



Our mission is to show the care and compassion of Christ by equipping unhoused families in Franklin County with the resources they need to permanently exit homelessness.

Thanks to the kindness of our community, from January through March we provided safe housing for 18 people, including 8 adults and 10 children. Five adults kept steady jobs, and two began working toward higher education.

*2nd
Annual*
GOLF TOURNAMENT
AUGUST 22ND



Upcoming Events

3/25 Smokin Oak Dine to Donate
4/22 Sip on Main Dine to Donate
5/28 Serendipity Slush
8/22 Golf Tournament
12/1 River of Hope Gala

**Click the QR to
Register
Sponsor
Volunteer**



Resident Highlight

In November 2024 a beautiful family came to Life's River. The father at the age of 23 had never held a steady job or obtained a High School diploma. Growing up in a home marked by abuse, substance use and instability left him without positive role models. As a father of three boys, he was determined to break that pattern. After preparing a resume and practicing for interviews, he secured a labor job at an RV repair shop. When the company downsized nine months later, they recognized his strong work ethic and referred him to a larger RV sales and service business which came with an increase in pay. He has now worked steadily for over a year, gained insurance for his family and successfully earned a new certifications to grow in his trade.

His fiancé has started college while the children are thriving in school. They are making connections in our community and taking advantage of the structure and support from Life's River program.

Philanthropy and the Role of Life's River

Philanthropy has always been more than an act of giving. At its heart, it is a conscious commitment to improving the lives of others and strengthening the communities we share. True philanthropy reflects generosity of spirit—an understanding that each of us holds the power to create positive change when we share what we have for the benefit of others. At Life's River, we embrace this belief wholeheartedly. Just as a river gains strength from countless contributing streams, our mission grows through the collective gifts of those who believe in what we do. Every donor, partner, and supporter becomes part of that ongoing current of impact.

We recognize that philanthropy flows from three essential sources:

♥ Time

The hours volunteers give are often the most personal and profound contribution. Whether offering mentorship, lending a listening ear, or supporting our programs hands-on, this dedication becomes the heartbeat of our mission.

♥ Talent

Our donors bring a wealth of skills—leadership, creativity, professional expertise, and lived experiences. These talents help shape stronger initiatives, expand our reach, and ensure Life's River continues to grow with clarity and purpose.

♥ Treasure

Financial contributions provide the stability and resources needed to sustain and expand our services. Every gift, large or small, becomes an investment in individuals, families, and communities seeking support, guidance, and hope.

When these three elements come together, they create something far greater than the sum of their parts—a flowing source of possibility and transformation. As stakeholders, you play a vital role in shaping that future. Your support ensures that Life's River remains a steady, compassionate presence for those navigating life's most challenging moments.

Thank you for being part of this mission. Your continued partnership allows us to keep the river moving forward—strong, steady, and full of promise.



**LOOKING TO DONATE?
CHECK OUT OUR
AMAZON WISH LIST AND
SUPPORT LIFE'S RIVER
DIRECTLY.**

amazon

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gi/owner-view/1KC00N5CQV0HU>

Why I volunteer at Life's River

I am grateful for the opportunity to provide nutrition education through the University of Missouri EFNEP program at Life's River. Through these classes, I teach practical skills in healthy eating, cooking, and stretching food dollars, while also assisting participants with SNAP application submissions. The individuals I work with are consistently engaged, motivated, and eager to learn strategies that can improve their daily lives. Life's River staff are incredibly supportive, helping create a welcoming and encouraging environment for learning. While children participate on a limited basis, they are often present and naturally absorb the information being shared, reinforcing the value of these lessons for the entire family unit. It is truly rewarding to be part of a program that empowers individuals with knowledge and resources to build healthier, more sustainable habits.

In addition to nutrition education classes, the University of Missouri Extension EFNEP has expanded its support by helping establish a sustainable garden at Life's River. The program has provided four raised garden beds, soil, a composter, and essential gardening tools, giving participants the opportunity to grow their own fresh vegetables. To further support this effort, I offer hands-on gardening classes, along with plants and seeds, to help participants build confidence and success in growing their own food. This initiative not only increases access to fresh, nutritious produce but also empowers individuals with valuable skills that promote long-term food security and self-sufficiency.

-Cheri Kramme
University of Missouri Extension



NAP Credits Neighborhood Assistance Program tax credits affording our donors a 70% tax credit when financially donating to support Life's River. Business eligible entities including farm operations, financial institutions, individual partners in a partnership or shareholder in S-Corp, individuals reporting income from rental property or royalties, insurance companies, LLC or partnerships, individual partnerships, sole proprietors, small business (S-Corp) and charitable organizations may qualify when donating to Life's River

Ways to financially support Life's River

It costs approximately \$1000 each day to offer staffing, resources, programming, transportation, beds, utilities, and support to our residents. Every donation gift goes a long way in allowing people to find value in themselves and claim a transformed life.

How would you like to provide support?

\$7000 for a full week

\$5000 for a work week

\$2000 for a weekend

\$1000 for a day