


Follow Your Impact
Healing Homelessness. Together.

A message from our interim CEO Kim Despres



Dear Friends,

It is my sincere pleasure to have this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude for your support of Circle the City.

This FYI Newsletter is our way of sharing the tremendous impact **your** generosity has on the health and healing of so many of our patients experiencing homelessness.

I want to introduce you to Roxane, who found herself without a home after a debilitating medical condition. Her story could happen to many of us. Also, please read Stephen's story. It is my hope his courage will inspire you as it does me. Because of your support, both of these patients are receiving high quality, compassionate healthcare and a second chance at life.

We continue our efforts of getting the COVID vaccine to as many of our dear neighbors facing homelessness as we can. I am proud of the progress we have made, and applaud our healthcare teams on the frontlines.

None of this would be possible without you.

On behalf of all of us at Circle the City and especially our patients, we thank you.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Kim Despres

Roxane's Journey

From homelessness and crippling pain, to getting healthy..a home..and a job with Sheriff Paul Penzone



Dreams do come true. Just ask Circle the City patient Roxane Davis.

Roxane was recently treated to a private tour of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. Her tour guide? None other than the sheriff himself, Paul Penzone.

Roxane got a job with the sheriff's office in the middle of the pandemic while experiencing homelessness.

Roxane's struggles began five years ago. Crippling arthritis forced her out of work and into financial hardship. "I had been saving money towards retirement," recalls Roxane. "I had to use those monies to live on all that time and eventually the monies ran out, and that's how I started living in my car."

Eventually Roxane lost her car, and found herself living in an emergency shelter in downtown Phoenix. In desperate need of help, Roxane turned to Circle the City's Downtown Family Health Center. That's when her life started to change.

After rounds of tests, PA Katie King identified an effective treatment plan. "I'm now on my third arthritis medication and I'm pretty much pain-free," shares Roxane. "Katie believes everyone deserves to be treated to the best of her ability and she does all the work so I could feel as healthy as I do today."

Circle the City also helped connect Roxane with transitional housing. Meanwhile, she worked on her next goal: finding a job. Last year, she got an offer from the sheriff's office as an accounting specialist. "I think she's just inspirational because she has so much inner strength to overcome and persevere," says Sheriff Penzone.

These days Roxane is thriving in her new chapter. She says she will always be grateful to Circle the City for the care, compassion, and support. "I really appreciate all their time and effort," says Roxane. "Their accepting, friendly attitude and always being there for me."

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

3,997

**Number of Covid-19
doses administered by
Circle the City**



Circle the City Respite Care, a Life Saver for Cancer Patient Facing Homelessness



Stephen Tucker has always considered himself a pretty lucky guy.

The 70-year-old valley man says he has never really felt homeless, because he has his pickup truck to sleep in every night. "It's not the most comfortable, but I'm grateful for that," says

Stephen. "I have an ice chest and tools back there, I have food back there, so I'm better off than most."

That was until Stephen got an unexpected call from his doctor. In 2019, Stephen had developed pain he thought was related to prior hernia surgery. It wasn't. The doctor informed him he had stage 4 prostate cancer, and would need to begin treatment immediately. However, doctors warned that the chemotherapy drug was extremely temperature sensitive, and would not withstand storage in his truck. Doctors referred him to Circle the City's Medical Respite Center.

Stephen was admitted to Midtown Medical Respite Center in January where he quickly began his cancer treatment. He has his own bed and receives daily medical care plus three meals a day. His medication, kept in a refrigerated unit, is given by medical staff. In between treatments, Stephen stays positive by playing guitar. "I can personally feel that after one month, that it's working," shares Stephen. "I'm breathing better and walking better."

Stephen is also using his time at respite to work with a Circle the City case manager on locating affordable housing. "I'm lucky," says Stephen. "I'm not going to beat this cancer. I know it will be with me till I die, but I can prolong my life in a very healthy way because I feel very good right now and it's due to the help here at Circle the City."

Meet Our New Director of Nursing



Circle the City is proud to welcome our new Director of Nursing, Sharon Dipasupil. She currently oversees our hardworking, committed team of approximately 35 nurses at all of our service sites.

"Having worked with the street medicine team in my past work, caring for the homeless population has always tugged at my heart. I wanted to continue to work towards helping end homelessness and taking care of those who are experiencing homelessness. Circle the City's mission aligned with my heart's desire."

-Sharon Dipasupil

"I have a chance to take care of myself and restart my life."

Roxane Davis, Patient



Our patients and providers depend on **YOU** to further the impact of integrated care for people experiencing homelessness. Whether your passion is respite care, outpatient clinical care or mobile medical outreach, your support is requested and greatly appreciated.

Please make your IMPACT gift today!

DONATE

www.circlethecity.org

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