



Celebrating

Sixth Street
SHELTER

The Shelter!

Sixth Street Shelter Day

Last year, June 6th was proclaimed “Sixth Street Shelter Day” by Allentown Mayor Matt Tuerk. He will once again be visiting us on this day to recognize the work done by the staff, volunteers, and supporters of the Shelter.

We’re calling on all affordable housing advocates and those looking to create a better community to join us on Thursday, June 6, to help bring positive change. **Reserve your spot early by visiting the events page at SixthStreetShelter.org/events.**

Save the date for next year! We will be celebrating this special day along with our 40th anniversary the first weekend in June of 2025.



*Mayoral Proclamation,
June 2023*

Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community

Join us for a fun way to support the Sixth Street Shelter! Sign up to walk for our cause, sponsor a walker, or make a donation towards the event on Saturday, June 1. **Registration is NOW OPEN for teams and individuals.**

The Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community is an annual fundraising walk benefitting local health and human service agencies. The goal of the walk is to help participating organizations raise money for their individual missions, giving the Sixth Street Shelter an opportunity to raise funds through a community-wide event.

At 7:15 AM, onsite last-minute registration opens. Opening ceremonies begin at 8:30 AM and the walks begins at 9:00 AM, ending around 11:00 AM. Hope to see you there!

Visit SixthStreetShelter.org under our “Events” tab to register or donate today.

Keep in Touch!



@SixthStreetShelter
SixthStreetShelter.org

MLK Jr. Day: A Time of Service

Normally closed on this day in observance of the holiday, we can't say the same for this year. On January 15th, the Sixth Street Shelter was filled with the hustle and bustle of about 30 volunteers. No job was too big or too small for this group.

The volunteers separated into groups and took on a multitude of tasks. The hard-working volunteers moved boxes of items from one building to another. They painted all the hallways of a three-story building. They finished organizing and taking inventory of rooms full of resident supplies. They cleaned out a storage room and prepared it to become an office for an additional staff member. They moved offices supplies and organized and labeled them. It hardly looked like work because of all the smiles and laughter!

Thank you, Air Products staff and Penn State staff, faculty, and students! You and your commitment to service are truly inspiring.



Holiday Giving at the Shelter

There's nothing like the holiday spirit you can find at the Shelter during the month of December. We want to thank every partner who contributed in their special way, no matter how big or small. You have all had a part in making this past holiday season a joyous one for those we serve.

Thank you to:

- Allentown Police Department
- Asbury United Women in Faith
- Cigars International
- Datzyk Montessori School
- Derek Zerfass LLC
- Free Spirits Hiking Group
- Guardian
- Help in Hand LLC
- Lehigh Valley Cycling Club
- Lehigh Valley Health Network
- Lighthouse Realty Lehigh Valley
- Nativity Lutheran Church
- Nazareth High School Honor Society
- Parkland High School
- Penn State Lehigh Valley
- Robins Rehab West
- St. John's Lutheran Church
- St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Craig, Case Manager Supervisor

Craig Taylor joined the Sixth Street Shelter in January 2023 after leading a workforce development program in Allentown. Recently, he was promoted from Case Manager to Supervisor! His experience owning a construction business makes him a firm believer in the principle that "hard work pays off," and his time spent coaching rugby has instilled the ideology that "a little teamwork goes a long way."

Guests of the Sixth Street Shelter and Ferry Street Apartments can expect to experience a combination of those two philosophies, delivered with a lot of energy and positivity by Craig.

Did you know that the Sixth Street Shelter is a program of local anti-poverty nonprofit Community Action Lehigh Valley? Our mission is to improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding areas by building communities in which all people have access to economic opportunity, the ability to pursue that opportunity, and a voice in the decisions that affect their lives.

We offer programs and services in:

Advocacy, Business Start-Up and Development, Food Access and Nutrition, Housing, Neighborhood Revitalization, and Youth.



RESIDENT
SPOTLIGHT

Shalenie

Shalenie was living in New York with assistance from a Section 8 voucher, but after some time and unbeknownst to her, the housing authority stopped paying their part of the rent. This led to Shalenie and her family being evicted from their apartment, and she moved to Pennsylvania. Then, Shalenie's mother passed away in Georgia, and she had to take care of her severely disabled sister. Shalenie stayed with her brother until receiving a call from the Sixth Street Shelter offering help.

While staying at the Shelter, Shalenie managed to save up \$4,000 in the Shelter's Savings Program and also had another \$6,000 saved in an external account. Shalenie has a passion for cooking, especially baking. She shared that her dream is to open a restaurant, bakery, or food truck one day.

Her case manager, Dominique, introduced her to Chris Hudock from **Community Action's business startup and development program, Rising Tide Community Loan Fund**. Chris helped Shalenie get a business name and create a business plan for her venture, which she named "Gail's Kitchen" in honor of her mother.

We also connected Shalenie with Carmen Arroyo, who works for **Community Action's Housing Counseling program**. In January 2024, Shalenie completed the First Time Homebuyers Program and earned her certificate of completion. Even though Shalenie is not ready to buy a house just yet, she gets to keep her certificate and now has a basic understanding of the steps she'll need to take when she is ready to start that journey.

Shalenie is also planning to go back to school to study nursing, beginning March 2024. She is always working hard to improve herself, not just for her own sake, but for her family. She is currently on the hunt for an apartment to provide a new home for herself and her children.



Sponsor an Apartment

Coming Soon!

Launching in late Spring 2024, we'll have the opportunity for you or your business to make a direct impact on local families experiencing homelessness and the effects it has on their lives.

We have levels of giving for all budgets. We can even set it up in monthly installments.
Every little bit helps.

By participating in this program, you're not only helping with the cost of providing a furnished apartment with utilities, but also the cost of additional supportive services so our families can be successful when they graduate from the program.

To learn more, contact Wendy Wright, Development Officer at wwright@caclv.org or 484-821-2809.

Other Ways to Donate:

Phone:

(610) 435-1490

Email:

wwright@caclv.org

Write a Check:

Community Action Lehigh Valley
Attn: SSS Development
1337 E. 5th Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Visit our website and click our donation button:

www.SixthStreetShelter.org/Donate

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.

Wish List

The Sixth Street Shelter equips its residents with essential supplies, not only during their stay, but also as they transition to new homes. Items like linens, pillows, and pots and pans can be taken with them to help set up their new living spaces. Additionally, necessities such as cleaning supplies and personal care items are provided and replenished regularly throughout their stay.

Due to these ongoing needs, the Shelter consistently has a list of items in demand. These requirements may vary with the seasons or cater to the unique needs of our residents.

See our list of consistent needs below. Please note: all items must be **NEW and UNUSED** for the safety of our residents. You can always visit our website for an updated list at SixthStreetShelter.org/DonateSupplies.

- Mops
- Towels (bath, wash, and hand)
- Serving/cooking spoons
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Lotion
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Garbage bags (13 gal., small box)
- Kitchen trash cans (13 gal., small box)
- Bathroom trash cans (2-4 gal.)
- Pots and pans sets
- Hand-held can openers
- Spatulas/cooking utensils
- Floor cleaner
- Glass cleaner
- Baby wipes



To contribute financially today, simply scan the QR code!

