

# SERVICE IN ACTION

March 2026



## Inspirational Service: Tim Desmond

Porta Caeli House volunteer Tim Desmond passed away January 19, 2026. We wanted to share the tribute that PCH Director Sharisa McDaniel wrote of Tim's passing:

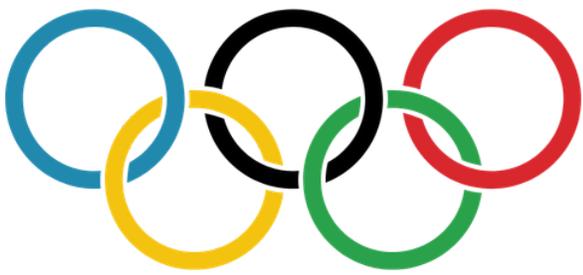
How great is the impact of a volunteer? We might measure it by 1,903 hours logged in two years. Within those hours, we might count meals served, laundry loads folded, or front doors opened. We might consider the number of guests cared for in that time frame (over 650), as well as their families. But mostly, we'll remember how we felt. The encouragement, the laughter, the songs, the prayer, the moments that we shared together.

Tim Desmond's dedication and daily devotion to ministering to the Porta Caeli House family - our

guests, their families and friends, the volunteer team, employees, and hospice partners - left an indelible mark on all our lives. This mark may be in the shape of angel wings, as we all might describe his presence as that of an angel.

The impact of Tim's service will continue to grow in every prayer, embrace, and act of love that we share with one another and those whom we welcome into our home. He may not be walking through our hallways, visiting in our guest rooms, or kneeling in the chapel anymore, but we can be confident that he will continue to show up for us in the crowd of saints that surround Porta Caeli House.

We are forever grateful.



# CCEOK Winter Volunteer Olympics

Congratulations to ALL CCEOK volunteers who show their medal-winning service every day to our neighbors in need! You are inspirations to us all.



Rene & many others joined in the opening ceremonies for the CCEOK Winter Olympics.



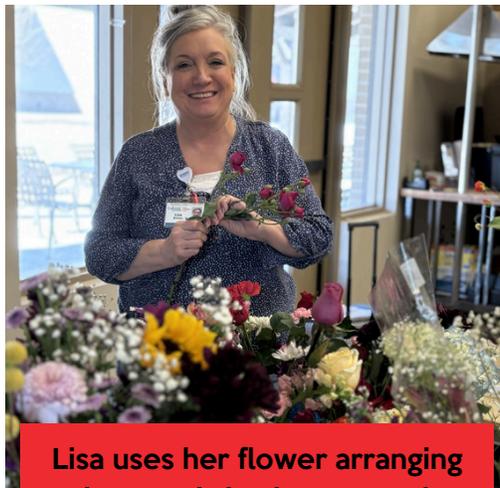
Anne Edwards training for the timed defrost event. Kitchen volunteers show hospitality to our clients



Carol & Karen are taking a much-deserved break after volunteering in the warehouse. Also, competing in the water bottle lid twist off event. Thank you for your hard work!



Michael is a champion walk-in refrigerator meal stacker. He's ensuring fresh items are available for our shoppers



Lisa uses her flower arranging talents to bring beauty to the Market waiting room and other parts of campus



Rosalba wins gold in the freezer sections' box of beef lifting event - she's making sure shoppers have plenty of choices

# HANDS OF CHRIST

**Kelly Cassidy, Director, Volunteer Engagement**

God brings the volunteers. Father John O'Neill told me this when I started in this position, and God really does! Our volunteer office and our programs see it all the time.

And we never know why or what brings a volunteer to CCEOK. Sometimes it's because they want to be part of "a worthwhile cause" or because they want to spend time in their day or evening giving back. Sometimes, it's very personal.

Kassie was my daughter's best friend for years, and when I was a youth coordinator in my church, she was a member of the youth group during her high school years, so I knew her for many years. So, the story I am sharing is near and dear to my heart.

Kassie was taught at young age to volunteer, through her youth group and through her family. She carried this with her, and as an adult, served the poor/homeless in her community. She would often go hungry giving away either food or money, leaving nothing for herself.

Her mother, Kimberly, works at Bank of Oklahoma (BOK). She came here to volunteer at the Market through CC's adopt a day group volunteer opportunity. BOK volunteers multiple times a month, year-round and has since 2023. It's often different employees from different departments on their scheduled/special day. BOK's corporate commitment to community service is pretty special.

On December 17th 2024, Kassie passed away at the very young age of 34. On the one-year anniversary of her passing, her family chose to honor her by coming here to CC to volunteer together, specifically as a tribute to Kassie's life and her desire to serve the poor.

When you see someone volunteering, you never know their 'why'. I usually ask volunteers what brings them to CC. Sometimes the answers surprise me. But whatever the response it, it reminds me that God really is bringing people here.



A big CCEOK

**>Welcome**

to our newest volunteers!

Clark Bigler - Dental  
Grant Hager - Dental  
Isaias Loya - Dental  
Jackson Merkel - Dental  
Abigail Pope - Dental  
Elijah Scaggs - Dental  
Erin Washington - Dental  
Mary Beth Brown - Education  
Kimberley Koziel - Education  
Azrielle Looney - Education  
Hector Pena - Education  
Hugh Rineer - Education  
Mary Rineer - Education  
Robert Bray - Garden  
Mary Dunagan - Garden  
Anne-Laure Gatin - Immigration  
Jim Evans - Maintenance  
Hannah Keylada - Maternity Clinic  
Vinh Do - Muskogee  
Austin Harms - Muskogee  
Jessica Zbavitel - Muskogee  
Katie Bandy - PCH  
Carolyn Cobb - PCH  
Phil Ramsey - PCH  
Joan Favorite - Sallisaw  
Colton Pollard - Sallisaw

## Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Closures



**April 3 & 6:**  
All locations closed  
Good Friday and Easter  
Monday, except PCH  
and Transitional Living

**March 16-19:**  
No adult education  
classes



Georgina (Workforce Development), Carly (Adult Education) and Brent (The Market) recently attended a TCC volunteer recruitment event for incoming TCC students. They were able to share all of the great ways TCC students can get involved at Catholic Charities.

## Sign up for Loving in Lent:

### Help us Build Baskets to Bless our Neighbors



Loving in Lent helps our neighbors in need and has a program-focused component too!

Baskets will help students in our Adult Education program, moms in our Maternity Clinic, families in our Transitional Living program or the families staying with their loved ones at Porta Caeli House.



You can sign up to donate items on our program-focused basket wish list using this link.



## Upcoming Dates

**March 16-20:** drop your items off in the giant Easter basket in the Tulsa CCEOK front lobby.

**March 24-26:** Fill Easter baskets and Easter eggs! Sign up using this QR code for family-friendly evening volunteer opportunities.



Volunteer with us! [cceok.org/volunteer](http://cceok.org/volunteer)

Join our Facebook Group!

For story ideas, feedback, etc.,  
email: [volcommunications@cceok.org](mailto:volcommunications@cceok.org)

MAKE A  
DONATION!

