

What's New at TLC

October 2022

Seneca County Council
on Homelessness



Pictured above is the updated exterior of the Transformation Life Center.

Welcome To Our New Residents

As of early September, the Transformation Life Center is welcoming residents into the renovated facility. This is just the beginning for these folks (and others who will be coming) toward a positive journey, from dependency to self-sufficiency. We are grateful that they have decided to join our “community,” and we look forward to building strong, positive relationships going forward. To date we have served four women and one child from Seneca County.

Welcome Volunteers

The Transformation Life Center has only one paid employee, the rest of the staffing is provided by community volunteers! Each volunteer has brought great support and comfort to those we serve. Here is what a few of those volunteers have to say about their experience thus far.

Sarah Stevens

"Volunteering at TLC has given me the privilege and opportunity to spend time with wonderfully diverse and resilient people in the community. I have never left TLC not smiling, grateful and wanting to go back. The vulnerability, willingness, gratitude and strength the residents show is nothing short of admirable. I give my time and they give me the most honest version of themselves, how beautiful is that. The contribution you give can look as you need it to look, you are exactly what they need. There is no wrong time to do the right thing."

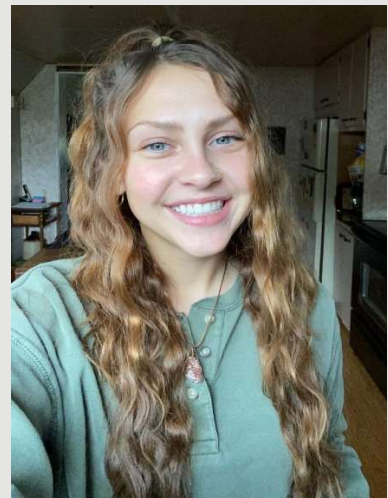
Grace Morehart

"My first shift was on a Sunday evening, so definitely more of a laid-back day. None of the girls that had been staying at the facility wanted to walk out of their rooms, so immediately I was a little skeptical of whether or not this was a fitting position for me and began telling myself that I was in over my head. Despite my brain trying to talk myself out of a good thing, I pushed through and hurdled into attempting to make dinner for the residents. I think the clanking of all my dishes made them curious, but it successfully got them out of their rooms and initiated some conversation. They began to tell me about the circumstances that led them to TLC, in which I reciprocated in sharing my personal background that has led me to become a volunteer. As soon as I began to talk with the little girl that was staying there, we clicked. She was thrilled to have someone young who was able to keep with her. Since volunteering at TLC, I have never not seen a smile on the little girl's face, which is the ultimate goal for all of this; helping people find comfort and joy in some of their most difficult phases of life."

(Note: Grace also volunteers as the TLC case manager).



Sarah Stevens, Volunteer



Grace Morehart, Volunteer
Case Manager

Growing our Resources – Exciting News about Funding

Thanks to so many generous people in our community, the TLC is now actually up and running and providing the services that we have been focused on. To continue to provide these services, however, revenue growth on an ongoing basis is necessary. To that end, we are excited, and very grateful to the First Presbyterian Church of Tiffin for putting forth a funding challenge for the TLC. Put simply, First Presbyterian will match any contributions that are made to the TLC, up to a maximum of \$50,000, and that challenge will extend through the end of this year.

First Presbyterian was one of our first very generous donors providing an initial \$100,000 for startup costs, and once again they are sharing their generosity as the TLC works toward financial sustainability. Funding for the TLC translates into improving the opportunities for individuals who have experienced homelessness, and has been mentioned before, as we focus on “people” development, we also have the potential to impact “community” development as well. These last three months of 2022 will be crucial in not only meeting the First Presbyterian challenge, but also helping to secure the future of mission of the TLC. There are some specific fund-raising activities and outreach events that will be taking place over this period.

As we continue to grow our outreach and our fundraising activities, we are hoping that the community as a whole will take this opportunity to support the TLC and help us grow toward the challenge maximum. No donation is too small; it's important to note that, although we had some large and very generous donations for which we will always be grateful, there were many smaller donations which absolutely helped get the TLC to where it is today. The work of the TLC depends so much on the support of the community, both large and small.

Upcoming Events

October 4th – Allen Eiry & TLC Carry out Chicken Dinner Fundraiser (all tickets must be purchased by September 27th)

October 21st from 6 p.m.-8 p.m., the new Pan Yan bookstore at 144 South Washington will be hosting an evening of live music with a “Large” tip jar, with all tips going to the Transformation Life Center. We're looking to fun evening of music and camaraderie, and it is also a DORA approved event.

November 5th- The TLC is partnering with First Presbyterian Church and Tiffin Community Kitchen to hold a community “Monthly Meal Prep” event. This will help community members with cooking on a budget and having meals prepared for winter. Details to come soon!



Challie Briihl, Cassie Hook, Heather Pollick, & Abby Strausbuagh

TSPL Talks September Event

The Community Conversation on Homelessness took place at the Tiffin-Seneca Public Library September 8th. It featured a great panel of presenters from the TLC, Morrison House (NHO), First Call for help, along with a very inspiring testimony from a person with lived experience, Cassie Hook. Cassie is a courageous young woman who shared her story, moving from dependency to self-sufficiency. The event was covered the next day in the Advertiser-Tribune.

Until Next Time

There is a lot of activity taking place at the shelter and within the community on behalf of the shelter. It really seems as if the TLC has come a long way, but there is still much to do. The TLC has a great group of volunteers and board members who are extremely dedicated to the shelter, but we will always need more folks who are willing to offer their time and talent to be a part of this great effort. For more information contact Tim Galvin at (567)-207-4977 or email TransformLCDirector@outlook.com. Also, many good things are happening now, but we need to look toward to the future as well. We know that we can count on this wonderful and generous community to provide the time, talent, and treasure to not only confront the challenge of homelessness for individuals, but to make a positive statement about our community, both now and in the future.

Oh, What a Little Love Can Do



Volunteer, Kristie Davis and her daughter, brought sidewalk chalk to the shelter for our clients to use! The weather was so nice they got to try it out right away! This is love in community!

