February 12, 1985
First night of operations. Five homeless people seek shelter in the basement of St. Clement Church

Summer 1983
Planning for LPCS begins.

October 1985
Second season begins, operating October—April. Bob Burson is elected first president of Board of Directors. Meal Program started by volunteer Jane Broughton

August 1986
Jim Northcutt, one of the first guests of LPCS survives after being set on fire while sleeping on a bench at Clark and Deming. Jim later dies of leukemia in April 1988.

Homage to a homeless man

Jim, who lived for years in a small park at Clark and Deming and survived being set on fire in 1985, died earlier this week of leukemia. Jim, 50, was a familiar figure to Lincoln Park residents. "He's a modern parable," said the Rev. Robert Osterchar of St. Clement's. His story is in All That Zazz on Page 55.

Photo for the Sun-Times: David Barnes

1990
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless estimates that 40,000 people experience homelessness in Chicago each year

October 1996
First Executive Director, Barbra Beckman, hired

Fiscal Year 1997
Annual Budget $62,703.
6,375 nights of shelter provided

November 1998
First Community Social Worker, Evan Farrar, hired to provide more in-depth case management with guests, including outreach to other homeless people in the area.

May 1, 1999
Year-round operations begin. LPCS remains open during the summer months for the first time, reducing capacity from 40 to 20 guests.

Spring 2002
Mayor Daley endorses a Strategic Plan to end homelessness in Chicago in 10 years.

Fiscal Year 2004
LPCS staff = 7
Annual budget $244,164.
12,000 nights of shelter will be provided. 25,500 meals will be served.

SHELTERING HOPE BUILDING COMMUNITY
Lincoln Park Community Shelter

2004
LPCS launches a $1.4 million capital campaign to renovate its facilities, called "Sheltering Hope, Building Community."

2005
LPCS adopts the "One on One" Program, providing financial management classes and assistance with security deposits.

April 2006
After several months of negotiations with the surrounding community, LPCS is awarded a special use zoning permit for its expanded operations.

August 2006
Renovations begin.

YES to LPCS Special Use

Fiscal Year 2010
LPCS staff = 15
Annual budget $425,175.
33,00 meals will be served.
50% of guests will find permanent housing.

1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009

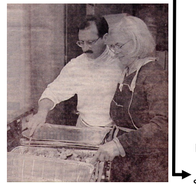
January 18, 1984
Articles of Incorporation

1985
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless estimates that 25,000 people experience homelessness in Chicago each year

Fiscal Year 1985
LPCS staff = 1
Annual Budge $22,450 provided by church support and individual donations.

Fiscal Year 1988
LPCS staff = 2
4,417 nights of shelter provided. 4,581 meals served

1988
Summer Meal Program begins. Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church provides office space for LPCS staff.



Winter 1991
Shower and Laundry Program implemented at St. Pauls Church

Fiscal Year 1991
6,362 nights of shelter provided.
6,568 meals served

October 1997
On Track Program is implemented, addressing root causes of homelessness, tracking individual progress, creating accountability for guests, and resulting in measurable outcomes for the first time.

1999
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless estimates that 80,000 people experience homelessness in Chicago each year.

March 2000
LPCS hires Fred Kowalski, the first graduate to become a staff member.

2003
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless estimates that 166,000 people experience homelessness in Chicago each year.

May 2004
LPCS remains at capacity of 40 throughout the summer for the first time, providing an estimated 3,000 additional nights of shelter

May 4, 2004
LPCS is presented with the "Community Contributor of Lincoln Park" Award by the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce.

2007
The On Track Program consistently meets its goals as guests achieve employment, healthier lives, and housing at high rates.

June 2007
LPCS opens its renovated facility, providing 24/7 access to guests, improved living space, and enhanced programming.

2007
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless estimates that 73,656 people experience homelessness in Chicago each year.