

New Accessible Entrance to 40 West Assistance & Referral Center!

We are so excited to announce that construction for the new accessible entrance to 40 West will begin in June, 2023! This has long been a dream for 40 West – to have an entrance for our clients that does not necessitate using the many steps down the exterior stairway to our location in all kinds of weather to reach our location in the undercroft of the Church. And it will enable us to receive our food deliveries through the new street level door rather than our present method of opening a small side window and passing the food down using a wooden board over rollers!



This new entrance, and some related interior renovations, are part of Project Jigsaw that St. Bartholomew's had envisioned, which was delayed due to the COVID pandemic. In 2017 and 2018, With the support of Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam (now retired) and a few members of St. Bartholomew's and 40 West, Chairman Glorius Sullivan requested and received state grants specifically for 40 West to help finance this 40 West part of Project Jigsaw. St. Bartholomew's matched the state grants, the Knott Foundation provided a grant and individuals also provided donations to support the renovations for 40 West.

During the summer months, a new street-level entrance will be constructed on the east side of the church building. The entrance will have a large canopy to protect our neighbors from the weather and provide easy access for neighbors with disabilities. Inside, rooms will be reconfigured to provide an additional office, more storage space and a new lobby with more seating and clothing available from our clothing closet. The exterior stairs currently in use will become an emergency exit. The new entrance and increased office and storage space are very much needed to meet the increased need for food and services.

Below is the architect's rendering of the outside view of the new entrance.



We are grateful for all those who have helped this dream become a reality and help us in our mission to provide, with compassion, the basic necessities of life to neighbors in need.

Glorius M. Sullivan,
Chairman,
40 West Assistance and Referral Center, Inc.