

Volunteer Newsletter

Holding Out Hope



June 2021 | Issue 15 | Hope House Volunteers

Newsletter for Volunteers

Together we can break the cycle of poverty and despair one life at a time. We are Hope House Mission, a faith-based emergency homeless shelter serving men, women, and children. Hope House is a place to find relief, but even greater than that we get to share that Hope is a person. It is Jesus Christ. While the people we serve have great earthly suffering, it is the greater desire and task to relieve the far weightier eternal suffering through the proclamation of the gospel. Our zeal for helping the poor must be founded in love for God, which will indeed combat any compassion fatigue. Our goal is to serve others and build relationships for the glory of God so that the good news of Jesus Christ may be proclaimed, and people may be reconciled to him!

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Covid Policy Change: Mask Update



As of June 3rd, Hope House will not require fully vaccinated individuals to wear masks. Covid is still here and a real concern. If you are feeling ill, or if you have a temperature, please do not come to our shelters to volunteer. If you have been exposed to Covid please wait 10 days before volunteering at our shelters. Most of our staff is vaccinated. We have encouraged our residents to get the vaccine, but some choose not to be vaccinated. Please for your safety and the safety of our residents continue to wear a mask if you are not fully vaccinated. The women's shelter lacks space to social distance. We strongly encourage all volunteers at the women's shelter to wear a mask while interacting with staff and residents.

Resident Specialist Needed

Have you felt the Lord tugging at your heart to serve his women and children? Hope House is seeking a committed individual to fill the Women's Center Resident Specialist position. This part-time position is Saturday and Sunday. The Resident Specialist will run the front desk, attend all staff meetings, supervise clients, oversee inspections, manage donations, and have a working knowledge of community resources.

This position is perfect for a student or someone looking for extra hours on the weekend. Interested candidates should email the Women's Center Director, Tammi Ector at tector@hhmission.org No phone calls please. To view the full job description and requirements see the [job posting](#) on hhmission.org

Welcome Back Volunteer Reception

We are thankful for our volunteers who are eager to return to service now that vaccinations have made it safer to open our doors. There is still time to register for one of the two **Welcome Back Volunteers Receptions**. The receptions are a chance to fellowship with other volunteers, meet staff, receive updated information on policies and procedures, and tour the new men's shelter. There will be light snacks served. If you need to RSVP, you can call Kami at 513-392-2006 or register online at [click here](#). (You may need to hold the ctrl key when you click). The first reception is Saturday June 12, from 10AM-Noon. The second reception is Monday June 14th, 6:30PM-8:30PM. Both events are hosted at the Men's Shelter located at 1001 Grove Street, Middletown, Ohio 45044. Parking is available in the front lot or on the street.

*Jesus Christ is
the same
yesterday and
today and
forever.*

Hebrews 13:8

Saturday Night Spaghetti Dinners

In July, Saturday Night Spaghetti Dinners will be a new way your family or small group can serve dinners at Hope House. After listening to concerns we understand there are families and groups who want to serve a meal but are unable to sponsor a meal for 50-120 people monthly. Thankfully, we have a community full of supporters that donate food to our shelters. Sign up your family, church, team, or small group to prepare the dinner at the Men's Shelter. Stay and serve the meal. Before cleaning up, we encourage you to fill a plate up for yourselves, have a seat, and eat a meal with the residents! This is a great opportunity to interact and build relationships with our residents. Groups will need to be 4-10 people. The kitchen staff will provide directions and all supplies.

Volunteer Opportunities:

The foundation of volunteer opportunities is relationship building. While staying with us, Hope House aims to introduce each resident to Jesus Christ. Bible studies, mentoring, classes and sharing meals are ways we promote healthy relationships and a Christian life. To learn more about these opportunities contact, Kami Barnes at 513-392-2006 or email kbarnes@hhmission.org

- [Click here](#) to sponsor and serve a meal at one of our shelters.
- The Women's Shelter needs a volunteer Tuesday afternoons to watch the front desk and answer the phone.
- We need help mowing the Women's Center. We have a mower. Perfect for a family.
- Lead a weekly or monthly Bible Study or Devotional. Perfect for a small group.
- Lead a night of Praise and Worship.
- Consider teaching a class. In the past volunteers have offered cooking, crocheting or even creative writing classes.
- Calling Athletes! Lead an exercise class. We would love to get our residents up and moving!
- Saturday Night Spaghetti Night.
- Mentoring/ Life Coaching- Come build relationships! Sign up to play games, craft, share a meal, or even watch a ball game on TV with our residents.

Hartz of Gold

Our gracious volunteers continue to update and improve the Women's Shelter. Saturday, May 15th Hartz Sealcoating sent a team of men out to repave and seal the parking lot. "It's fantastic to be used by the good Lord. Our crews are top notch! I'm also excited to help our employees see what Christians are supposed to do in this world," said John Hartz. You can read more about their services and relationship to Jesus Christ on their website, hartzsealcoating.com



Mason's Varsity Football Team Drive!

Cooper Schreiter, a student with the Mason Varsity Football Team, empowered his neighborhood by organizing a supply drive. The Mason football team stapled flyers onto kitchen trash bags and handed them out to 270 houses in their neighborhood. The following weekend the team picked up 52 bags of donations, which was about a 20% neighborhood participation rate.

"When we were able to drop off the donations at your new facility is when these young men were moved with what was truly accomplished," stated Steve Best.





Volunteer Spotlight

A busy bee, David Harris sought out Hope House 7 years ago when he found himself bored after his 2nd retirement. David spent his career in service to others. His career started in Middletown working for the local schools as a Social Worker. He then served the next 30 years as a Chaplain with both the Indiana and Nebraska National Guard. After retirement, he relocated back to Middletown, where he spent the next 12 years serving our veterans as a clinical social worker with the VA in Dayton.

David leads General Recovery classes twice a week at the Men’s Shelter. “We are all recovering from something,” said Harris. “If it is broken relationships, illness, or addiction, we all have something in our past we are recovering from.” The classes focus on General Recovery, Anger Management, Relationships, Stress Management, Depression, Relaxation Techniques, Sleeping and Eating Right.

David returns each Thursday night for Bible Study and Devotions. David uses the “Navigator’s Bible Studies” to lead the discussions with the residents. He passes out crosses with the words, “Jesus Loves You.” The small cross can be carried in a pocket or wallet as a reminder of the cross and Jesus’s love. The men in the class also receive a wooden praying cross. The handmade wooden cross, made by a friend, is something to hold while praying. We are grateful for the time David invests with the guys teaching them about the love of Jesus.

*“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”
Matthew 18:20*

Bible Studies Resume

“Lord I Just Want to Thank You,” the song was heard coming down the hill as you walked outside the Women and Children’s Shelter. May 15th was the first LIVE bible study offered at the Women's Shelter since before Covid. A group of four ladies, led by Henrietta Perry, from Bethlehem Temple Church, leads a Bible Study every third Saturday of the month. To assure social distancing and to be cautious the class was held outside. The volunteers also went one step further and provided lunch for the women and children after the class.

Volunteers who lead devotionals and or share meals with our guests are pivotal to our ministry. First and foremost, we are a Christian Ministry. We believe sharing Jesus with these ladies is the first step to recovery. We do this by building relationships. Fellow Christian believers who invest time to build friendships with residents show them there is a better way of living.

“To be in fellowship with the ladies at the Hope House is so rewarding. The Hope (Haven of peace for everyone) House is a reflection of how much Middletown cares, and I am happy to be a part of it. To be a messenger for God of encouragement for the ladies is Joy unspeakable and full of glory,” said Henrietta Perry.



Serious About Social Stuff (SASS) 5K

“Since all live walks and races have been canceled, why not have our own Rad 80's themed walk,” stated Anita Pema one of the event organizers. Serious about Social Stuff (SASS) is a meetup group for individuals in their 30s-50s living in the Dayton, Cincinnati, and Northern KY area. Saturday, May 22nd the group organized a 5k to benefit Hope House at the Loveland Bike Trails. The 5K had 35 participants. To participate in the 5K members of SASS brought items to donate. Anita’s husband, Ketan delivered a van full of items, a check and gift cards.



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www.hhmission.org

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Amazon Smile – You shop. Amazon gives.

- Simply go to smile.amazon.com on your computer or mobile device. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations.
- Use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other settings are also the same.
- On your first visit select Hope House Rescue Mission Inc. (Middletown) to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. It will remember your organization each time you sign in.

You can access our Amazon Wish List to donate items [here](#).

Kroger Plus Card – Help the Hungry for Free!

Each time you use your registered Kroger Plus Card when you purchase groceries, Kroger donates to Hope House Mission to help feed the hungry in our community. It’s easy and free!

- Go to Kroger.com/communityrewards
- Sign into your online Kroger account (or create an account if you don’t have one.)
- Click Kroger Community Rewards, search for “Hope House” and select it from the list.

Use your registered Kroger Plus Card every time you shop at Kroger. Your purchases will earn cash for the mission.