



# FORGOTTEN OF HOPE

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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 ...

*If you are generous with the hungry and start giving yourselves to the down-and-out, Your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight. I will always show you where to go. I'll give you a full life in the emptiest of places; firm muscles, strong bones. You'll be like a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry. You'll use the old rubble of past lives to build anew, rebuild the foundations from out of your past. You'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again.  
Isaiah 58:11-12 (MSG)*



In Isaiah we're reminded of the importance of Hope House's mission and the abundance that awaits us when we are generous. This month we have much to be thankful for. Our petition for a variance was granted to rebuild 1300 Girard into a transitional living community for women and children. The transitional living facility will provide a host of life-skills including parenting, nutrition, budgeting, esteem building, addiction management and job readiness.

As we finalize the building purchase and create a master plan for the site please consider giving generously. Last year more than 300 women and children were turned away because the beds simply didn't exist. Your designated giving will make this dream a reality.

Carla R. Messer



**Former residents of Hope House Rescue Mission**



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

## Funding Opportunity Still Available

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Hope House Family Center and mail to the mission. Credit card donations can be made by visiting our website at [hopehouserescuemission.com](http://hopehouserescuemission.com). Thank you for your support.

## The Board Welcomes . . .



**Lycia Maurits**

More reasons to celebrate! I'm pleased to announce the addition of two new board members. Lycia Maurits was voted to the board during the June 2009 board meeting and Mira Smith was elected to the board this month during a special meeting of the board.

Lycia Maurits has already made an impact on Hope House in a short amount of time. Her years of banking experience at the local Wes Banco Bank made her a natural to assume the position of Treasurer. Lycia is no stranger to serving in Middletown and has lent her time and talents to the United Way, Chamber of Commerce, and the Rotary Club among others.



Mira Smith has been volunteering at Hope House and is taking her involvement to the next level by joining the board. Her interest in joining the board stems from her desire to provide long-term sustainable solutions for women. Mira is Service Learning Coordinator for Miami University Middletown and owner / proprietor of Wellness to Wholeness Women's Empowerment Organization providing skills to empower women including job readiness and self-esteem building. Her expertise is a cornerstone to the long-term success of our residents. "I've committed my life to serving others in a way that empowers them for growth and development, and will ultimately build families and their community," says Smith. In addition to being a talented worship leader and singer, Mira has volunteered her time with Relay for Life and Middfest International.

Join me in welcoming Lycia and Mira to the board. Their addition marks the spirit that is moving in Hope House Rescue Mission as we embark on a heroic journey to change the lives of marginalized women and children in our community. God Bless You for your support.

Carla R. Messer

## Volunteer Experiences



**Mike Kletzly**

Mike Kletzly is the Director of Religious Education at St. Francis de Sales Parish School in Lebanon, Ohio. He and his eighth grade class visit Hope House Rescue Mission on a regular basis several times a year to fulfill a community service requirement for their class. The class volunteers three days a time to serve lunch to the residents, put together tote bags with personal items, sort clothes in our Third Floor Free Store, clean the children's playroom and other areas in the building. Their eagerness to serve in any capacity has not only enriched the lives of everyone at Hope House Rescue Mission but, according to Mike, has changed the perspectives of these young people.

Mike believes this volunteering experience has made the lives of his students better. Some students commented on being more thankful and less complaining. This experience made Mike realize that, as a teacher, he can teach Christian service all he wants, but until students actually do it, its effect is limited.

Volunteering makes a difference in the students' lives, as it makes them realize life is fragile, and that reaching out to others is just a phone call away, if they are willing to take that step. It is his opinion that before his students came to volunteer, they had their own perspective about the homeless, which consisted of the mentality of "us versus them." They believed that all the homeless were just too different from themselves to understand. However, this experience has caused them to mature emotionally, spiritually and in other ways. They now see the homeless as fellow human beings whose lives could resemble the students' own lives tomorrow!

Mike said, "I think Hope House makes such a difference, not only in the lives of people without homes, but also in the lives of those volunteers lucky enough to help out there. My students still talk about their times there, and I know we will be bringing some lucky students there again this coming year."

Jacob Meyer, a 14 year old student of Mike Kletzly's eighth grade class, shared that before he came to Hope House Rescue Mission he thought the homeless weren't very friendly; they didn't care about their circumstances because they were still getting food, shelter, and clothing, so why should they change?

Volunteering changed Jacob's opinion. He said, "I found out how nice and kind they were, even being in the situations they were in. They really were trying so hard to have a life of their own, where they could take care of themselves and do what they wanted".

Jacob learned an interesting fact: one of the gentlemen actually went to Bishop Fenwick High School, which is the high school he is going to attend this year. Jacob found that, as a whole, people who have their own clothes, food, and shelter, take these things for granted. He stated, "We complain about not having the right kind of shirt or the food we want or that our allowance, if any, is too low. While we ask for just one more dollar for the game machine, there could be someone who is asking for one more dollar, for his or her life".

Jacob shared that he "would most definitely volunteer at Hope House Rescue Mission again because it is such a great learning experience and you get to work in a friendly environment." He added that "you get to have fun doing something that is helping someone else, and it makes you feel grateful for all the things you have or ever receive, even things as simple as the gift of love, and that by helping out and volunteering there you can give those people that special gift."

He would encourage others to volunteer because, "They can find out so much about themselves and others, and they can also learn to be more grateful, caring, loving and happy". Jacob not only matured, but learned some valuable lessons. He learned to respect the people around him without judging them. The idea that the homeless community consisted of people who are dumb and unkind has been dispelled in his mind. He learned, "They are just like everyone else in the world".

Other students in Mike's class have stated, "I thought the homeless were all lazy and dirty, but they're people just like us!"



"I felt better about myself because I helped someone; my problems now look small"

"When I'm in high school, can I still help?"

"Mr. K., it's just like the saying you told us: 'It's a mistake to do nothing because you think you can only do a little.'"



Written by: Barbara Reeves

**Please Help With Our Needs As You Are Able****Kitchen Items Needed**

- Milk
- Sugar
- Canned Fruit
- Kool-Aid
- Creamer
- Orange Juice
- Fresh Fruit
- Fresh Vegetables
- Cheese
- Butter
- Plastic Silverware
- Paper Plates
- Paper Cups – All Sizes
- Dish Soap
- Dishwasher Detergent

**Other Items Needed**

- Shaving Cream
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Laundry Detergent
- 45 - 55 Gallon Trash Bags
- Large Plastic Storage Tubs
- Large & Assorted Gift Bags
- Men's Underwear – S, M, L
- Hairspray
- Umbrellas
- Window & Box Fans
- Grocery Store Gift Cards

**Special Items Needed**

- Commercial Washer & Commercial Dryer – 50 to 75 pound capacity
- Lawn Mower

**Thanks to all our faithful volunteers and donors. We greatly appreciate your support.**