



Sixth Street
SHELTER

HUNGER + HOMELESSNESS

awareness

November 11th to the 18th is Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week - a national initiative to spread awareness of hunger and homelessness that people in our communities experience every day. Participating groups spend the week holding a series of educational, service, fundraising, and advocacy events. This event was first held at Villanova University in 1975, and this year there are over 700 organizations participating!

The Sixth Street Shelter is hosting an event alongside Cedar Crest College students. Participating students are working on a social change project where they will invite their peers to sleep outside simulating "One Night Without A Home." The participants of the event ("campers") are asking for sponsors and donations to support their sleeping outside with only the essentials to bring awareness to the issue of homelessness and to hopefully to make a financial impact on the cause. If you're interested in learning more or sponsoring a camper, please reach out to our Development Officer.

In the Lehigh Valley, a staggering 56.4% of renter households dedicate over 30% of their income to rent. At the Sixth Street Shelter, we believe that affordable housing is a human right. We hope you'll join us in our battle to advocate.

The Sixth Street Shelter opened in 1984 and is the largest family shelter in the region, accepting any configuration of families, including those with adult children, single fathers, and those from the LGBTQ+ community.

We proudly offer 25 individual family apartments, and are the only shelter in the Lehigh Valley to offer families the privacy and security of a furnished apartment with a complete kitchen.

Our goal is to end generational poverty and families experiencing homelessness by increasing independence through self-sufficiency.

Our Mission

The goal of the Sixth Street Shelter, a program of Community Action Lehigh Valley, is to assist families experiencing homelessness with secure, safe housing through family-centered services, in-house programming, and referrals to community resources while advocating that affordable housing is a human right.

Keep in Touch!

SixthStreetShelter.org
@SixthStreetShelter





Juan Santilme: A Tale of Achievement

Juan is a resident of our transitional housing program on Ferry Street in Easton. Circumstances in his life led to Juan dropping out of high school in grade 10 so that he could help care for his disabled mother and sister. Recently, Juan began working on obtaining his high school diploma through Hi-Set, the high school diploma program utilized at the Sixth Street Shelter.

The Hi-Set program began at the Sixth Street Shelter this past May. It is a self-paced web-based program to complete high school. Juan already had access to complete his curriculum, so the Shelter was able to provide additional study materials. Craig Taylor, Juan's Case Manager, helped tutor him in areas where he required additional assistance.

To receive a high school diploma, each student must complete and pass five separate tests. Juan was scheduled to test over a three-week period - a very rigorous timeframe. The staff at the Sixth Street Shelter anxiously awaited updates from Juan on his testing progress. Finally, on his final day of testing, Juan entered the Sixth Street Shelter office with a huge smile. Surrounded by his "extended family," the Shelter staff, he announced that he had passed! Shouts of joy and clapping commenced.

Juan's tremendous hard work and dedication allowed him to complete this goal and acquire his diploma soon after his 18th birthday, and about eight months earlier than the rest of his graduating high school class. With his new credentials, Juan has made the decision to enlist in the U.S. Army and will begin his career later this year. We are all so proud of Juan!

*In Fiscal Year
2022-2023:*

71%

of the families served achieved their Family Service Planshort-term goals

50%

of families successfully completed and exited the Shelter's program, reaching independence

100%

of families created a written budget to understand credit and money management as part of their goal plan at the Shelter

123

of the individuals served were children

42%

of the Shelter's families served moved into safe, stable housing, despite the affordable housing crisis.



BOB CASEY

U.S. Senator for Pennsylvania

Senator's Office Volunteers

Members of Senator Casey's staff came to the Sixth Street Shelter and rolled up their sleeves to beautify the outside grounds. They picked up trash, pulled weeds, and cleaned up our playground. David, who maintains all 25 apartments of the Shelter, also needed some extra muscle to move furniture – so the team jumped in. This furniture was purchased from a grant provided by the KFC Foundation to upgrade several apartments.

*Volunteers
Making a
Difference*



PAYCHEX Volunteers

When Paychex volunteers arrived at the Sixth Street Shelter, it was a seamless partnership. The team split into two: one focusing on refreshing a recently vacated apartment, while the other tackled organization in the basement storage area. In a short span, they transformed a basement room into an efficiently organized space. Thanks to their efforts, the Shelter now has a clean, welcoming apartment ready for a new family. The camaraderie among the Paychex group was evident, with everyone looking forward to their next collaborative visit.



Paychex is a one-stop payroll and HR solution company servicing the Lehigh Valley.



Join us in welcoming, Wendy!

Please welcome the Sixth Street Shelter's newest Development Officer, Wendy Wright. Wendy has shown a commitment to community and education throughout her career, including working with children in Lehigh and Northampton County schools, assisting families involved in the child welfare system, and advocating for individuals enrolled in drug and alcohol programming. Wendy is passionate about the transformative impact of education. She's dedicated to enlightening the community about the challenges faced by those experiencing homelessness, empowering us to help them rise above their difficult situations.

Wendy will play a pivotal role in helping to raise awareness of the Shelter and the Lehigh Valley's affordable housing crisis. She will also be diligent in obtaining donated items to assist current residents. "Since this is a temporary shelter, our residents stay until they can save some money and get back on their feet and into their own place. We constantly need to restock items because once a family leaves, we need to prepare the apartment for the next family, possibly occurring every 30-90 days." Wendy also helps secure volunteers to help care for the Shelter's 25 apartments, as well as volunteers to provide educational programming or assistance in our small food pantry.

We take great care in the stewardship of the contributions we receive for the Shelter." If you want to find out more about the work we do or about how you can help, please visit our website or reach out to Wendy at wwright@caclv.org. Help us end homelessness one family at a time.

Ways To Give

For just one family to live at our Shelter and utilize our critical resources for 30, 60, to 90 days, it costs \$3,300, \$7,000, and \$10,000!

Your donation contributes to providing a family with a furnished apartment, case management, and supportive services.

Monthly Donation

Giving monthly is the most effective way to give. No matter the size of your donation, your gift ensures continued financial support of the Shelter and empowers us to continue our work. Your employer may even match your donation!

Sponsor an Apartment

This is a \$3,000 donation that goes towards apartment interior needs, including new appliances. Your individual, family, or organization name will have a customized nameplate outside the apartment door.

Other Ways to Donate:

Phone:

(610) 435-1490

Email:

wwright@caclv.org

Write a Check:

Sixth Street Shelter
219 North Sixth Street
Allentown, PA 18102

Visit the website and click our donation button:

www.SixthStreetShelter.org/Donate

To quickly and
efficiently donate,
please scan
the QR code.

