

# HOPE FOR TODAY

HOPE RESCUE MISSION, 645 N 6TH ST, READING PA 19601

FEBRUARY 2019 EDITION

## SPECIAL BLESSINGS TO CELEBRATE 125 YEARS!

"I can't believe you guys did this for us! Please thank everyone who did this for us!" That is the response we have received from so many of our Safe Haven and Code Blue Program guests after opening the new dormitory, bathroom, and laundry facilities. For 125 years, we have been telling each man who comes to us for help at their lowest points in life that despite their current struggles they are valuable, God loves them, and things can get better for them. It is amazing the impact the new facilities are having by making men feel safe, clean, and cared for...exactly the goal we were striving for!

"The new bathroom and shower facilities are amazing. The new Safe Haven Dorm is clean and comfortable. I'm on my way to feeling like a person again," shares current guest Taz B. At the end of 2015, we set a goal of raising \$800,000 to expand and renovate our 92 year old facility. Through your overwhelming support, and grants from BB&T Bank and Customers Bank, we raised over \$2 million and are culminating our building campaign in the next couple of weeks with the dedication of our brand new kitchen!

On behalf of our board, staff, and guests, we thank all of our generous partners for being a special part of the Lord's life restoring work here at Hope!

Please mark your calendars and join us for an Open House of our renovations on April 27th 10am-2pm.



**SAFE HAVEN/CODE  
BLUE BATHROOM**



**SAFE HAVEN GUESTS  
ENJOYING NEW DORM**



**HOPE LAUNDROMAT**

## • TESTIMONY TIME •

Typically we select one individual to highlight, but we want to recognize three of our Discipleship Program men who assist faithfully on our maintenance crew.

From left to right, Mick, Ron and Steve have been putting in many extra hours above and beyond their normal work schedules. They have been instrumental in helping us put the finishing touches on the new dorm, bathroom, and laundry room. In addition to their exemplary work ethic, they are also dedicated and growing men of faith! Please join us in thanking God for them and asking His blessings over them, as they work toward Discipleship graduation and the next program phase here at Hope and on to independent living!



**MICK, RON & STEVE**

## CURRENTS

- Hope's 6th annual Daylight Saving Dash 5K fundraiser will be held on March 2nd at PSU Berks. Please visit our website to register:  
[www.HopeForReading.org](http://www.HopeForReading.org)
- Please continue to pray as we work with the Reading Zoning and Planning Boards to develop an on-site shelter for women and children.
- West Lawn UMC opened their doors on Christmas Day to provide a special lunch and program for guests of Hope!



**CHRISTMAS DAY AT  
WEST LAWN UMC**

## PARTNERS IN HOPE



**Angie M. blessed the men of Hope through her donation of a vehicle, which is being used for transportation to doctor appts. and job interviews.**

**STV, Inc. employees poured out so much love at Hope on Super Bowl Sunday by providing a wonderful dinner and donating towels, washcloths, and other essentials!**



**A group from Kutztown University spent their MLK, Jr. Day of Service helping set up each new living area in the new Safe Haven dorm.**

## CODE BLUE SEASON

Since November, 271 different men have come through our front doors for emergency shelter. Many of these men had been living in cars, tents, and abandoned buildings. 78 men have been referred to treatment for drug and alcohol addiction, and 55 have received assistance with other emergency situations such as mental and physical health conditions.

Having the Reading Hospital Street Medicine Outreach Team at the Mission several times a month is a tremendous blessing to all of our guests. We are also so thankful to all who have donated essential items such as gloves, hats, underwear, socks, toiletries and blankets. Men who come in for Code Blue are suffering, but through your support, their suffering is replaced with immediate physical help and lasting spiritual Hope! On many occasions Code Blue guests have shared that had they not come to the Mission, they would have taken their own lives out of desperation and despair. Thank you for helping us save lives.



**READING HOSPITAL STREET  
MEDICINE TEAM**