

HOPE FOR TODAY

HOPE RESCUE MISSION – READING, PA

SEPTEMBER 2021 EDITION

"This is your second chance."

Jose D. never thought he would need to walk through the front doors of a homeless shelter for help. In November of 2020, he came to Hope asking for that very help.

Jose was born in the Dominican Republic, and at age 13 he moved to NYC with his family seeking financial stability. At age 16, Jose fathered his first child and dropped out of school to begin working full-time. He was taught that if you work hard, you will always have what you need. Working and providing for his family was his goal during his later teenage years and early 20s.

Jose struggled with occasional abuse of drugs and alcohol since his teen years. He succumbed to peer pressure and after a few drinks, he participated in an illegal street race. Jose hit a light pole and was ejected from the vehicle.

Due to extensive damage to his right arm, he was flown to a trauma center in Philadelphia for emergency surgery. **When he woke up in the ICU, he heard God say to him, "This is your second chance."**

Jose grew up hearing about the saving love of Jesus from his mother, but he never chose to live his life for Christ. After his accident, he asked the Lord to change his life and help him make better choices. While at Hope, Jose has enjoyed attending daily Bible studies and chapel services.

Jose feels he has reconnected with God and believes, "If you follow God, no matter how tough things get, God can take care of any issues." Despite virtually no use of his right arm, he leads a crew of men who clean the Mission daily.

"Thank you to the supporters of the Mission. When I wake up, I'm thankful for the chapel, Bible studies, meals, case management, and for being part of this family."

This is another chance to live my life the way God wants us to live. Being here has taught me humility."



UPDATE!

After much consideration, our Board of Directors has decided to postpone our Annual Banquet to the Spring of 2022. In place of an indoor gathering this fall, we hope you will mark your calendars and join us for a 5K race!



★★★ 5K PATRIOT RUN

Please save the date for Hope's 5K Patriot Run which will benefit **VETERANS recovering from homelessness**. Join us to honor all active duty service members and veterans in our community.

When: Saturday, November 13th

Registration @ 8 am, Race @ 9 am

Location: Gring's Mill Recreation Center

Registration and event sponsorship information to follow!



**PSU and Alvernia Interns
volunteering with the
HopeWorks team to clean
11th and Pike Park**

HopeWorks provides off-site employment opportunities to guests of the Mission. For the past six months, HopeWorks has been picking up litter from Penn St. and performing landscaping projects. Due to the excellent work our team has done, the City has expanded HopeWorks services to five parks and targeted residential areas to mitigate blight. We are excited to see HopeWorks grow with time!



For more information and caring ways for you to support the Hope Rescue Mission, plus a list of most-needed items, visit our website:

www.HopeForReading.org

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