



CARING NOTES

"Love can change the world"

JANUARY 2026



MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I do not know where this first month of January 2026 has gone... I do know that every night each one of our beds is full. Some nights we must put up cots in our dining room for the overflow of people who need to get out of the cold. Winter is brutal for those who do not have a home.

We depend on your help so we can continue to offer a lifeline for homeless women and men providing a safe shelter and critical resources all year long.

As we move forward in 2026, Thank you all for your support, kindness and prayers as we make Community of Caring "More than a Shelter" – we strive to become an "Empowerment Center", and our focus will be to encourage each resident to work on the many obstacles that have kept them from obtaining employment, housing and financial stability.

Grateful, Thankful, Blessed

Chris

Chris Tombaugh, Executive Director

DONATING ALL THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

January – Kleenex

February – Coffee

March – Dish Soap

April – Strong Paper Plated

May – Laundry Soap

June – Bottled Water

July – Kool-Aid

August – Plastic Silver & Napkins

September – Garbage Bags

October – Food Storage Bags

November – Hats & Gloves

December – \$10 Gift Cards (Walmart & Country Fair)



CREPES for a CAUSE



Community of Caring recently hosted *Crepes for a Cause*, an informational breakfast for local businesses to learn more about the PA State Tax Credit Program, administered by the Department of Community and Economic Development. A 90% PA State Tax Credit is offered to participating businesses to help non-profits like COC meet funding gaps. We are grateful to Erie Bank for sponsoring the breakfast and participating in the Tax Credit Program. On hand for the check presentation: Maureen Dunn-COC, Jorie Novacek- Board, Linda Lyons King-Board, Chris Tombaugh-Executive Director, Katie Jones -Erie Bank President, Kenya Johnson-Board, Charles Root-Erie Bank/COC Board, Christi Martone-DCED.



During these freezing days of January & February, help us keep our residents warm with:

Coffee • Tea • Creamer • Sugar • Hot Chocolate • Coffee Pot



For more information about Community of Caring or to donate go to www.cocerie.org or use our QR code