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# February 2017 SHAL News

## New Outreach Location

SHAL Outreach Director **Elicia Pintabona** arranged to expand our case management offerings with a part-time space at a new counseling agency, Key Bridge, which recently opened a beautiful office in the Professional Building. SHAL Case Managers will be seeing homeless clients at that office two days per week, and will be working with some Key Bridge clients who need our services.

## Among the SHAL successes this month... SHAL February Success Stories

**SHAL Shelter** donation drive got work boots and clothes donated for numerous clients to help them get landscaping jobs.

**SHAL Outreach** helped several clients obtain their Florida IDs for so they could relocate to different other states and cities, including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Tampa and Panama City.

(continued)

### IN THE COMMUNITY

#### HOMELESS IN KEY WEST

## *Making a fresh start*



Kenny Duvall began landscaping job at Naval base on Boca Chica.

BY **SUSAN MITCHELL**  
KONK LIFE COLUMNIST

Kenny Duvall, 51, and Erik (asked not to use last name or photograph) are working for the U.S. Navy doing landscaping on Boca Chica. They live in the emergency shelter, KOTS, on Stock Island run by Southernmost Homeless Assistance League/SHAL.

Kenny Duvall came to Key West from Victoria, Texas, after a divorce. He had \$5,000 from the divorce settlement in two bank envelopes. While on the way to Key West by bus, the money was stolen from the side pocket of his suitcase. Duvall came to Key West with nothing. He learned of the shelter from a Sheriff's deputy. Duvall said he wants to stay in Key West, although the cost of living is high.

"I'm blessed to have a place to rest my head and a meal to put in my tummy," he added.

Duvall plans to find a housemate and decent housing. He also plans to save money and attend to his daughter's college graduation in June.

Erik, 40, came to Key West from New York City. He worked in the World Trade Center on 9/11 as a paralegal for a law firm after graduating from college in English literature and history. He survived the tragedy of 9/11 but suffered the loss of his mom a few months later. Erik, who lived with his artist mom, took care of her as she died of cancer. She was his only family member and raised him as a single mom. Erik inherited the home his mother owned and said he made poor decisions.

The law firm relocated. Erik said he's grateful to be working for the Navy landscaping and trying to earn money to go back to New York City.

Mike Tolbert, shelter director, said he helps his residents obtain more jobs at the Navy base. The shelter needs long sleeved shirts and boots. Tolbert works with employers in Key West to help residents work in grocery stores, restaurants, construction, fishing and retail stores. Donated work clothing can be dropped off at the shelter or Tolbert can pick up. Anyone who needs a job, contact Tolbert, (305) 434-6388.

Duvall said shelter residents struggle with mental health and addiction problems; however, like he and Erik, go through a rough time.

"The shelter is laying a foundation and working to help me, which is a Godsend," Duvall concluded. ■



The Shelter got another washing machine donated. (We go thru a lot of washers and dryers!)

Outreach helped several eligible clients get into other programs Samuel's House and Patterson House.

## SHAL SHELTER OPERATIONS

### Shelter Usage

There were about **98** clients sleeping in the Shelter on an average night in February, and there were about **225** different individuals staying at the Shelter during the month. Along with SHAL Outreach, SHAL served an unduplicated total of **268** homeless persons during the short month of February.

There were **no** EMT calls made for Shelter clients in February. Clients with non-urgent medical needs are transported via automobile, saving the City the cost of an ambulance run.

## SHAL OUTREACH

### Service Summary Report • February 2016

**SHAL Outreach Director Elicia Pintabona's** staff provided **464** services to **118** different clients in December. Elicia and Case Managers **Amy Yancich** and **Channing Lamar** worked hard to provide services to **53** Sheltered and **65** unsheltered homeless persons in Key West & Marathon.

**General Services: 254**  
**Health Care Services Referred: 20**  
**ID Services: 162**  
**Income Services: 18**  
**Coordinated Assessments: 16.**