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COVID-19 Brings Out the Best

We are sending this special newsletter as an update on how COVID 19 has impacted Serenity Inns.

Serenity Inns is a place of renewal, recovery and reconnection. Despite the dark cloud over the nation, the process of recovery continues for the staff at Serenity Inns. The staff is using creativity, technology, stress scale and trauma-informed-care to continue to support men on their journey of recovery. The staff of Serenity inns is not alone in the work. We have a phenomenal board of directors and awesome community of volunteers who are committed to our mission of helping men to live in recovery.

In spite of COVID 19 shutting down almost everything in our city, our community of volunteers keeps coming. I am overwhelmed by their willingness to make sure the men have everything they need to stay safe and in recovery during this difficult time. Let me be the first to say that the volunteers of Serenity Inns are the greatest people on this side of heaven. Their humanity, loving kindness, and selflessness have developed a well stream of tears in me for all they do. Thank you seems so small, but it comes from a deep abiding faith in a God that connects us all. Please know that everything you do for Serenity Inns is greatly appreciated. From our table to yours, THANK YOU!

Ellen Blathers

Jason is a graduate of Serenity Inns and currently resides at the Alumni House. He wrote the below first-person account of how his life has changed due to Coronavirus. Please keep Jason, the Alumni House occupants and Serenity Inns in your prayers.



I graduated from Serenity Inns in January and am currently living at Alumni House. I am laid off from my job as an electrician. I love my job so I know I will go back to that eventually; I just have to wait it out. I'm not anxious or nervous about the job situation.

Regarding my recovery, I have to make sure that I fill the extra time. Sitting around all day will mess with my mental health so I need to make sure I stay busy by working out and connecting to Serenity Inns.

Jason's article continued on back page

It's been a test for my mental health.

My sponsor has groups on Sunday. It's been very important to stay in touch with my sponsor to make sure I'm not getting complacent. Serenity Inns has really helped ease my anxiety. I feel safe and secure to know I won't have to scramble for rent or make a choice between food or rent.

My church is closed but they have online services. I talk to God every day.

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Andrew is a resident of Serenity Inns. He wrote the below first-person account of how his life has changed with Coronavirus. Please keep Andrew and the other residents of Serenity Inns in your prayers.

For the most part, my day consisted of my job at Walmart, Dinner Fellowship, meetings or paper writing, and sleep. I was blindsided by how everything went down with coronavirus. I saw the news reports about people dying in China but I never thought it would affect us here.

Then day by day I started to see a change, mostly at my job. Food shelves started to run dry. Then one day we were out of bottled water, tissues and paper towels. It came to a point that when the delivery semis came in, we would take certain items (bottled water and toilet paper) right from the truck to the shelves. A pallet would only last 30 minutes on the shelf.

I love sports, and when all of the sport games were shut down, that's when it got real for me. I know with God on our side, everything will be alright. That's the mindset I came in to recovery with, so I use that in everything I work on. Focusing on God helps me at my job and in my recovery so I don't get too anxious.

I miss the fellowship between us and the guests the most! I hope people know how much we appreciate everything they do for us.



Serenity Inns resident Andrew