress to-date and look forward to working alongside you in service to those in our community who are often marginalized. It is your continued investment in this work that disrupts the cycles of poverty, restores hope and rebuilds lives—one family at a time. You have shown up in impactful ways to ensure our community has access to food, clothing, housing and overall support necessary to live, in order for them to begin to dream again.

I have been humbled to work alongside and inspired by our Foundress Sr. Margaret McCleary to lead from a social justice lens by 'being the bootstraps' for our neighbors with no boots. This newsletter features the collective good of the village that supports the work of Providence Ministries—THANK YOU for being such a significant part of that village.

As we move into a new fiscal year, I extend an invitation to connect with me personally. I'd welcome you to take a tour to really see our transformative mission come alive and your investment at work; srudder@provministries.org or 413.536.9109. Let's continue to pay it forward, TOGETHER!

In service and partnership,

Shannon M. Rudder, MBA

***"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."* —Mother Theresa**

During the summer months, school-age children fall off of breakfast and lunch funded programs; your food donations are more vital than ever. Here's how you can have some summer fun **and** help someone.

- Host** a community food drive, tag sale or car wash
- Host** a digital fundraiser on GoFundMe or Facebook
- Name** Providence Ministries as beneficiary—As you sign up for a race or triathlon consider doing it in our honor
- Make** peanut butter & jelly sandwiches to offer to our Kate's Kitchen guests as take-aways for their next meal
- Volunteer** your time. Special projects like painting or running workshops for our residents, join the fall events planning committee, host a house party to introduce your friends to our work, take a tour to deepen your understanding and affiliation. Do it alone or gather up friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to be a part of commUNITY in action to help us provide the support our community deserves
- Spread** the word with this helpful pantry and kitchen wish list:
We need nutrient rich canned soups, tuna fish, meals-in-a-can (box), canned vegetables, hamburger helper, canned meats, pancake mix, cereals, tomato sauce, peanut butter and baby food. Prepared casseroles and meals always welcome at Kate's along with spices and condiments. Furniture in good conditions, specifically bedroom storage centers including: dressers, wardrobes, desks, chairs and mirrors.

Providence Ministries for the Needy, Inc.

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provministries.org • info@provministries.org • [@provminHolyoke](https://www.instagram.com/provminHolyoke) • [ProvidenceMinistriesHolyoke](https://www.facebook.com/ProvidenceMinistriesHolyoke)



Help Change a Life

Rafael became a familiar face at Kate's Kitchen a few years back when his life spiraled during a difficult divorce and his family separating.

FoodWorks' Instructional Chef Dalton Clarke, recognized something special in Rafael immediately and pushed him to

return to be closer to his family and grow his Sheraton Springfield team. He deems Rafael a great investment and continues to keep an eye open for foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen graduates to build his team. In fact, our ties to the Sheraton remain close ones, as Dalton Clarke is a former employee of Henry's and they continue to find ways to partner. In June 2017, our students joined in for the prep and presentation of the Springfield Union Station reopening.

Upon reflection, Rafael thoroughly enjoyed his foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen training and shared, "I have a job. I now have a car and it's brought my family back together. I am forever grateful for Chef Ralph and Dalton and the

// I have a job. I now have a car and it's brought my family back together. I am forever grateful for Chefs Ralph and Dalton and the Providence Ministries and Kate's family. //

Not one to keep idle, he found himself at Kate's for meals and to help out. Upon a move to Springfield he lost touch and was having difficulty managing the shifts of life. On the morning of his daughter's sweet sixteen, she had one request: a cake. The one place he knew he could go was to Kate's. He picked up his bicycle, and rode over to Holyoke with high hopes. He not only found a cake, he was delighted to be packed up with takeaway peanut butter and jelly sandwiches along with some fruits and veggies.

While there, Rafael recognized a familiar face; Ralph Webb the Executive Chef of foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen. Rafael recalls vividly, "Chef Ralph looked me directly in the eye and said, 'I can get you a job.'" Rafael was intrigued and delighted that someone saw him—his full potential albeit his current struggle. Rafael not only left with the Sweet 16 cake his daughter hoped for; but a renewed sense of purpose as he promptly enrolled into the upcoming class of foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen.

Rafael, a tenderly quiet man, is remarkably memorable no matter where he goes.

realize his full potential; Rafael recalled that "Chef Dalton saw my drive and passion and I am thankful that he did." According to Dennis Henry, Executive Chef, Sheraton Springfield, who hired Rafael upon graduation from foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen back in February 2018, "I saw that same drive in Rafael and it hasn't stopped. In fact, he was recommended as Employee of the Month after only three months on the job. Most employees are not recommended until six years into the job...and it is a huge accomplishment to be nominated at all given there are over 250 employees."

When asked what was the most challenging of the foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen work, one could easily imagine that his answer would have included his daily bicycle trek from Holyoke to Springfield and back, for 13 weeks but not so. Rafael says the job interview was the most challenging; "Everything I had worked for, to get a job, depended on this."

Henry has been with the Sheraton Springfield for seven years and though a native, left the area for a while only to

Providence Ministries and Kate's family."

We change lives at Providence Ministries daily. Through each interaction, we have an opportunity to connect our most vulnerable neighbors to the resources, nutrition and/or people to turn their lives around. We thank you for being a part of our neighborhood of giving.

Rafael is just one of the lives impacted by the transformative work of Providence Ministries. This foodWorks program helps to disrupt the cycles of poverty by emboldening the spirits and equipping individuals with jobs to directly alter their life trajectory. Perhaps you know of someone who would benefit from job training and placement—please refer them to us. Perhaps you're interested nourishing hope by rebuilding lives and want to sponsor a student or class—consider donating today with that designation.

To learn more, or attend the upcoming foodWorks graduation to witness firsthand the power of lives transformed, visit provministries.org.

Valley Gives and Atkins Gives!

\$3,429 donated by 52 donors—thank you! Special Thanks to our local partners at Atkins Farm Country Market; owner Pauline Lannon and her staff for donating \$500 towards a matching gift. We are grateful to have spent Valley Gives Day with Atkins who provided free coffee and Atkins Cider Donuts to all donors. It was commUNITY in action as we shared stories with local folks who have been coming to serve at Kate's as a family tradition—guests at Kate's cherish the deliciousness of the one and only Atkin Cider donuts; **THANK YOU!**



CHANGE OF SEASONS

As the summer months approach, new opportunities abound.

We say goodbye to long-time devoted outgoing Board Chairperson **Jean Zaleski**. We are grateful for her dedication to the mission of Providence Ministries—her steady, calm and Christian manner strengthened and prepared the organization to face the future with renewed commitment and confidence. We also acknowledge the staunch commitment of Sisters of Providence Associate **Aida Gouette** and **James Briant** service to our board for the last 10 years collectively. Finally, we also wish well **Claudia Pazmany** and extend gratitude for her incredible year of support and service—Claudia was pivotal for launching our inaugural Fashion With Compassion event. Claudia has been recruited to lead the Amherst Area Chamber beginning in July. Though we are sad to see her go, we wish her well and know we have a partner in her for life.



In May 2018, we welcomed **James H. Wall** as our new Board Chairman. Jim has a long history with the work of Sr. Margaret and every fiber of his being is

sewn with the compassionate work of the Sisters of Providence. He brings this level of caring along with 28 years in a variety of roles culminating in the Global Managing Director of Talent and Chief Diversity Officer for Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Ltd., U.S. He currently serves on two boards of trustees: as vice chair of American Management Assoc. International, NYC, and board member of the Sisters of Providence Ministry Corporation.

He will be supported by the leadership of **Kevin Ross** of Ross, Webber & Grinnell Insurance as the Vice President of the Board, **Joanne Beauregard**, COO of The O'Connell Companies will continue as Treasurer, and **Sr. Mary Caritas** remains as Clerk.

Join us in the joy of welcoming new board members: Lew Rudolph, Marisa Egerstrom, Jeannie Filomeno and Marvin Gonzalez.



Lew Rudolph is currently the Director of Government and Foundation Grants and Contracts for Trinity Health in Springfield, MA. His

past experience includes Program Director and Psychotherapist for ServiceNet Inc. in Northampton, MA, and President/CEO of Hampshire Community United Way. His background in healthcare and psychotherapy will provide essential insights into our sober living programs while his expansive expertise in developing and securing transformative grant funding will be crucial to advancing our life-affirming programming.



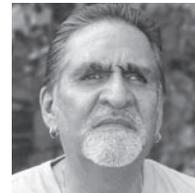
The Rev. Marisa Egerstrom is currently the Priest-in-Charge at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Holyoke, MA. Her past experience includes serving as Christian

Education Coordinator at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Boston, as a chaplain in hospital and street settings, and as a spiritual director for young adults. She is completing a Ph.D. in American Studies at Harvard University. Her professional spiritual experience will provide essential insights into fulfilling our mission of nourishing hope and rebuilding lives.



Jeannie Filomeno currently serves as the Human Resource Manager at her family operated business, Marcotte Ford. With her family, Jeannie

has dedicated tireless years of support to Providence Ministries including preparing and serving monthly at Kate's Kitchen, organizing clothing, food, and school supply drives distributed to the community through Margaret's Pantry; and donating over 100 holiday gifts and Easter Baskets. Outside of working at Marcotte Ford, Jeannie serves on the board of The Professional Women's Chamber (PWC). Her proven business and human resource skills will help to strengthen our infrastructure towards long-term sustainability.



Marvin Gonzalez serves currently as an Outreach Specialist with Eliot Community Human Services. As part of his role, he performs daily street outreach in Holyoke

and Chicopee. His is a familiar face at Kate's Kitchen where he not only greets Kate's Kitchen guests and records vital daily census data, but also serves as a trusted advisor and troubleshooter on topics including access and information related to housing, detox, mental health, and food support. Gonzalez has dedicated over 30 years to working in human services as an advocate for our most vulnerable. Whether it is transportation, food, or housing and shelter, Marvin will work tirelessly to connect those in need to the providers and programs. As a member of the Providence Ministries board, he will serve a vital role in having an active voice for those we serve daily.

These four new members bring needed competencies and expertise that will enhance our board and strengthen our commitment to carry out our mission," says Jim Wall, Board Chairman.

Grateful for the Grants! *In an effort to meet the rising needs of our community we have reached out to funders across the state and here are some of our most recent champions:*

Bank of America \$7,500 – \$5,000 to support Kate's Kitchen and \$2,500 to support Fashion With Compassion

Beveridge Family Foundation \$20,000 – Capacity grant funding to build sustainable marketing & fundraising

Community Development Block Grant Funding \$43,000 – \$19,000 to Margaret's Pantry, \$19,000 to Loreto House men in recovery; \$5,000 to foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen empowering people through food

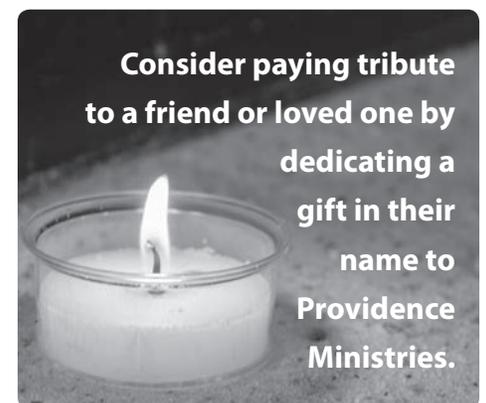
Davis Foundation \$10,000 - to support foodWorks@Kate's Kitchen

Food Bank of Western Massachusetts \$5,000 – to create bi-lingual promotional materials and placement

Mary Peterson Fund \$3,000 – to better serve the individual needs of our elderly guests

United Way \$18,000 (for FY18 & FY19 each) – basic needs grant funding

Thank you to ALL who invest in our life-changing work!



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Providence Ministries
40 Brightside Drive
Holyoke MA 01040

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Inaugural Fashion With Compassion raised \$30k+

Thank you for partnering with us to celebrate our inaugural *Fashion With Compassion* event at Gary Rome Hyundai. You shined a spotlight on the compassionate work of Providence Ministries. Over 200 people connecting around our mission raising over \$30,000—our largest fundraising effort yet! A special acknowledgement to Gary Rome, his exceptional team and an extraordinarily dedicated committee for their support. Our foundress, Sister Margaret McCleary, sums up our gratitude best:

"Fashion with Compassion was successful because of you and so many like you who believe in and support this caring work and spirit at Providence Ministries. My heart is overflowing with gratitude because of the extraordinary response to this major fundraiser. Prayers go from my heart to the heart of God for you asking that you be blessed with what you most need at this time in your life.

Wonderful partnerships have begun. Let us work together to expand partnerships by inviting the young, the old and the rest in between, from scouts to corporations, to support us in this ministry for the countless numbers of suffering people who cross the threshold of Providence Ministries daily. As the saying goes, 'it takes a village.' You are part of that village which nourishes hope and rebuilds lives."

Save-the-date: Friday, May 10, 2019