



Meet the team at Our Daily Bread Employment Center's new behavioral health / substance use disorder clinic including (L-R) Wendy Foley-Gilbert, Ginger Weber, Erin Moyer, Ray Woodson, Amie Elliott, Dr. Ewere Osian-Dugan, and Catherine Webbert.

IN OUR DAILY WORK at Catholic Charities, we have learned that one particular challenge can create an enduring obstacle to self-sufficiency. That challenge is substance use disorder. It does not discriminate by race, background, income or age, and it erodes all other efforts. Because of it, we are working to serve individuals across all Catholic Charities programs who may have a substance use disorder, regardless of their reason for receiving our services.

Clients come to the Fallsway clinic from Our Daily Bread Employment Center, Christopher Place Employment Academy, the Weinberg Housing and Resource Center, My Sister's

The substance use disorder clinic at Our Daily Bread Employment Center is not your traditional clinic. Beyond talk therapy and medication to assist with treatment, our clients can access food, clothing, and assistance with benefits and shelter.

Not your typical clinic

By Erin Moyer,
Substance Use Disorder Manager

Place Women's Center, Basilica Place Senior Housing, and My Brother's Keeper in West Baltimore.

Each of Catholic Charities' 10 clinic locations is served by a designated therapist, along with an addictions psychiatrist and a therapeutic support specialist. Since the clinic at Our Daily Bread Employment Center opened on July 1, we have seen more clients considering and moving toward a change in their substance use.

Effective talk, support groups, and medications to assist with treatment foster this change in attitude. Sometimes just a discussion with a therapist about harm reduction can help start the change.

There is always hope, and we are always ready for that to be a start. ▀

Reawakening her dream

AT AGE 19, Rhonda Harris came to the U.S. from Trinidad to study accounting and computers. But when the college failed to file a key document, her visa wound up in limbo and she couldn't go to school.

She eventually married an American citizen and raised two sons. When her immigration status finally resolved 18 years after she arrived, her priorities had changed. Instead of her dream education, now she needed a good job. She found the Our Daily Bread Employment Center Job Readiness Program.

"It turned out to be destiny," Rhonda said. "I had no idea what to do with this 20-year gap in my résumé. Not only did that two-week program give me the confidence to be successful, it also gave me hope and reignited my faith."

When Rhonda couldn't get her high school transcripts from Trinidad, she decided to attend a GED program. She graduated as valedictorian, to the delight of her two sons, and enrolled in the Community College of Baltimore County. With help from Job Placement Specialist Pamela Johnson, Rhonda now has a full-time job with BGE.

Rhonda had never imagined it, but her search for work reawakened her dreams of education, and made her family proud. Now she plans to pursue her bachelor's degree. ■



Rhonda Harris (l) with Pamela Johnson, Job Placement Specialist.

Volunteer Highlights

Thank you to our volunteers!

Business that contributed the most hours:

Quantum Leap, Inc. logged **2,854** hours in FY19.

Quantum Leap, Inc. provides residential and support services to adults with intellectual disabilities.



Thank you to the individuals who serve at Our Daily Bread Employment Center through Quantum Leap.

Faith-based group with largest number of hours:

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Towson gave **1,440** hours.

Mount St. Joseph edged out **Archbishop Spaulding** with **1,140** hours and **1,120** hours, respectively.



A group of 9th graders from Mount St. Joseph High School

To volunteer, call 667-600-3438, email nrudomin@cc-md.org or register online at cc-md.org/volunteer


MULTIPLYING LOAVES

OUR DAILY BREAD EMPLOYMENT

CENTER needs your help to feed the hungry. We're not asking for a miracle of multiplying loaves and fishes, but we would appreciate you baking a casserole or two.

"Casseroles are the backbone of Our Daily Bread's ability to serve all people in need," said Nick Rudomin, volunteer manager for Our Daily Bread.

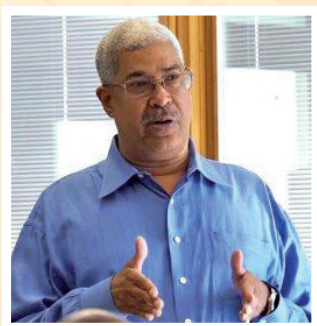
According to Rudomin, parishioners from St. Gabriel's of Woodlawn, St. Louis of Clarksville and Immaculate Conception in Towson are the biggest monthly contributors. "They literally donate hundreds of casseroles."

However, casserole donations are in decline. To participate in the casserole program, contact Nick Rudomin at 667-600-3438 or nrudomin@cc-md.org. 



*As the largest meal program in Maryland, the center serves **100** baked casseroles a day to feed as many as **800** men, women and children. That totals **3,000** casseroles a month.*

*Since 1981, Our Daily Bread has never missed a day of service. Last fiscal year, the center served **238,123** meals.*



GREETINGS FROM LEE MARTIN

*Our Daily Bread
Employment Center
Program Director*

Dear Friends,

Most guests first encounter Our Daily Bread Employment Center while in search of a warm meal. Once they leave our dining room, we hope each person decides to walk down the hall to find services that lay the foundation for self-sufficiency and a better life: behavioral health counseling, substance use disorder treatment, job training and resources, even access to dental care and benefits specialists.


There are so many people who walk with the individuals we serve to make these life-changing services possible. They are the faith communities, schools and corporate groups who prepare and donate casseroles each month. They are the more than 40 volunteers we need each day who prep salads, heat casseroles, pour iced tea, greet guests and serve meals with a smile. They are the volunteers and staff

who share their professional expertise and personal stories to inspire the men of Christopher Place Employment Academy and our job readiness participants. And they are the individual donors, private and public sponsors, and community partners who make our work financially feasible and allow us to expand and adapt to the changing and challenging needs of our guests.

Your generosity is the foundation that makes our work possible. Thank you for continuing to walk with the men, women and families who turn to Our Daily Bread Employment Center for a better life through your ongoing donations and volunteer support.

Sincerely,

Lee Martin

P.S. – To volunteer or to give, go to cc-md.org/odbec. Thank you! 

Upcoming Events

Christopher Place Employment Academy graduation | [Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019](#) | 4 – 6 p.m.

Christopher Place Employment Academy capstone celebration | [Monday, Oct. 23](#) | 5 p.m.

Employer Appreciation Breakfast | [Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019](#) | 7:30 – 9 a.m.

A Taste for More at the American Visionary Art Museum | [Saturday, March 7, 2020](#) | cc-md.org/atasteformore

CONGRATULATIONS

to the Christopher Place Employment Academy men who participated in the Baltimore Running Festival and thanks to Back on Their Feet for supporting their efforts.

Christopher Place Employment Academy residents ran the following races:

Marathon: Eric Williamson, Hadi Sadeghiasi

Half Marathon: Aaron Parson, Davon Braxton, Darryl Fraser, Mark Burker

5K: Andrew Francois, Raheem Campbell, Mark Darden

