



The Christmas Issue

12 Days of Christmas

Back by popular demand it's our Providence Home 12 Days of Christmas. Laugh along with us as staff and our resident men do our very own special Christmas countdown.

Here's **Rob Settle**, our executive director, making a pitch for Day Two.



Check out each one of our 12 Days on Facebook and if you would like to bless us this Christmas, click here:

Donate to 12 Days of
Christmas!

Celebrating With Our Residents

Thanks to **you** and all our friends and supporters, we were able to provide an

amazing Christmas bazaar for our 60 resident men.



Our men “shopped” to their hearts content in the lobby of our own Southeastern Freight Lines dorm and picked up an array of new and gently used items. Our friends at Southeastern Freight Lines donated numerous coats. Each man received a brand new Carhartt hat donated by **Randy Boland**. Mr. Bolen also donated new work boots. New socks were donated, as were specially insulated cups – complete with our logo – thanks to many donors inspired by **Becky Boland** (no relation to Randy). Men also received gently used shirts and pants.



After the bazaar, our resident men enjoyed a special gospel message presented by our case manager, **Ron Smith**, as well as a hot chocolate bar sponsored by our staff, and music by the magnificent **Allen Smoak**.



Resident Profile - Xavier Morris

We're going to miss Providence Home resident **Xavier Morris**. But it's clear God has him on the move, and so we rejoice in this *good* goodbye.

Characterized by exceedingly good cheer, gratitude, and optimism, Xavier defies most of the presumed stereotypes of a man needing transitional housing.

Xavier came to us just six months ago. He had been a truck driver, earning great money and living in an upscale Columbia apartment complex.

Xavier thought he had it all. But he admits his confidence in his successful lifestyle caused him to take his health for granted.

Life on the road featuring frequent truck stops and hasty meals took their toll. Xavier's weight exploded and along with it, his blood pressure. His sleep apnea worsened with his other health issues, so it shouldn't have been a surprise when he failed a routine Department of Transportation health test.

Since sleep and general good health are paramount to long-distance driving, Xavier lost his job, his income, and soon his nice apartment.

And just like that, Xavier Morris found himself homeless.

He admits to occasionally using alcohol as a crutch during those dark days, and with his family in Ohio, Xavier couldn't afford to move home or buy meds. And so, instead of driving a truck to make a good living, he lived in his car to survive.

This went on for about six months until, at another local mission, Xavier learned about Providence Home.



Xavier says he “heard on the street” that Providence Home offered men a clean, stable, and safe environment. After an interview with Program Director, **Mark Davis**, Xavier knew he found the help he needed.

And God began a great U-turn in his life.

Xavier secured a solid job as a forklift operator and hit the gym when he wasn't working or required to be on campus. He lost 25 pounds and found a new reliance on Jesus Christ. The next time he took that DOT test, he passed with flying colors – his weight and blood pressure normal and his sleep issues stabilized.

With a new license on life, Xavier applied to drive for one of the industry's top trucking lines. He got the job and as God would have it, he's based out of Ohio – back home.

Xavier's eyes fill with tears when he recounts what Providence Home has meant to him. “I owe a lot to the Providence Home. You gave me an environment where I could work on myself. I was surrounded by kindness and focused on scripture,” he says. “The chapels opened me up to so much...it encourages me and blesses me to stay on the right path.”

Or, in Xavier's case, on the right road.

It's beginning to look a lot like...chapel!

The **William "Bill" Cogdill** Memorial Chapel is getting close to completion.



Workers are busy painting the gazebo and the outside of the chapel as the inside also takes shape.



Lord willing, our resident men will be worshipping in the new chapel early next year. A special grand opening is slated for April 2023. Stay tuned for the date and details in our next newsletter.

Thank You for Service to the Board - Edwin Davis

Our longtime and devoted board member, **Edwin Davis**, is rolling off our Providence Home Board of Directors after many years of service.



Edwin was instrumental in many wonderful advancements at Providence Home, including our new chapel, and served the board as an officer as well as an historian of sorts – taking great pride in keeping and preserving ministry records.

Edwin generously gave his time, talent, and treasure to Providence Home and he will be missed!

Welcome to the Board - Leanne Johnson and Dr. Brian Huff



Please join us in welcoming **Leanne Johnson** and **Dr. Brian Huff** to the Providence Home Board of Directors.

Leanne is an affordable housing expert with more than 24 years in the industry. She's worked with both federal and state affordable housing programs at the SC State Housing Finance and Development Authority since 1998. Leanne is the proud mom of **Jesse**, a 2018 graduate from the University of South Carolina who is a State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) agent, and **Rachel**, a sophomore at USC who was chosen for a Teacher's Fellows scholarship and is studying to become a teacher.



Brian Huff, MD is the Managing Partner of The Eye Center, PA, in Columbia, South Carolina. He received his undergraduate degree at Vanderbilt University and went onto study medicine at Louisiana State Medical School in Shreveport. He completed his Ophthalmology Residency at Ochsner Clinic in New Orleans.

A proud father of two teenaged sons, Brian enjoys water sports, snow skiing, tennis and working out. A follower of Jesus Christ, Dr. Huff has many cherished Bible verses, but one of his favorites is Proverbs 21:31: "The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the Lord."

Sneak Peek for Next Year: Celebrating 60!

2023 is a huge year for all of us here at Providence Home. We are marking six decades of ministering to men in our community!



We will be celebrating our anniversary throughout the coming year and invite you along for our special journey. You'll hear from the family of our founding father, **Johnny Zenoni**, as well as from men who have been blessed in recovery over six decades thanks to God's working here at Providence Home.

So, stay tuned and plan to participate! Details in the new year!

Give Yourself the Gift of Golf!

Love golf? Love to bless our men?

Well, then, go ahead and give yourself – and us – an early Christmas gift!

Sign your team up now for our Second Annual Golf Classic slated for April 3 at Columbia Country Club!

Once again, we are grateful to be sponsored by McDaniels Auto Group.



PROVIDENCE HOME

2nd
Annual

GOLF

CHARITY CLASSIC

2023

Early Bird Foursome Special!

~~\$600~~ \$400



SPONSORED BY **MCDANIELS**
Auto Group

EARLY BIRD ENDS DECEMBER 31!

SIGN UP NOW: PHCOLA.ORG



Columbia Country Club

April 3, 2023

Our 2023 tournament costs \$200 less than this year's event – and this year's event was a sold-out smash success!

Ours is the first and best tournament of the season!

To register your team, click here:

Register for
Golf

Grateful For Our God!

PRAY!

Pray for our 60 resident men as they face the holiday season. May they feel the life-saving grace, peace, and overwhelming love of Jesus Christ.

Pray for the physical and spiritual health of our staff so that we may serve Him and our residents well during this special season.

Pray that as we enter the celebration of our 60th anniversary, God would grant us His wisdom and insight to walk truly in His ways as we step into the future.

PRAISE!

Praise for our Lord Jesus Christ – for His miracle birth – and for this special season celebrating Him.

Praise for the skillful and dedicated hands building our chapel and enhancing our campus daily.

Praise for you – our friends and supporters – who bless the men and this ministry all year long.

Grateful For Our Superstar Sponsors!

Thank you to these key sponsors who continue to bless Providence Home:

Suzanne Pucci
Lere Robinson - Alive Again
Aloft Hotel - Columbia Downtown
Sylvans Jewelry
The Columbia Food Tour
Blue Marlin
Columbia Museum of Art

WE BELIEVE that men entrapped by drugs and alcohol or coming out of prison should have a safe, supportive, faith-based environment for recovery and stability.

YOU CAN HELP men reunite with their families and become financially, spiritually, emotionally, and physically stable and healthy with your one-time or monthly donations.

IMPACT LIVES OF MEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

It's easy to support our men and ministry!
Donate with the online link below
or mail to P.O. Box 3188, Columbia, SC 29230!

[Donate](#)

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For 60 years, Providence Home has ministered to men.

In 1963, **Johnny Zenoni**, a recovering alcoholic,
began assisting eight men in need.

Our Mission Statement: Providence Home provides Christ-focused transitional housing, accountability, and support for men leaving behind addiction, incarceration and homelessness, striving for restoration and reconciliation with their families and communities.

Our Vision Statement: To see men transformed by Jesus Christ and equipped by God's grace to be a force for good in their families and communities.



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Enhancing Trust

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