



ALEXIAN BROTHERS AIDS MINISTRY THE HARBOR

Fact Sheet:

- According to the most recent data, there have been 694 documented cases of HIV in Lake County. The Illinois Housing Development Authority estimates that 25% of the AIDS population needs residential housing assistance, which means around 175 individuals with HIV in Lake County have nowhere to live.
- Since opening its doors in 1998, The Harbor has served over 150 homeless men and women with HIV.
- Our programs save lives and resources. According to a study directed by the Chicago Housing for Health Partnership, those who live in case-managed housing like that run by the Alexian Brothers Bonaventure House and The Harbor saved an estimated \$1.5 million in emergency room, hospital and nursing home costs over those who were still homeless.
- All residents were either homeless or at risk of homelessness before they came to Alexian Brothers The Harbor. The majority also suffer from addictions and/or mental illness and have been living at or below the Federal Poverty Line.



The vision of Alexian Brothers Bonaventure House and The Harbor is to transform the lives of people with HIV/AIDS within a compassionate, supportive community by providing:

- a home
- comprehensive services
- spiritual care

Resident Profile

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), one third of the male homeless population has served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Alvin was one of these men—he was in the U.S. Air Force for 6 years. During his service, his wife was in a fatal car accident. To relieve the pain of his loss, Alvin turned to drugs and alcohol. He was diagnosed with HIV in 1985 and eventually came to The Harbor in an effort to rebuild his life.

Now Alvin is one class away from a degree in Social Work and Addiction Counseling, and he has been accepted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. He attributes his success to the discipline he learned in the military and the community of support he found at Alexian Brothers—The Harbor.

- The Harbor has 8 resident rooms, and it is the only housing provider in Lake County dedicated to people with HIV/AIDS.
- Individuals may remain in our program for up to 24 months. Most graduate from our program and move into their own home and have the skills to live independently. This, in turn, reduces their reliance on public aid programs.
- Every resident in our facilities works with a recovery coordinator who is a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor. Residents also have access to occupational therapy and spiritual care.

We are committed to embodying the Alexian Brothers values of

COMPASSION
DIGNITY OF THE PERSON
CARE OF THE POOR
HOLISM
PARTNERSHIP



ALEXIAN BROTHERS
AIDS Ministry

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