



The Father McKenna

C E N T E R • I N C

19 Eye Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001-1425 | 202-842-1112 | www.fathermckennacenter.org

DENNIS DEE RETURNS HOME



Dear Dennis,

On January 2nd, I began my tenure as the new Executive Director of The Father McKenna Center. In August of 2014, I first walked through these doors at the lowest point of my life due to alcoholism. I had lost everything – my career as an investment banker, family, friends, colleagues, and home.

The caring staff and volunteers at the McKenna Center helped me reclaim my life. I worked at the Center in a variety of jobs for nearly two years. I then moved to Chicago where I served as a certified addiction counselor for the past seven years.

The McKenna staff, volunteers, and donors are extraordinary. They have created an environment that allows a man whose spirit is all but extinguished to be rekindled. I have now returned home to the McKenna Center and am committed to never turning anyone away who needs our help.

I look forward to partnering with the McKenna Center's staff, donors, and volunteers to serve our neighbors in need.

With thanks,

Dennis J. Dee
Executive Director

**THANKS TO THE JOHN S. MULHOLLAND FAMILY
FOUNDATION FOR DONATING 15,000 POUNDS OF FOOD
VALUED AT NEARLY \$30,000**



It took 12 staff and volunteers from John Carroll University nearly two hours to unload a truck with donated canned tuna, chicken, and vegetables; hearty soups; cereal; peanut butter and jelly; baked beans; pasta and sauces; and macaroni and cheese. The truck was so packed that when the doors were opened, food started spilling out.

The McKenna Center wishes to thank **Brian Mulholland** for spearheading this food drive and personally delivering the donation. This food will last until May. Brian, you are our hero!

RECLAIMING LIVES



Zachary started receiving services at the McKenna Center in June of 2023. Staff invited Zachary to participate in our 2023-2024 Hypothermia Transition Program because he was committed to turning his life around. Also, Zachary served our country for 13 years in the Army and Air Force. Thanks to the support and guidance provided by McKenna Center staff, Zachary is now living in permanent housing. (Photo: Zachary and Case Manager Sydney Simmons)



Milton arrived at the McKenna Center in July of 2023. He experienced homelessness after fleeing violence in his family's home. McKenna Center staff saw promise in Milton and connected him to a training program at SOME and housing at Webster House. Milton graduated in January and is now working at the Washington Hospital Center as a medical technician. (Photo: Milton and Director of Services Cortez McDaniel)

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteer Extraordinaire Mike Murray



The McKenna Center wishes to thank and acknowledge the seven years of dedicated service provided by Mike Murray. One day each week, Mike arrives at the McKenna Center at the crack of dawn and stays until 1 pm to assist Kitchen Manager Russell Byrd in preparing meals. Mike spends hours washing all the pots and dishes. Mike also invests time with the student volunteers. His coleslaw recipe is legendary. The McKenna Center is so grateful to Mike and our many volunteers whose service makes our work possible.

MEDICAL SERVICES



McKenna Center Board Member Dr. Eileen Moore brings medical students from Georgetown University's Hoya Clinic to conduct specialized flu shot and podiatric clinics at the McKenna Center for guests and Food Pantry shoppers. The McKenna Center also partners with MedStreet. Their medical volunteers provide health screenings, check-ups, prescription refills, and referrals. One guest was shot in the leg and burned his hands in a tent fire. MedStreet was able to help monitor his recovery.

COMPUTER SKILLS TRAINING



The McKenna Center is partnering with **Byte Back**, a nonprofit organization that provides under-resourced communities with computer skills training needed for jobs, health care, and education. Byte Back is teaching an 18-hour Computer Foundations 1 curriculum in the McKenna Center's computer lab, made possible by the Order of Malta. The training includes creating and saving documents, searching the internet, setting up strong passwords and other cybersecurity standards, and using online banking and telehealth.

IMMERSION SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM

The McKenna Center regularly welcomes young people from colleges, schools, parishes, and other programs to serve as volunteers while living at the McKenna Center for a week. They eat meals with our guests and volunteers. We believe immersive service plays a vital role in breaking down societal barriers and equips our young visitors with tools for compassionate engagement as they return to their communities. Recent immersion participants include John Carroll University, DePaul University, Georgetown Visitation High School, Ohio State University, Saint Norbert's College, Salesianum School, and University of Scranton.

WISH LIST

- Bread
- Vegetable oil (family size)
- Canned soup
- Reusable grocery bags
- Electric and hand-held can openers
- Men's belts in all sizes
- Amazon gift cards
- Fresh fruit

To make a donation, please call 202-842-1112 to arrange a drop off time. Thank you!

SPECIAL THANKS FOR FOOD AND CLOTHING DONATIONS

Alexandria Pastry Shop, Best Buns, Capital Area Food Bank, The Dubliner, Foodrecovery.org, Friends of Omega Psi Phi, Giant Food, Gonzaga Mothers and Fathers Clubs, Great Harvest Bread Company, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Immaculate Conception Church, Keany Produce, Tim Monahan, Order of Malta, Panera Bread, Phoenix Park Hotel, and Safeway.

FATHER MCKENNA CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barbara Patocka, Chair | Eden Gaines, Vice Chair | Frank Vasquez, Jr, Treasurer | Martin McCarthy, Secretary | Daniel F. Collopy | Willis Daniels | Rev. Harry Geib, SJ | Rev. Joseph Lingan, SJ | Christopher Lucey | Lauren Malone | Kathleen McAuliffe | Joseph McCarthy | Eileen Moore, MD | Francis (Rick) Ruzicka | Jeanine Smith | Richard White

[Donate Today!](#)

The Father McKenna Center, Inc. | 19 Eye St NW, Washington, DC 20001-1425

[Unsubscribe tmurphy@fathermckennacenter.org](mailto:tmurphy@fathermckennacenter.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by bybhoffschneider@fathermckennacenter.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!