

## Michiko Yoon

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**From:** Carpenter's Shelter <development@carpentersshelter.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 10:30 AM  
**To:** Michiko Yoon  
**Subject:** E-News! January 2024

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# Carpenter's Shelter

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As we turn to a fresh calendar year, we have a new challenge before us. We're now operating the Alexandria Community Shelter (ACS) as part of our deepened partnership with the City of Alexandria and its Department of Community & Human Services. ACS is a 64-bed shelter located on Mill Road in the Carlyle neighborhood. It is open year-round and serves six families, about two dozen single

### Upcoming Event:

#### Virtual Volunteer Training

Tues, Jan. 16th, 6:00 pm

Click this [link](#) to register!

#### Say Hello to our New Team Members!



men and a dozen single women. We're honored to do the work and grateful for the opportunity for Team Carpenter's to serve more people.

The Alexandria Community Shelter isn't new, having been established just a few years after Carpenter's Shelter started. We are new to it, however. With time, we look forward to infusing some of the special touches for which we are known--hospitality, good food and an honest opportunity to start afresh in creating a better tomorrow.

With this growth comes additional opportunities for community engagement. To learn how you can get more involved, please reach out to our Volunteer Coordinator, Demi Henry at [DHenry@CarpentersShelter.org](mailto:DHenry@CarpentersShelter.org). She's happy to talk with you about immediate and long-term opportunities for volunteers.



Happy New Year,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S.M.S.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shannon Steene,

Executive Director

## **Ryan Jones**

### **Monitor Manager**

Ryan's work experience in the Human Services field has presented him with the opportunity to work with the homeless population for the past 10 years. In doing so, he has seen the hardships and successes of the population we serve.

The opportunity to return to the shelter where Ryan first started as a monitor working at Winter Shelter brings lots of excitement and joy. Ryan's new role as the Monitor Manager gives him the opportunity to grow with Carpenter's Shelter while continuing to help and support the people we serve.



St. Nicholas, Mrs. Claus and an Elf were spotted at Carpenter's Shelter on Christmas morning! Thank you to Shannon Steene's crew that came in that morning to make a special holiday hot breakfast for the residents.

**Thank You for  
Your Donations!**



- Christmas Gifts
- Winter Coats
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Socks
- Underwear

Thank you to everyone who donated Christmas gifts, new coats, hats, scarves, gloves, underwear, socks and gift cards for our residents and community members! \*Bella is wearing and showing off a new coat thanks to a generous donor like you!

\*Resident's name has been changed due to privacy reasons



**Ellen Shepard**

**Housing Stabilization  
Case Manager**

Ellen Shepard has worked at ACS for the last 23 years and previously worked at Whitman Walker Clinic in DC. According to her family, Ellen has been a social worker since the age of eight! Ellen thinks when you work in your purpose, going to work becomes easy. Ellen completed studies so that she could work with individuals with substance disorders and mental health challenges.

Ellen is excited to join the Carpenter's Shelter team because her purpose definitely aligns with our SEED Values.



As we embark on a new year, we recognize that the support our community of generous donors provides is more than just a donation; it's a commitment to helping those in need within our community, and that is a commitment we deeply appreciate. Your collective efforts throughout 2023 have illuminated the path of hope for several families and individuals experiencing homelessness in the City of Alexandria.

We specifically would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our major donors in December--the United States Senate Federal Credit Union, the Brownell Family Foundation, and the Harvey S. Lowe, Jr and Susan Hitchcock-Lowe Foundation, for their substantial contributions. Your incredible support has had a profound impact on our ability to provide shelter, assistance, and empowerment to those in need.

There's still time...

As the **Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)** comes to a close, we'd like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all of those who chose to support Carpenter's Shelter through workplace giving [CFC #87293]. The CFC offers federal employees and retirees an efficient and impactful way to give back, making a significant difference in our mission to provide shelter and support to those experiencing homelessness.



**Repelus Rose**

**Monitor**

Repelus calls herself a walking testimony because she was once a resident at Carpenter's Shelter years ago with her two oldest children. Repelus enjoys telling her story to clients in the shelter because it gives them hope and allows them to push hard to accomplishing their goals. Repelus Rose has worked in the human services field for 23 years. Repelus attended ACT College, Everest College and MedCerts University and she has an Associates Degree as a Medical Administrative Specialist, Certification Medical Insurance Billing and Coding, and Certified Medical Biller.





### **Volunteer at Alexandria Community Shelter**

We are in need of volunteers (meal providers) to provide meals and/or to serve meals at Alexandria Community Shelter. If you are interested in volunteering at the ACS location, please [log in to Volgistics](#).

#### **Meal Delivery vs. Meal Service**

-Meal delivery: a cooked meal, prepared meal or catered meal for residents that you can prepare beforehand and drop off in person or have delivered to the shelter

-Meal service: prepping, reheating the meal that was dropped off and serving it for our residents during lunch or dinner

You can choose either to provide the meal with meal delivery or to serve the meal for meal service. While not expected, you can choose to be the meal provider AND meal service volunteer for lunch or dinner. If you are interested in doing both meal delivery and meal service, please sign up for both time slots.

#### **Youth Groups**

There is a great opportunity for youth groups (ages 13 to 17) to serve as volunteers at ACS with a chaperone with a maximum of eight youths in the kitchen. We are able to have youth groups at ACS because the building layout will not affect the privacy

### **Antonio Ingram**

#### **Monitor**

Antonio Ingram was an unhappy server at a country club until he found Carpenter's Shelter. The emergency shelter has become like a second home. It's really easy for Antonio to come to work at Carpenter's Shelter because it feels familiar to where he grew up. Antonio was previously a soldier of the U.S. Army and worked as a communications specialist. He has served in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Fill the Fridge is coming in February!

We need help to fill the refrigerators and freezers of both the Hoffman Center (930 N. Henry St., Alexandria, VA, 22314) and Alexandria Community Shelter (2355-B Mill Road, Alexandria, VA, 22314.)

Our greatest needs are for instant coffee,

of our younger residents that may be going to the same school as volunteers.

There will also be opportunities for volunteers to help bring a welcoming touch to the rooms, children's play area, and other parts of ACS through painting and organizing. Contact Demi Henry, Volunteer Coordinator, [DHenry@CarpentersShelter.org](mailto:DHenry@CarpentersShelter.org) for more information.

powder coffee creamer, tea, juice, hot cocoa packets, cereal, frozen breakfast items like french toast, frozen meals like lasagna, condiments and cheese sticks. More details to follow.

930 N. Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 | Tel: (703) 548-7500  
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