

# HOPE for TODAY

Hope Rescue Mission - 645 North 6th Street, Reading, PA 19601

## Hope Campaign Surpasses Goal!



**Framing 3rd Floor Rooms**

"Sometimes it's easy to walk by because we know we can't change someone's whole life in a single afternoon. But what we fail to realize is that simple kindness can go a long way toward encouraging someone who is stuck in a desolate place."

- Mike Yankoski, Author  
*Under the Overpass*

### Army & Marines Veteran Paul Y.



At our 2015 Annual Banquet, we introduced the Hope Capacity Building Campaign goal of raising \$800,000.00 to address key needs in the areas of facilities, staff, and programs. Thanks be to God and the generosity of you, our faithful donors, we have raised almost \$850,000.00!

Construction has begun on our main building, which includes a roof replacement, a new fire alarm system, a fire prevention standpipe, and the installation of 30 transitional housing rooms on our 3rd floor for veterans in crisis and men who have procured full-time employment!

Your overwhelming generosity also enabled us to add an Intake Coordinator to our staff. Our goals for 2017 are to renovate our kitchen and emergency shelter bathroom and laundry facility, improvements that will benefit our residents on a daily basis!

On behalf of our Board of Directors and Staff, thank you so very much for your outpouring of love and support toward so many in need seeking refuge through the Mission! We are excited to see more lives restored through the Gospel!

Your continued financial support is crucial to our daily operations. All of the funds we have raised for the Hope Campaign are restricted for use toward our stated campaign goals, and they cannot be used to operate the Mission. As we enter our busiest time of the year with our overflow Code Blue Program, we are feeding, sheltering, and ministering to more men than ever. Thank you for your continued partnership in providing immediate help and lasting HOPE to so many in need!

## Testimony Time

Paul, who served 4 yrs. Army & 5 yrs. Marines, was a successful project manager for a large construction company. He had a nice house, a boat, and a 14 year relationship. Constant travel to other states for work and other stresses led Paul to fall into an addiction to pain medications. Paul lost everything and came to the Mission earlier this year for help. Paul is a faithful volunteer, and he hopes to get a CDL and start-over with a career as a truck driver. Paul attends Bible studies throughout the week, meets with a mentor every Thursday, and is focusing on his spiritual development and sustained recovery from addiction. Please pray for Paul!

### How Can I Contribute?

- Mail a check using the enclosed card.
- Visit our website and click on the "Donate Now" tab.

**Thank you in advance  
for your generosity!**

## Currents

- Thank you to all of our three hundred fifty 2016 Annual Banquet attendees who helped us raise \$110,000.00 to support those in need in our community! Our 2017 Banquet will be held on October 7th!
- Congratulations to Team George Reppert, winning Champions of Hope Team, who raised 65 weeks of support for men at Hope!
- Please mark your calendars for our annual Daylight Saving Dash 5k, which will be held at PSU Berks on March 11th!



**2016 Annual Banquet at DoubleTree of Reading**

## Day Center Ministry

Reading Police Chief, Andres Dominguez, recently toured the Mission. He communicated the need of a safe and productive place for downtrodden individuals to go to rather than loitering on Penn St. The Mission is now allowing any peaceable individual, man or woman, to find respite during the day in our dining hall. We are glad to be a safe refuge for more needy individuals, but our goal is to share the love of Christ and see people restored to productive living! Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Hillary Detwiler, at 484-332-1939 or [hrmvolunteerservices@gmail.com](mailto:hrmvolunteerservices@gmail.com) if you would be willing to help us during the day. We want to see downtown Reading cleaned-up, and we are doing everything we can to be part of the solution! Come help us impact a life for eternity!

## Code Blue Season

Since the end of October, our Code Blue overflow winter program has been open. Our gym, full of cots, sleeping bags, and pillows, has become an emergency shelter for those plagued by homelessness during the bitter-cold months. Many men come in scared and anxious, having no other resources to turn to in the middle of winter. They are embraced with dignity and respect, and their fears quickly subside as they realize they will be safe at the Mission. Your continued support through the donation of cleaning supplies, sleeping bags, pillows, and toiletries enable us to minister to those most in need this winter! Code Blue donations can be dropped-off at the Mission lobby anytime day or night.

## Faith in Action

In October, young Kate of Exeter asked family and friends to collect toiletries for the Mission instead of buying presents for her birthday!



On November 17th, youth from New Life BFC raked leaves, led chapel, served dinner, and placed notes of encouragement on each man's bed!



Thank you to all of our volunteers who made Thanksgiving Day a huge success!

