

The Dignity Center

Mission

The Dignity Center welcomes and supports people on their path to stability.

Vision

All people will be housed, skilled, employed, and surrounded by people who care.

Core Values



The Dignity Center is a place where all people are welcome. It focuses its services on people who are motivated to make the changes necessary to stabilize their lives. The Stability Program requires its Participants to meet at least monthly with an Advocate, to successfully make incremental progress in one or more of eleven (11) key focus areas, namely, housing, financial management, employment, education, transportation, life skills, physical and mental health, legal and criminal issues, substance abuse and supportive positive relationships.

Organizational Overview

The Dignity Center is an 19-year-old outreach ministry of Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, with support from many other interfaith congregations. It operates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from the Ministry House located next door to the church on 425 Groveland Avenue.

Mission: To welcome and support people on their path to stability. We define stability as housing, a means to support it and a supportive community to help maintain it



Relationship: We believe that an ongoing supportive and accountable relationship is vital to a participant's success in achieving a stable life. Consequently, motivated participants contract with the program to fully participate in their own stability solutions with an Advocate. In turn, they are supported by the programs' resources, referrals and relationship.

Collaboration: The Dignity Center provides collaborative opportunities for 18 faith communities and 8 community-based organizations to work efficiently in enabling them to move through homelessness to stable lives with adequate housing.

Volunteer-Operated: The Dignity Center provides volunteer opportunities for persons to engage in meaningful practical social justice ministry. Volunteers range from retirees seeking to positively contribute to our world, to university students seeking specialized internships. They are supported by 3 staff members: Mary Martin, Director, Sarah Doeblen, Development, Todd Lohre, Operations, and Allison Connely, Social Media Specialist.



Participant Quotes

Relationship

"As always I feel very good about how I'm treated and supported here. There are caring people in the world..."

"The people @ DC always are helpful to me more than anywhere else I go. I AM GRATEFUL."

"I have never felt so welcome while receiving supportive services!"

"In all my years, of all my ups and downs, never have I experienced the help I have at the Dignity Center. The people are totally awesome, always upbeat and always have a listening ear."

Hard Work

"I feel very confident about reaching my goals for today."

"I am grateful for the opportunity to work with an advocate at the DC."

DC never ceases to amaze me-through getting job, losing job, getting job etc."

"I felt really positive about moving forward in my transition to become more self-sufficient with the support of others from the DC."

Achievement

"I reviewed my accomplishments while working with the DC and I felt a sense of pride"

"That there is hope and help out here if you are willing to do the footwork to succeed."

"I was homeless, and now I have my very own place, and feeling great about it!"

"Because of you, I changed my mindset, I made all my appointments, and I got my health together and obtained housing. I hope you stay around for years to come. Thank you for everything you have done for others and for me. "



"A participant came to the Dignity Center with what he thought was a silly request, he wanted to pick up a Dignity pen. He said that when he used the pen it reminded him of his goals and helps him stay on track. Not silly at all!"