

November 13, 2023 – Healthcare for the Homeless



Dr. Eileen Reilly, psychiatrist, co-founder of the Women’s Lunch Place in Boston, and member of Boston Health Care for the Homeless Street Team (recently made know through Dr. Jim O’Connell’s book, “Rough Sleepers,” will join us on November 13.

For more than 25 years, her ‘office’ of ministry to Boston’s homeless population has been the streets and spaces of the city: a park bench, a nook in a shelter, a corner of South Station, or a warm coffee shop where food and drink temporarily bring comfort. Equipped with medical and psychiatric skills, gentleness, and a listening heart, Eileen engages with the men and women afflicted with physical and psychiatric ills, guiding them toward help and easing their pain. Come hear Dr. Reilly, as she speaks of the complex issues that trouble the lives of many of our unsheltered Boston neighbors.

Eileen Reilly



Eileen Reilly, M.D. has dedicated her career to care of homeless persons. As a college student, she was first exposed to this population as a volunteer for Boston’s Pine Street Inn. She subsequently worked there for six years as a clinical coordinator and administrator and while working there co-founded the Women’s Lunch Place in Boston, a shelter for homeless women.

Since graduating from the University of Massachusetts Medical school, and completing a residency in psychiatry, she has worked with homeless persons with psychiatric illness. She currently works for the MA Department of Mental Health at MA Mental Health Center and at Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, rendering care at Boston’s Pine Street Inn, St. Francis House, Women’s Lunch Place, and to Boston’s unsheltered homeless persons.

Educating others, including medical and psychiatric residents, social workers, and students about caring for homeless persons is an essential aspect of her work. She is on the faculty of Harvard Medical School and received the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society award for outstanding public service.