



# FORERUNNERS OF HOPE

November 2009

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## 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**

## A Note from the Board President ...

### It's Official

Last month we shared the good news of the closing on the property that will become a women and children's facility. This month I'm excited to share that the board approved the hiring of Dr. Mitchell Foster as Executive Director for the mission.

Dr. Foster has been filling the role of director for more than 18 months as a consultant. His formal acceptance of the position couldn't come at a better time for the mission as it pursues funding and opportunities to serve those in need. During his oversight, Dr. Foster has established processes for case management and resident evaluations which have significantly improved the quality of care for residents. His formal education in counseling, faith-based principles and community building skills will continue to reap benefits for the mission.

While many of you already consider Dr. Foster a part of the Hope House staff, I hope you'll join me in officially welcoming him.



### Designated Giving Opportunity



Many churches and organizations have inquired about opportunities to support the long-term viability of the family center. Regrettably the need has increased this year, and more than 400 women and children have been denied living space due to lack of capacity in Butler County. If your organization, group or family would

like a permanent way to make a big impact, please consider sponsoring a space in the new facility. Naming rights start at just \$10,000.

The investment will contribute to the renovation and operation of the facility, and your organization or family's name will be permanently displayed in that space as a contributor to the mission. A few organizations are planning fundraisers for room sponsorship and the chance to put a small dent in a big problem for Middletown. If you have questions about sponsoring a room or contributing to the cause, please contact Donna at 513-424-4673.



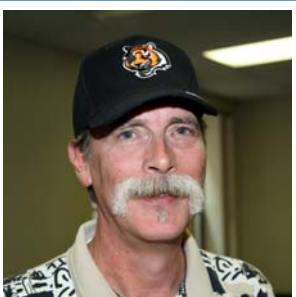
34 S. Main Street Middletown

Phone: 513-424-HOPE

Visit our Website @ [hopehouserescuemission.com](http://hopehouserescuemission.com)

**12-Step Transformation Program Graduation**

**One Year Graduates**



On September 8, 2009, Hope House conducted its second graduation ceremony for individuals completing Phase 2 of the 12-Step Transformation Program by remaining in the program for one year. Tim was one of those individuals, and an excellent example of what can happen when a person is given the hope of a new life, a life that is only possible because of a relationship with Jesus.

In September 2008, Tim entered the 12-Step Transformation Program at Hope House Rescue Mission. This was the beginning of his life change and the restoration of hope. He dedicated himself to being an exceptional student of all that the program had to offer. His house chores included working in the Third Floor Free Store, and he was especially joyful when he could give a coat to a child who did not have one. As he learned more about the Lord and what it meant to serve Him, he discovered what life is truly all about.

Today Tim has been sober for twenty-two months. He recently moved into his own apartment, passed the test to regain his driver's license and purchased a used car. He is employed at AK Steel and is grateful every day for the change that has occurred in his life.

Denise was another one-year graduate. She entered the program in June 2008 and said that when her dad dropped her off at Hope House's front door, she was really scared. Those fears soon subsided, and she immersed herself in the activities required by the program.

Denise is now an employee of Hope House Rescue Mission. She believes that the 12-Step Transformation Program is a life-changing experience, but a person has to be ready to commit and cooperate with all aspects of the program.

One of her main objectives when new people come to the shelter is to ease their fears and make them feel welcome. That is what life-change is all about.

**Six Month Graduates**



**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**

## Volunteer & Donor Experiences

During this season that ushers in the holidays, we wish to recognize some of the volunteers who have served the residents of Hope House over the past year. We are grateful to them and to all of the businesses, churches, families, foundations, groups and individuals who assist us in serving the homeless population of the community with sincere love and compassion. May you and your families reap a harvest of blessings for the faithful support that you have given to the residents of Hope House Rescue Mission.

In July eleven youth, ranging from 14 to 18 years of age, traveled from Plymouth, Michigan on a mission trip to Middletown Ohio. Pastor Jeff enjoyed the Cincinnati area and searched on line to find a place for his youth group to serve. Fortunately, he selected Hope House Rescue Mission.

This group of young people cleaned, cooked, and served meals. They folded and sorted clothes, shoes, and household items for our Third Floor Free Store. Their labor of love was a true blessing and we appreciate the Plymouth Nazarene Youth and Pastor Jeff for stepping over state lines to assist the Hope House population.



Jeff is one of Hope House Rescue Mission’s faithful volunteers. In the midst of his busy schedule, he faithfully serves the residents at Hope House by conducting Chapel services and being a Men’s 12-Step Transformation Program leader.

Jeff is confident that he is making a difference in the residents’ lives by virtue of their testimonies. There are men and women in the 12-Step Transformation Program who have over six months clean and sober. There are some that have graduated to the one year mark.

Jeff states, “I would encourage everyone to volunteer, as once you get involved you will be driven deep inside your soul to stay involved. When I’m pressed for time, I still go, and every single time I am blessed for doing it. I never regret any minute I spend at the shelter. One of the best memories I have is this past year on Christmas Day, I had the opportunity to speak at the Christmas Day service. I talked with my family, and we decided to abandon the home Christmas and spend it together at the shelter with the residents. This was truly a Christmas I will never ever forget.” Jeff believes volunteering together with his family at Hope House has made them stronger. He finds purpose and value in the midst of shared life experiences.

In this time of economic turmoil, Jeff considers reaching out to those with needs greater than our own is important. The Caldwell’s make volunteering a family affair, as Jeff states, “I cannot think of a better place to invest my energy, time and soul than the Hope House Rescue Mission.”

Olivia and Lily, 11 and 9 years old, displayed their heart for the homeless during the summer by selling lemonade at 50 cents a glass. Their endeavor raised \$61, which they contributed to Hope House Rescue Mission.

Many adults close their eyes to the needs of others as they are consumed with “self”. These amazing young ladies are being taught to recognize the needs of others, and for that, we are very grateful.

**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).**

## Please Help With Our Needs As You Are Able

### Kitchen Items Needed

- Milk
- Sugar
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Tomatoes
- Cream of Mushroom,  
Celery & Broccoli  
Soups
- Creamer
- Orange Juice
- Fresh Fruit
- Fresh Vegetables
- Cheese
- Butter
- Spaghetti Sauce

### Other Items Needed

- Shaving Cream
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Industrial Paper Towel Rolls
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Laundry Detergent
- 45 - 55 Gallon Trash Bags
- Large Plastic Storage Tubs
- Large & Assorted Gift Bags
- Hairspray
- Grocery Store Gift Cards

### Special Items Needed

- Thick mats for floor for shelter overflow during life-threatening weather

### Clothing Needs

- Men's Underwear - M, L
- Men's T-Shirts - L, XL, 2X, 3X
- Women's Underwear - S, M
- Sweatshirts & Sweatpants - All Sizes for Men, Women and Children esp. XL, 2X & 3X

**Ask your church or group to have a drive for one or two of the items on our needs list. Thanks.**

Receive our newsletter via e-mail by selecting the option on the response envelope, or by sending a note to [househope@fuse.net](mailto:househope@fuse.net). Thank you for your support of Hope House. Please tell your friends about the work that God is doing at the mission.

## Happy Thanksgiving !!!