



BUILDING A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

Celebrating 50 Years of the Acres

A bridge along the way to Unity Acres' cemetery and forested land. Bridges are metaphors for so many things in life. They move us from past to future; they connect communities; they carry us over.

November 2018

Dear Friends of Unity Acres,

Our 50th anniversary is a celebration and a blessing. And this celebration is received in grace and humility. Because of your gracious giving our countryside haven continues to create community for men who have become homeless. Here, men prepare meals; do laundry, yard work, gardening, maintenance, and night watch; shovel snow; answer phones; raise pigs; prepare bulk mailings; handle driving duties; and walk the grounds' mascot, a dog named Jennifer.

As we celebrate our 50th anniversary, we thank each of you for your caring support. Your help allows Unity Acres to carry on the good work our founder, Father Ray McVey and which continued through the efforts of the late Father Bob Jones and our able staff. Your generosity helps thousands of men find care, comfort, sustenance, and camaraderie in a troubled world.

THOSE WE SERVE OFTEN STATE IT BEST:

- *Asked about his impressions of Unity Acres after his approximately 15 years there, a resident named Dave states "it keeps you off the streets and out of trouble. ... kind of a protection - keeps you away from a lot of malarkey going on out in the streets and stuff. ... It's a safety haven. ... If I never came here I wouldn't be alive now. I would have been dead, the drinking would have killed me."*
- *Another resident, Roger, adds, "Without a place like this, without this place being here, a lot of these guys, who knows where they would be? A lot of them would probably ... either would be living under some bridge in Syracuse or in prison somewhere or some hospital, or even some cemetery."*

It takes significant resources to sustain our efforts at Unity Acres. Needed upkeep, food costs, general maintenance, and tending to the needs of those who reside here: your financial contributions support all these efforts. We are and remain humbled by your generous spirit.

This first 50 years is a bridge for our next 50 years. We will continue the good work of those who established and sustained the vision of this miraculous place remembering their devotion to the care of each resident. Their hard work is reflected in your open hearts, and compassionate contributions.

WITH YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT, WE WILL REMAIN A PLACE FOR MEN TO CALL HOME.

Yours In Christ,

Unity Acres Staff

Stephen Dickhout, Director
Peg McCarthy
Loretta Dickhout
Okhwari "Bear" Foote
Debra Carnes

Unity Acres Board

Margaret Barber
Debra Carnes
Kathy Crandall
Elaine Crough
Peg McCarthy
Dave Pasinski
Meg Carnes
Deacon Phil Kehoe



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