

NAME:
Robert Kiss

OCCUPATION:
Retired Exterminator

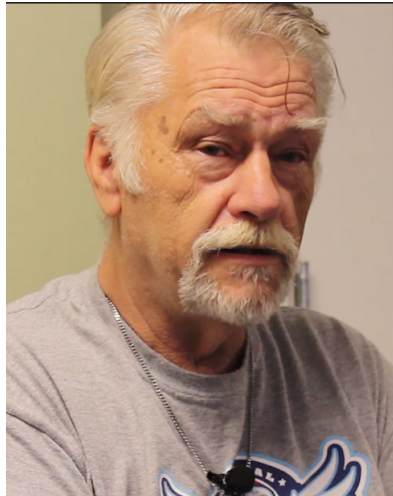
RESIDENCE:
Kirby Manor
Cleveland, OH
147 Apartments

AFFORDABILITY:
- Section 202 Senior
Housing
- Low-Income Housing
Tax Credit
(Income Restricted)

*Last updated in 2018

VOICES OUT LOUD

Robert Kiss



I was really squeezing my money... you get to the point where you don't [have] any money to use.

Robert Kiss came to America in 1956 from Hungary with his parents who looked forward to the opportunities their children would have both in school and after. After high school, Robert tried to enlist in the army, but was turned back because he was an immigrant.

Thirty days later, he was drafted, and in 1976 Robert became one of only 200 people that were celebrated as a bi-centennial citizen of the USA. He started college, studying etymology and began to work as an exterminator.

The job took its toll on Robert, who would begin work at 4 in the morning and not come home until 11 at night. He looks back on that time, knowing his kids never saw him and his wife only saw his paychecks. They had a comfortable life, living in a single house in west Cleveland, Ohio, but as he got older the job got harder until Robert could no longer undertake the physical aspects of the job.

It wasn't just his work that came to stop, Robert could no longer mow his lawn or shovel the snow at his family home. As it became harder for Robert and his wife to take care of their house, they began to look for other options. It was through his veteran's support network that Robert found his way to Kirby Manor in Cleveland and has been there since 2012. It took some time to adapt to apartment living after having their own home for many decades, but Robert has realized that there are more benefits now as he gets older: he no longer worries about shoveling the snow!

Robert and his wife are on a fixed social security income. His illnesses forced him to undergo four major surgeries in four months. With rent, utilities and his medications, Robert knows that he is lucky to have access to Section 8 as a veteran to ease their housing burden.

**We're in different apartments, but we're one massive family
and we watch out for one another**