

October 2018



REACH
News

REACH Happenings:



REACH Home 2018/19 will open on or near November 15. We are pleased to announce that we will once again be partnering with Dimitri House, Inc. to open winter temporary transitional housing for homeless men and women at 102 N. Union Street. In preparation we are reviewing how our guests enter the building and working on rehabbing the front porch. We anticipate that we will house about 24 people for the winter and, as in the past, we will work with our guests to assist them in finding permanent accommodation.

As in the past three years we will need volunteers from the community in the following areas:

- **Set up and preparation** - there is a lot to be done to in the building. We need people who can paint, move furniture, clean, and do general handyman work, please call **John Curran at 271-1053**(leave a message)
- We also need people who can help with building rehabbing, plumbing, construction etc. Please call **Deacon Dan at 233-1755.**
- **Meals** - we provide a cooked meal each evening and are looking for volunteers to meet this need. Volunteers are expected to provide a meal for about 30+ people. Please bring the food to the REACH Home before 5:30 p.m. each evening. Volunteers may enter the kitchen at the rear of the house. We hope that meal volunteers will stay and serve the meal and greet our guests. To sign up to serve a meal please [click here to sign-up](#).
- **Drivers** - we need people who are willing to drive our guests to their appointments, such as medical appointments or drug treatment appointments.
- **Shift Volunteer**- to help us control our costs we welcome volunteers who would be willing to do a four-hour shift at the Home. We will provide appropriate training for this kind of volunteer work. Such volunteers will be an invaluable source of building relationships and a supporting community for our guests.



For each of these two volunteer opportunities, Drivers or Shift Volunteer, *in a few days* there will be a sign-up form on our web page, REACHAdvocacy.org. Go to the **Volunteer Opportunities** tab where our Webmaster will be posting the sign-up forms.

As usual we run this temporary transitional housing by the generosity of people in the Rochester area. **Please consider donating to REACH** by sending a check to REACH Advocacy, P.O. Box 10845, Rochester, NY 14610. All contributions are tax deductible.

Now begins the work of getting the building ready, identifying managers and staff,

realize this impact statement. At the same time we will be revising our by-laws to ready them for submission to the State of New York so that REACH Advocacy can become incorporated as a non-profit organization.

Our Tiny Home Village dream– Work has continued on a site on St. Paul St. to help clear and reclaim some vacant lots for a future village. This work has been led by our valiant Team member John Curran who has successfully recruited many volunteers. Here are some photos of the progress being made.

Before – students helping to clear the growth.



And here is what it looks like now- the second photo is of Jack, a neighbor, and John.



A Tiny Home Village is part of our long-range vision to help homeless men and women find safe and supportive housing. We hope by December to have an architectural conceptual image of this dream.

Food for thought:

Why do people become homeless?

- *In Rochester more than half of all tenants spend at least 30 percent of their income on rent, and usually this does not include utilities.*
- *It takes just one catastrophe to lead to eviction. There are forty eviction hearings*

each day in the Rochester courts.

- *Recent gentrification of buildings have priced once affordable apartments out of the range of the very poor former occupants.*

