



# CHRONICLES OF HOPE

March - April 2009

Volume 3 Issue 2

## Mission Statement

**The purpose of Hope House Rescue Mission is to serve those less fortunate who come to us for help with compassion and love. We, at the mission, help provide for their needs; whether physical, emotional, mental or spiritual, regardless of their race, color, creed or social status.**

**Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.  
Psalm 82:3**

## From the Board of Directors . . .

At any given time in Butler County, nearly 1,200 documented homeless individuals are vying for a safe, warm, place to stay. The sharp and steady decline in the economy means the number of people without housing climbs, while the number of beds available remains static. The capacity to house individuals in need is less than 12%, so the question arises: what do we do with the remainder? For twenty years, Hope House has faithfully housed 48-50 men, women and children each night, but we recognize the urgency to do more.

In addition to the need for increased rescue beds, a breakdown in the current housing system leaves a lot of people without housing options. *An emergency shelter should never be someone's permanent housing option, yet the shortage of transitional housing offers no viable alternative.* Hope House is undertaking an exciting transitional housing project to support women and children, taking the important step to self-sufficiency.

*After losing her apartment, Shanta came to stay at Hope House Rescue Mission with her three children. She required time to apply for nurse's training for herself and for child care for her children. Two arrests from past poor choices impeded her application for housing assistance. Transitional housing would have given Shanta and her children the time and support that they needed to acquire permanent housing.*



The Family Center for Women & Children will provide transitional housing for 48 to 50 women and children and support self-sufficiency. We will double the capacity to serve local women and children in need. Additionally, the center will provide the following:

- Coveted emergency beds at HHRM by providing an option for those in transition.
- New development to a distressed Middletown neighborhood
- Financial solvency, generating adequate cash flow to sustain the program

Hope House has been working diligently over the past several months to secure an empty apartment building for this exciting, transitional housing development. While the building is located in a struggling area of the community, it is the first step in helping to turn that street block around for a better future. (continued on page 2)

ASSOCIATION  
OF GOSPEL  
**RESCUE**  
MISSIONS



**34 S. Main Street Middletown**  
**Phone: 513-424-HOPE**  
**New Website Coming Soon @**  
**hopehouserescuemission.com**

For Hope House to accomplish the renovation of this building, we're asking for a commitment of funding to meet a grant requirement. We must raise 40% of monies needed to complete the building rehabilitation before the federal grant money kicks in. Our portion or commitment for this project is \$200,000. American Savings Bank is our sponsor bank for this exciting venture and is providing the construction loan for the project. Committed monies will be held in the Family Center account there and will not be spent until grant funding is secured.

We recognize the scarcity of resources during this economic climate. We hope you'll prayerfully consider the short and long-term impact of this Family Center to the long-term viability of Middletown's growing population of homeless and working poor.

Payment of commitment is due June 30, 2009. Please make checks payable to: Hope House Family Center and mail to Hope House Rescue Mission or American Savings Bank, 701 N. University Blvd., Middletown, Ohio 45042. For credit card donations, please contact Donna at 424-4673.

Thank you for your generosity in making this Family Center for women and children a reality. You are helping to change someone's world.

**Yes, I would like to participate in this wonderful opportunity for women and children. My funding commitment to the Family Center is:**

- One time donation to our capital campaign for the Family Center \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Naming rights to one or more of 23 bedrooms (\$10,000 each)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company / Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Hope House administrative staff and board of directors are available for presentations to talk with your church or organization about the work God is doing at the Mission and how you can help.

For more information or to schedule a presentation, contact Outreach Services Director Barbara Reeves at 513-424-4673 or via [outreachservices@fuse.net](mailto:outreachservices@fuse.net).

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul  
 In you, O God, I place my trust  
 Do not let me be put to shame  
 Nor let my enemies triumph over me  
 My hope is you  
 Show me your ways  
 Guide me in Truth  
 In all my days  
 My hope is you  
 I am, O Lord, filled with your love  
 You are, O God, my salvation  
 Guard my life and rescue me  
 My broken spirit shouts  
 My mended heart cries out...

Lyrics from *My Hope is You* by Third Day



**“And now, Lord, what do I  
 wait for? My hope *is* in You...  
 Psalm 39:7**

**May you and your family be richly blessed  
 this season with God's *love* in your heart, His  
*peace* in your soul, and His *joy* in your life!**

**Happy Easter!**

# Lives are Changing at Hope House . . .

Hope House Rescue Mission, Inc. conducted its first graduation ceremony for individuals completing Phase 2 of the 12-Step Transformation Program by remaining in the program for one year. Tonda Cofield and Dale Jones were recognized for their accomplishments. See their stories below.

### Phase 1 - 12-Step Transformation

Individuals complete daily house chores and attend classes conducted by staff members and community volunteers in recovery, anger management, goal setting, job readiness, abstinence, resume writing, computer skills, parenting, cooking, nutrition, time management and balancing work and home. Mandatory Bible studies and Chapel services are also required and held daily at Hope House.

Phase 1 allows the time necessary for the change that occurs as these individuals learn new ways of thinking and acting.



**Tonda**

Because of the 12-Step Transformation Program and the discipline that she exhibited, Tonda has been able to completely turn her life around. She is currently an employee of Hope House, lives in an apartment in town, re-gained custody of her two younger children (after four years in foster care) and reconciled relationships with her two older daughters and other family members.

She has become an outstanding role model, a great mother and an inspiration to other residents at the mission.

**And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2**

### Phase 2 - Employment and Restitution

Individuals become employed, save money and work toward self-sufficiency. They are responsible to demonstrate acceptable job attendance, are accountable for their income and the current choices they are making. They begin making restitution for their previous actions by paying any fines, reinstatement fees or court costs remaining from their former lifestyle.

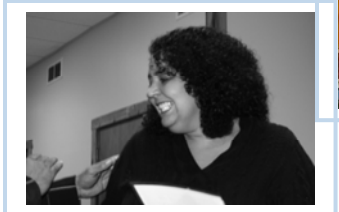
During Phase 2, which lasts approximately 6 months, these individuals can save for a vehicle and permanent housing. Program individuals continue to work with the Program Director on completing the 12-Step Program and attend Bible studies and classes.

Like Tonda, Dale believes that the life-change that he has experienced at Hope House is due to the decision that he made to turn his life over to Jesus Christ and accept Him as his personal Savior. After that decision, Dale was able to see all of his problems in a different light, secure a job, restore his relationships with family members, regularly visit with his two daughters and reconcile the damage from his old way of life by paying fines.

Dale is truly grateful for the opportunity that the 12-Step Transformation Program of Hope House Rescue Mission offered him, and believes that it is the basis for his better mental and physical health.



**Dale**



**Please Help With Our Needs As You Are Able**

**Kitchen Items Needed**

- ❑ Milk
- ❑ Sugar
- ❑ Orange Juice
- ❑ Fresh Fruit
- ❑ Fresh Vegetables
- ❑ Cheese
- ❑ Butter
- ❑ Eggs
- ❑ Silverware (Forks Only)
- ❑ Paper Plates
- ❑ Paper Cups
- ❑ Dish Soap
- ❑ Dishwasher Detergent
- ❑ Grocery Store Gift Cards

**Other Items Needed**

- ❑ Toilet Paper
- ❑ Laundry Detergent
- ❑ 45 - 55 Gallon Trash Bags
- ❑ Large Plastic Storage Tubs
- ❑ Wrapping Paper
- ❑ Large & Assorted Gift Bags
- ❑ Tape and Bows
- ❑ Men's White T-Shirts
- ❑ Men's Underwear
- ❑ Women's Underwear
- ❑ Women's Socks
- ❑ Hairspray

**Volunteers Needed**

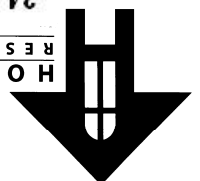
- ❑ Receptionists
- ❑ Office Workers
- ❑ Grant Writing
- ❑ Computer Tech

**Special thanks to National City Bank, Middletown Branch, for their donation of \$500, given at their grand opening ceremony on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.**



34 South Main Street  
Middletown, OH 45044

HOPE HOUSE  
RESCUE MISSION



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US Postage  
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Permit #67  
45044