Health and homelessness are inextricably linked. Health problems can cause a person’s homelessness, as well as being exacerbated by the experience. The daily life of a homeless person is typically difficult, riddled with issues ranging from personal safety and social stigma to food insecurity. Indeed, the effects of homelessness can amplify symptoms of poor mental health.

The most common mental health disorders among the homeless population include Anxiety, Depression, Schizophrenia, and Bipolar Disorder. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, people living in shelters are twice as likely to have a mental disorder as compared to the general population. Often, they face multiple barriers to accessing health care and treatment. This includes lack of transportation, emotional support, and limited education. Many individuals living with debilitating psychological conditions cannot sustain regular employment, especially if they aren’t receiving treatment. Without the steady income from a job, homelessness is almost inevitable.

Even through the pandemic, by God’s grace, we are continuing to welcome homeless individuals into our facilities. Most of our clients have one or more forms of mental illness. Our Case Managers work with the individuals to obtain Mental Health Counseling and Treatment. We provide transportation to and from all appointments and then to work once employment is obtained.

At Panama City Rescue Mission and the Bethel Village Shelter for Women and Children, Chapel Services are held every day of the week. Based on the number of residents, people are hearing the good news and transformational power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ over 1000 times per month, fulfilling our purpose help people move from desperate situations of human suffering to human flourishing.

Thank you again for your continued support in keeping our doors open to help those in need. You can donate online by visiting our website at www.pcrmission.org and clicking on the donate button.

"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." - 1 Peter 5:8

Respectfully,

Stephen Fett
President & CEO