

Cleveland Police Department Detective Christopher Gibbons

My story (why I serve):

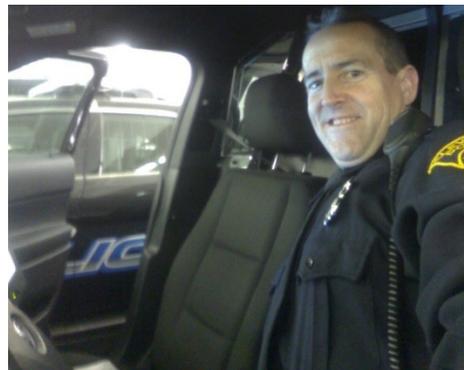
My journey began on November 12th of 1992 waking up in jail in Dayton, Oh. and coming to my senses after a 7 year battle with alcohol. I sat shivering as my clothes dried and the fog lifted thinking to myself, “How did the son of a policeman end up here?”

The officer who picked me out of the snow and slush and arrested me never knew that he saved my life as I have not returned to the bottle since. The citation I received that night for public intoxication was water logged and illegible so I never did say thanks to the man in blue who turned out to be a rough-hewn angel in my life.

Freed from the shackles of alcohol I would get on the job a few years later and follow in the footsteps of my father and both of my grandfathers proudly wearing CPD blue. Working in the 6th District I saw what alcohol and drugs did to the community and families.



My grandfather's police I.D. Note the signature of Elliot Ness; Safety Director



Following the family tradition



Chris Gibbons was sworn in as a young Cleveland Police Officer by then Safety Director, Bill Denihan. Now, they both serve on The Edna House Board.

Former Safety Director and fellow board member Bill. Cleveland PD loves the Edna House.

Her Story

A few years later my little sister Erin began her journey on the 12 steps to recovery as well. One night she and a friend met a woman at a meeting who needed a ride home. The woman was crying, having no safe place to call home and little hope that she would stay sober living with her abusive, drunken husband. My sister and her friend Nancy watched as the woman walked into her house and thought, “We have to do something.”

From this moment of compassion these two incredible women took the action that would transform the lives of countless women and their families as they opened the Edna House for Women in 2004.



Co-founder of The Edna House (and my sister), Erin Becker, holds flowers sent to our family from Chief of Police, Calvin Williams, in sympathy for the passing of our father, retired Sgt. Tom Gibbons.

Our Story

Erin founded the house and I have been on the board since its inception and coach the football and softball team which play other sober houses in the area. I started a recreation program to address the physical aspect of this spiritual, physical and mental malady and look to expand the yoga and mindfulness we offer. The Cleveland Police Department, the Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association, and our Cleveland Police Dispatchers have all played an integral role in supporting the house and the ladies who find recovery there.



The Edna House, a former convent on the city's Near West Side

For information about the house we love so much please visit: <https://ednahouse.org/> Thank you for considering us. CPD, Cleveland Police Dispatchers, the Cleveland Police Patrolmen's Association and most importantly the ladies of The Edna House.



Me; coaching the ladies dressed like a football



The ladies showing their hometown pride at the lake before the Race for Recovery.



One of our best athletes, Allyssa, before the game. Note the sponsorship by our union and our motto "Protecting those who protect others." I love that motto!



Our current director and some helpful dispatchers. Did God make any other kind of dispatcher?