

Helping People in Need



A senior walked into Catholic Social Services asking for help with a deposit for a new apartment. He appeared to be very fragile. He had been living on the streets for two years and was finally approved to move into subsidized housing. He was able to pay his monthly rent with his Social Security, but was having trouble with the deposits required for utilities. He planned to return to the streets that night to await a move-in date. It was very cold outside, so I called the apartment complex and asked if he could move in that day since we had paid his deposits. The landlord

agreed. He moved in with all utilities connected. The apartment was completely empty, but he said he was just happy to have a roof over his head and a place to keep warm.

Catholic Social Services surprised him the next day with a new bed and used furniture from our Curiosity Shoppe. We filled his cabinets and refrigerator with food. He was provided with dishes and other kitchen essentials. Since it was December, we even decorated his new apartment for Christmas. He was in very poor health. With a safe place to live and a healthy diet, he was able to slowly recover. Almost a year later, he remains in the same apartment and a case manager with our Senior Ministry checks on him regularly.