

## Daniel Smith

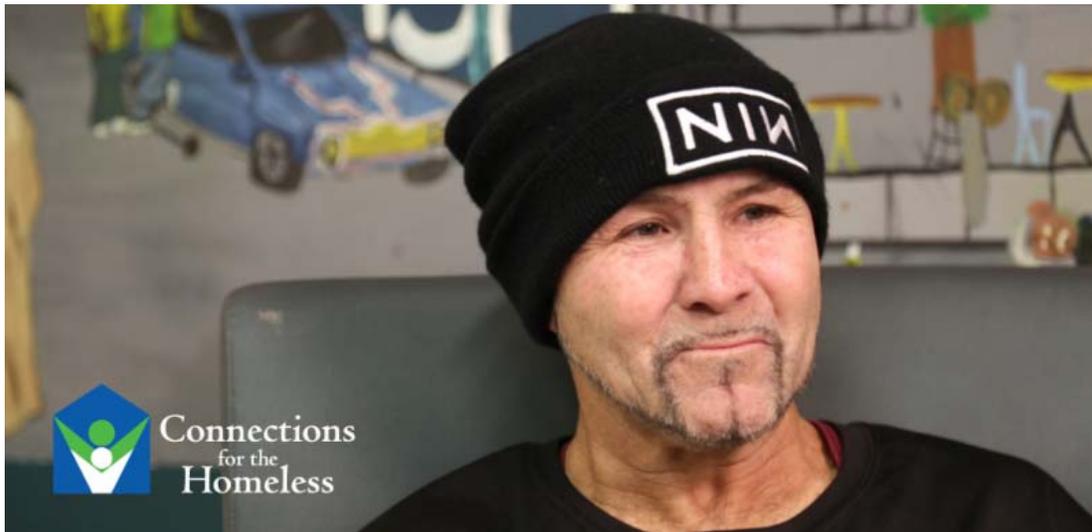
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**From:** Melanie Mallin <melanie.mallin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 18, 2017 6:28 PM  
**To:** Daniel Smith  
**Subject:** Also this....

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# *NOVEMBER HEADLINES*

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## Did You Know Connections Provides Short Term Financial Grants?

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: PREVENTION**



Susan came to Connections in a crisis. For many years, she was gainfully employed as a mail carrier and able to provide for her and her children. Then she had to take time off work for surgery and recovery. Prior to her leave, she was promised a light-duty position upon her return. However, when she was ready to come back to work she was informed that she was being let-go.

Without an income, she quickly fell behind on rent. She heard about short-term rental assistance and was referred to Connections. She was quickly connected to our Prevention Program and we were able to provide critical financial assistance to help her and her children avoid eviction.

Susan has since re-secured full-time employment, is keeping her family in their home, and is back on her feet.

## On average it costs an average of \$2,000 to keep a family from becoming homeless.

\$2,000 seems like such an inexpensive way to keep a whole family connected to their community - kids attending their same school, the parent able to stay employed and productive. And what is the cost to that same family if they start bouncing from friends house, to car, to hotel without a regular mailing address or routine, depending on other people for basic necessities? Prevention is the quiet, hidden, wildly effective way that we keep the homeless numbers at bay and create the kind of community where all members are given an opportunity to thrive.



### GIFT OF GIVING

Adopt one of our program participants to fulfill wish lists of personal and household items during the Giving Season!

A simply wrapped gift and a note of encouragement can have such a huge impact, reminding our clients that they truly are in a new phase of their lives.

[CLICK TO SIGN UP TODAY!](#)

## Supportive Housing Families Gather to Celebrate & Learn **FAMILY NIGHT: HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR**



Once a month, families in Connections' Supportive Housing program gather for a night of fellowship. Fittingly in October, the evening was an early Halloween celebration with adults and children alike donning their costumes.

After dinner, the younger children headed off to make slime with members of the First Congregational Church of Wilmette's Youth Group. The teens gathered to watch a Halloween movie. And the parents found respite together as they met with staff members from First Bank & Trust to learn more about effective budgeting and saving for the future.

The night ended with a round of trick-or-treating throughout the Connections' office.



**TUESDAY, NOV. 28**  
**5:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Join us on #GivingTuesday at these Potbelly locations and  
25% of your purchase will be donated to Connections!

**EVANSTON - 630 DAVIS ST, EVANSTON**

**OLD ORCHARD - 4999 OLD ORCHARD CENTER, SKOKIE**

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### Supporters Turn Out For a Night of Fun & Food

#### **FOUND CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS IN EVANSTON**

On Monday, November 6, Found Kitchen & Social House celebrated its 5th Anniversary. Connections was honored to be the charity beneficiary of the celebration. Over 100 guests attended, many dressed for the 1920's theme of the party. More than \$6,000 was raised to support Connections' work in the community.

Amy Morton, the proprietor of Found, has supported Connections in a number of ways - including employing several of our program participants at the restaurant - over the years. We are grateful for her ongoing support.



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### Shop at Whole Foods and Support Connections

#### **HELP US END HOMELESSNESS... ONE DIME AT A TIME!**



Connections is honored to once again be selected as the official partner for Whole Foods Market's One Dime at a Time program. Beginning immediately, bring in your own reusable bag when you shop and donate your \$.10 credit to Connections. Please spread the word!

*Promotion ends 12/31/17. Valid at the Evanston Whole Foods Market locations only ([1640 Chicago Ave](#) & [2748 Green Bay Rd](#)).*