



United Way of Douglas County

Community Partner Success Story:

The **Lawrence Community Shelter** delivers Safe shelter and comprehensive support services to people experiencing homelessness. LCS programs target the Health and Self-Sufficiency goals of our community.

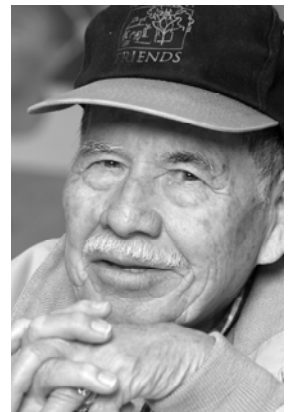
“Jim” began staying at the Lawrence Community Shelter after he lost his job and apartment. He had a son in active military service and a daughter in Lawrence, although they were estranged. He had open-heart surgery the previous year and was feeling quite fragile. He began working with a case manager and prioritizing his goals.

After a few weeks, Jim began volunteering at the front desk in the LCS day area. He had previously been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and had problems with anger. During his stay at LCS, he had a couple of confrontations with other guests. His anger finally led him to punch someone and the staff insisted that he get help. He began attending Intensive Outpatient Therapy at Bert Nash and taking medication.

Soon after, Jim filed for Social Security and began receiving General Assistance from SRS. He started spending time with his daughter and continued with therapy and medication. After five months in the Lawrence Community Shelter he was able to move into an apartment and LCS staff helped him with furniture, kitchen items, sheets, and towels. Jim is very happy with the improvements in his life and is looking forward to his future.

A donation of \$3 per week for a year provides 3 counseling sessions, bus passes & lunch funds for a client's 1st 7 weeks in a new job through the "Back to Work" jobs counseling program.

For more information about the Lawrence Community Shelter, please call 832-8864.



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