

**Emergency Overnight
Shelter and Services**

831 N. Sycamore St.
(Corner of Oakland & Sycamore)
Lansing, MI 48906



Ministries

**Transitional Housing
and Services**

Zacchaeus House for women
with children
Luke's House for single men

Telephone (517) 482-2099 Fax (517) 482-6848

Summer 2017

Commitment to caring for the health, safety, welfare of our Guests

By Joan Tirak, Co-President, Core Community Board of Directors

When I was a Benedictine Sister (1960-79), one of our primary charisms from the Rule of St. Benedict simply read: "Let all guests be received as Christ." As Benedictines, our daily lives were committed to offering hospitality to others through our dedication to education and the works of mercy.

And ever since our inception in 1981, Loaves and Fishes Ministries has also been guided by that same principle. As a shelter program, our commitment to hospitality and "receiving all guests as Christ" has been focused on the primacy of maintaining the health, safety and welfare of those who come to us for help.

One of the ways of attending to this is requiring that every staff member, Core Community Board member, intern and volunteer read and sign our *Loaves and Fishes Code of Professional and Ethical Conduct*. Copies of all Acknowledgement and Acceptance Forms are retained in the Loaves and Fishes Ministries files as part of L&F confidential records, should any legal questions arise, and also as evidence of the good will and mutual understanding of what is expected of all L&F staff, interns, volunteers and Core Community Board of Directors members while serving at Loaves and Fishes Ministries.

The 3-page Code of Professional and Ethical Conduct includes sections regarding:

- Appropriate Treatment, Privacy, Safety & Welfare of the L&F Guests
- Appropriate Employment and/or Volunteer Protocol
- Maintaining Appropriate Relationships
- Resolution of Conflict(s)
- Violation(s) of Loaves & Fishes Ministries' Code of Professional Ethical Conduct

Caring for the health, safety and security of our guests is also addressed by the primacy that we have always put on cleanliness and maintaining a vermin and bed bug free environment, along with using environmentally safe cleaning and laundering products, care in handling and preserving food, doing daily inspections of our short term guest resident space, and weekly inspections of our transitional homes, Zacchaeus and Luke's House, as well as addressing all maintenance and repair issues – both those we see and those surfaced in our annual grant audits.

Of course the responsibility for of this falls on the shoulders of our hard working staff, interns and volunteers, each of whom do a heroic job of keeping all this going. So, we would like to pay special tribute to our Director Jenny Leaf, Guest Advocate Teresa Kloock, Volunteer Coordinator Beth Young, Weekday Facilities Manager Kim Dillon, Weekend Facilities Manager Jeananne Upright, and to our dedicated Core Community Board of Directors members Carol Baker, Barbara Curtis, Nick Nauta, Vern Johnson, Karenia Randle, Becky Schwarz, Mary Spencer, Donna Stone, Joan Tirak and Jim Veurink...and to the 213 dedicated volunteers whose names appear periodically in our monthly Crumbs and Minnows volunteer calendar. Thank you!

May All Be Blessed with the same grace with which you receive and bless others!

Karenia Randle: A Special Volunteer who Shares her Gifts so Freely

By Jim Veurink, Co-President, Core Community Board of Directors



Karenia Randle, a much beloved Loaves and Fishes Core Community Board of Directors member, comes to us with an amazing legacy of love, caring, drive, and hard work. Karenia followed a long and winding trail that connected her to our shelter, and we are so blessed that her journey led her to finding us.

Karenia is actively engaged with the Core Community Board of Directors sharing wisdom and knowledge every step of the way. She is active with our Fundraising Committee, as well as working 6-10 pm shifts. When she first was encouraged to serve by our Volunteer Coordinator Beth Young, she shepherded our evening shifts frequently and at times, 3-4 shifts a week!

Karenia comes from a family of givers who were unconditional in their support of the Saginaw community. At a young age, as her parents worked diligently to support the household, her beloved grandfather, the Reverend Carroll Lee Tatum, (pictured here with Karenia) babysat her and made a lifelong impact on her life. As a pastor who led his faith community to become a beacon of light in Saginaw, he imparted love and a high standard of expectations for his church in their deeply rooted outreach to others. Karenia experienced this mentoring firsthand until he died in 2015.

This was not lost on Karenia. She, in turn, has set out to live a life of unconditional giving to others. Upon graduation from college, she notably became Lansing's Girl Scout Outreach Coordinator...mentoring staff and leading girls in their quest to become self-sufficient women.

Currently, Karenia is a full time 2nd year student at Cooley Law School, as well as an aide to State Representative Fred Durhall III of Detroit. And, she has added to her high standard of giving by sharing additional time with our shelter as a Core Community Board of Directors member. Truly the legacy of her grandfather and the example of her parents have blessed her and in turn, us, through her work at Loaves and Fishes Ministries!

**To join our Volunteer Team, contact Beth Young at
Volunteer@loavesandfisheslansing.org**

Sheltering guests made possible with your generosity

By Jenny Leaf, L&F Director



We hope you have had a wonderful summer, enjoying the beautiful Michigan weather and maybe even getting to take a vacation somewhere fun and exciting! Our staff and many of our volunteers have had the chance to take a break from work to relax and spend time with loved ones.

In our busy lives it is so important to take care of our bodies, hearts and minds and take breaks and do what makes us whole again. However, we must not forget that there is not a season for homelessness. Many believe that we slow down in the summer months and don't receive as many calls for shelter. I wish this were true but we are just as much in demand in summer as in winter. Even though the weather is warm, it is still not safe to sleep outdoors without basic needs such as a bathroom, kitchen, and bed. The high temperatures can also be very dangerous for those without a place to seek refuge from the sun and soaring temperatures, putting them at risk for dehydration and heat exhaustion. Most important to keep in mind is that the things that lead to a person becoming homeless, whether it is job loss and/or low incomes, lack of affordable housing, addiction issues, or medical (physical and/or mental) issues, for example, don't stop just because the weather is warm.

We are grateful to receive your support and want you to know that we are able to provide shelter and support to our brothers and sisters all year long because of your generosity.

As community partnerships grow, So does the depth of our gratitude!

By Joan Tirak, Co-President, Core Community Board of Directors

If there is anything we have learned in the past 36 years since opening Loaves and Fishes Ministries, it is that "it truly takes a village" to compassionately and adequately care for the thousands of people experiencing homelessness who have graced our shelter. All of us are deeply moved by the generous caring and giving that continues to come from our greater Lansing community. *Whether you gave a \$1, \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000...or several thousand, ALL are precious gifts that continue to make this critical work possible! **Because of this, we are most happy to report that 2016 was the 1st year in a very long time that we were able to meet all of our expenses and have a modest surplus to begin the New Year. This is Miraculous!***



Elite Mr. Alan's In Feb Director Jenny Leaf was invited to attend a very exuberant grand opening for **Mr. Alan's**, a Detroit based sporting goods store with a new branch in Lansing (W Saginaw). While there, she was overwhelmed by their generosity...donating boxes of NEW sweatpants and shirts and fancy athletic shoes, as well as a \$500 check. They also committed to assist with a project, so Jenny is looking into getting help for replacing windows/screens. God bless you, Mr. Alan's!

Creative Wellness, East Lansing



On Nov 5, 2016 our friends at Creative Wellness hosted a fundraising benefit for Loaves and Fishes Ministries during which massage, Chiropractic and acupuncture services were offered to those who scheduled appointments during the 4-hr event. **All the proceeds totaling \$2,915.00 were donated to L&F!** We are so grateful to co-owners **Christine Reay** and **Irene Savoyat**, and to Marketing Director **Anne Subrizi** for initiating this incredible event and for coming to present this huge check to our L&F staff. We also extend our deepest gratitude to all the Creative Wellness practitioners who gave so generously of themselves to the success of this community benefit fundraiser!

Woody's Trowbridge & Woody's Okemos

Our two wonderful Woody's Oasis restaurants together collected **\$265.63** in donations from customers who gave \$1 or more when making food purchases. This is the 3rd year that they have partnered with our Holiday Helping the Homeless Fundraiser...for which we are exceedingly grateful!



Jim Booth Memorial Fund

Last fall we announced the sad passing of our longest life-time volunteer, **Jim Booth**, a former realtor who graciously helped us to find and purchase the current location of Loaves and Fishes Ministries in 1980. *Not only did Jim find our original house, but once we were established, he began to volunteer*

weekly, working the 10 pm to 7 am shift every Wednesday night...unless he was sick or away. Jim loved cooking breakfast for our guests, so he brought special sausage that he prepared at home. Guests loved Jim, and he loved serving them. When he died last August, **Jim's wife Kathy** designated L&F Ministries as a recipient of memorial donations, passing along Jim's hope that we could purchase better cooking equipment. **Since then, L&F has received \$9,520.00.** Director Jenny Leaf said, "I'm hoping to go shopping for new pots/pans and other supplies soon." Rest in peace, Jim!

Schuler Books - Eastwood & Meridian For the 2nd year L&F has done Holiday gift wrapping for Schuler customers. We worked in teams on several days, 2 to 4 hours. In gratitude, customers made free-will donations which totaled **\$953.77**. Many asked about L&F so we were able to joyfully share the good work that is done for our guests and invite them to join us as volunteers!

Lansing Air Traffic Control Tower Employees

Twenty-three FAA workers were involved with our 2016 L&F Christmas gift project. Five did purchasing, one of them brave enough to tackle Black Friday sales. Those unable to donate contributed by wrapping and helping with loading and delivery. **Julie Bazman**, who coordinated the project, said: "We are all very aware of how fortunate we are and that there are people who are struggling and really need help. It can be too easy to forget how blessed we are during the hubbub of the holiday season. The work we do for L&F reminds us how real the joys of giving are and that everyone can help make a difference in someone's life!" What an incredible group...and what an amazing gift to our L&F guests!



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Select Loaves and Fishes Ministries, Lansing, MI as the recipient.

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



Finley's GRILL & Smokehouse

Funds for Friends

EAT • DRINK • SUPPORT

Are you looking to raise money for your school, sports team, church, charity or organization?

On Wednesday nights, Finley's hosts *Funds for Friends* and donates 10% of all sales from 5 to 10 pm to a local community organization.

Minimum 30 participants, see manager for details.

Contact Branden at bmonroe@rcfc.com to get featured.

Join Us at Finley's Grill & Smokehouse,
6300 South Cedar, Lansing 48911
for our Fund\$ for Friend\$ charity dinner
benefiting Loaves & Fishes Ministries!
Dinner starts at 5 pm and 10% of ALL
sales from 5pm to 10 pm will be donated to
this great cause. Simply redeem the
certificate below any time after 5pm to your

server & enjoy a delicious dinner, great drinks & a ton of fun, all while supporting a great cause!

Tuesday, Oct 17th between 5 pm & 10 pm

To help Loaves & Fishes Ministries receive 10% of ALL SALES from this unique fundraising event, just come, order your meal from the delicious menu & enjoy the comradery of our L&F family of friends☺

WE NEED 30 PARTICIPANTS TO BE ELIGIBLE – HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US!