

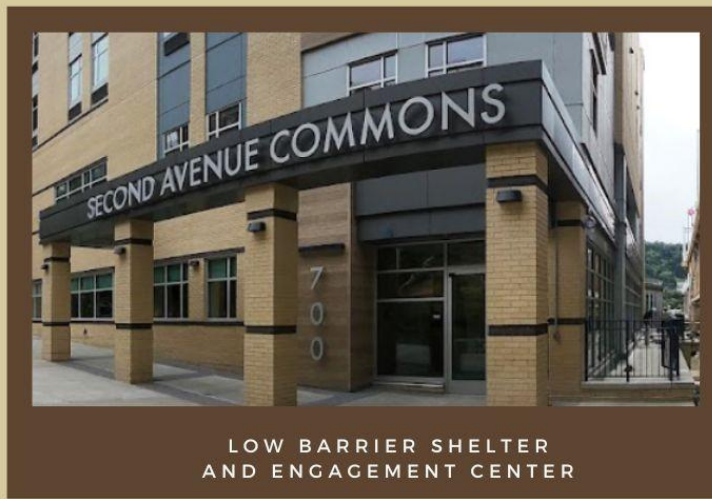
NOVEMBER  
2023



## DONOR CONNECTION

### **Second Avenue Commons Celebrates One-Year Anniversary!**

November 23 marks the one-year anniversary of the low barrier shelter at Second Avenue Commons. Thanks to the hard work of our staff, every guest was able to receive warm meals, shelter, showers, and expanded care through our case management services. "For so many people facing incredible hardships, we've provided basic needs like shelter and food, while also connecting them to resources that address health and wellness, employment, and housing," said **Mike Turk**, vice president for Community & Wellness Services. Here's a snapshot of the past year:



## Second Avenue Commons One Year Scorecard

### MEETING BASIC NEEDS



489 total persons served in year-round shelter,  
625 people served in winter overflow shelter



62,760 meals served at the shelter



850 people used the Engagement Center for meals, showers, laundry, and mail pick-up



1,021 meals provided to pets staying with their owners at the shelter

### LINKAGE TO CARE



314 connected to primary care services at UPMC Second Avenue Commons Health Center



153 connected to behavioral health services.



59 people moved into permanent housing



183 individuals connected to treatment for substance use disorder

### Winter Overflow Shelter is Now Open

On November 15, Pittsburgh Mercy re-opened the Winter Shelter at Second Avenue Commons which offers a warm place to sleep, dinner, and a grab-and-go breakfast for up to 40 unhoused adults. The seasonal, short-time shelter will be open 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. seven days a week (including holidays) through March 15, 2024, with admission on a first-come, first-served basis.

Like the year-round shelter at Second Avenue Commons, the Winter Shelter is low barrier, meaning that guests can stay with their partners and pets (one dog or cat per person). Reducing barriers allows more vulnerable individuals to take advantage of a safer, healthier option during the cold winter months.

### *Referrals and donations are welcome*

If you know or see someone in need, refer them to Second Avenue Commons weekdays from 9 am - 5 pm. At the shelter's Engagement Center, guests may shower, do laundry, pick up mail, get meals, use WiFi, and access linkages to benefits, housing, food, employment support, primary care, mental health and substance use treatment, and legal services. If the Winter Shelter facility is at

capacity for overnight stays, they will be referred to other local shelters.

Want to do more? There are two main ways to support the shelters.

- **In-kind donations:** If your business, civic group, or faith community would like to make in-kind donations, we gladly accept sleeping bags, blankets, hats, gloves, scarves, boots, and socks, delivered directly to 700 Second Avenue, Pittsburgh, weekdays from 9 am - 5 pm. *All items must be new.* Donations intended for holiday distribution should be made in advance by emailing [Development@pittsburghmercy.org](mailto:Development@pittsburghmercy.org).
- **Cash donations:** Monetary gifts help us expand enrichment programming with additional activities and services such as art, music, and haircuts. You can learn more and make a gift [here](#).



**GIVING  
TUESDAY**

Together more healing.

### Spread healing & joy on Giving Tuesday

Serving our community's most vulnerable individuals is key to our mission. On **Giving Tuesday, Nov. 28**, you can help us spread more healing and joy to those struggling with mental illness, chronic disease, homelessness, or substance use disorders. Visit our [website](#) to make your gift.

Every dollar enables us to provide those most in need with the life-saving care that will help them build healthier, more resilient lives.

*Thank you for your support!*



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