

Stories of HOPE

Spring
2019



hopeministries

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Cindy's Challenge

Breaking the cycle of family dysfunction

YOU are the reason
Cindy and others like
her are overcoming their
challenges. Read her
courageous story on page 3.



GETCONNECTED



President/CEO Leon Negen encourages friends of Hope Ministries to make the most of this special opportunity to double the impact of their generosity, as gifts made by May 31 will be doubled.

Dear Friend,

We often talk about our ministry in quantitative terms: the number of meals or nights of shelter your giving makes possible. Yet, behind each number is a person – a man, woman or child who is homeless, hungry and hurting... and who is truly grateful for the hope your gifts provide.

That's why I'm excited to share this opportunity for you to bring twice as much hope to twice as many people. **A group of generous partners has offered funding for a Matching Challenge. They're asking you to match their gift of \$60,000 with an additional \$60,000.** That's a total of \$120,000 to care for those in need.

When you read about Cindy and her son, Lunden (on page 3), you'll see how tremendously their lives have been changed by gifts like yours. And what a blessing to give this month, when your generosity provides twice the help with life essentials and life-changing guidance, so those in our care can find hope and healing through Christ's love.

You are the reason this ministry can meet the challenge of caring for struggling individuals and families in Central Iowa – this month and throughout the year. Thank you for remembering that behind every number is a hurting person. Your compassion lets them know they're not alone.

Your partner in ministry,

Leon Negen
President/CEO



hopeministries
Giving hope. Changing lives.

Our Ministry Centers

Bethel Mission

Door of Faith

Hope Center for
Women and Children

Hope Café

ENCORE Thrift Stores

P.O. Box 862
Des Moines, IA 50304-0862

info@hopeiowa.org

hopeiowa.org
Donate online.



Like us on Facebook.

Hopelowa channel

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While completing our long-term life recovery program, Nick earned his high school equivalency diploma and now he's working toward a degree in human services at Des Moines Area Community College. As part of his degree program, he is interning at our Bethel Mission, working at the front desk where he welcomes men into the shelter. He's learning from our intake coordinators, attending staff meetings and even teaching at a recovery group.

After battling a 20-year addiction that led to homelessness, "I never thought I'd actually go to college and graduate," he says, now planning to use his degree to become a case manager or a counselor. "I want to be like the men who helped me when I needed it," he says.

Make a positive impact in your life while bringing hope and change to others. Visit our website – hopeiowa.org – for information on current job opportunities.

“God has a plan and purpose for my life.”



“My definition of love was all wrong,” says Cindy, describing the circumstances that brought her to Hope Ministries years ago.

She had married a man much like her father – abusive and controlling. When she realized the relationship was preventing her from being the mother God intended her to be, she and her son, Lunden, came to Hope Ministries.

While completing our Christ-centered life recovery program, Cindy excelled in our classes and job readiness training and she blossomed as a mother. But later, when she returned home to care for her ailing sister, her life began to unravel again.

“Suddenly, I was back in that controlling, dysfunctional environment,” she says. Fearing she’d made a tragic mistake and unsure how to get back on her feet, she reached out again to Hope Ministries.

“Hope Ministries is a well-rounded program. It helps you in every area of life.

It’s a blessing and a gift.”

“The minute we got back here, I could feel the love,” she shares. “They didn’t look down on me or say, ‘We knew you couldn’t make it.’ They were glad to see me.”

This time, she explains, she has fully surrendered to Christ. She believes our encouraging and stable environment will help her once again find the strength she needs to dedicate her life to God’s plan and finally break the cycle of family dysfunction.

While Cindy works on her own transformation, Lunden, age 10, is healing too. Now in fourth grade, he is excelling in school and has even made the honor roll. “I love Hope Ministries because it is comfortable and safe here,” Lunden says. “It feels like nobody will let you down here.” Cindy agrees.



YOU are the reason men and women like Cindy are no longer bound by past challenges and have become overcomers through God’s love. They are deeply grateful for your gift today and continued support.

Every month, we celebrate those who have completed our long-term life recovery programs. Kelli recently completed our life-changing program at Hope Center for Women and Children. Kelli is employed and she and her four-year-old son, Manny, now live independently. Please join us in praying for Kelli, Manny and all our recent program alumni as they begin new lives restored in Christ.



Simple Staples Make a Big Difference

Hope Ministries' greatest needs are often things you might not think of. Here are three examples of donation drives held for items we use on a daily basis.

- With nearly 175 people staying with us every night, there's a ton of dirty laundry to wash at our shelter and recovery centers. We're grateful for the **Stubbendick family** who assembled and donated "laundry pod packs," laundry detergent pods wrapped in dryer sheets.



- The majority of men and women in our care don't have transportation and need a way to get to interviews, recovery groups, church and other important appointments. Donation drives for **bus tokens**, like the one recently organized by **Valley Church**, are extremely appreciated.
- Sometimes we like to keep breakfast simple, so drives for **dry cereals** are super helpful. We appreciate the efforts of **Turner Construction** (pictured above) who donated tons of boxes!

If your family, church, civic group or business would like to hold a drive for items like these, please contact us at (515) 265-7272 or info@hopeiowa.org.

Let Your Legacy of Hope Live On

Your generous gifts are the reason struggling people can turn to Hope Ministries to overcome homelessness, addiction and spiritual despair. **When you include our ministry in your estate planning, your incredible compassion will continue to transform lives long after your lifetime.** You can choose how you wish to give – cash, real estate, property or stocks – and you can update your wishes at any time.

If you've already mentioned Hope Ministries in your will or are interested in learning how to, please contact Susan Haefner, Major Gifts & Planned Giving Director. She would love to thank you or answer your questions about leaving a legacy gift.

 (515) 265-7272

 shaefner@hopeiowa.org

Directing Your Bequests

The following language is recommended when including Hope Ministries in your will:

"I, [Name], of [City, State Zip], give, devise and bequeath the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, to Hope Ministries, tax ID #42-1512992, [and/or amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] for its unrestricted use and purpose."

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DOUBLE YOUR HELP!

Our Matching Challenge is under way now



Right now, a matching gift from a group of generous partners means every gift given until May 31 has double the impact. That adds up to TWICE THE HELP for people facing huge challenges throughout Central Iowa:

- ♥ Hot meals for those who are hungry (just \$1.85 each!)
- ♥ Safe shelter and beds for men, women and children facing homelessness
- ♥ Spiritual guidance for those longing to know the Lord
- ♥ Counseling and prayer for individuals battling addiction
- ♥ Training to prepare men and women for employment

HELP TURN

\$60,000 → \$120,000

YOU will be a blessing in so many lives!

This Matching Challenge ends May 31!



Send your gift for 2x the impact today.



**DON'T WAIT!
DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT BY
RESPONDING NOW.**

Because of YOU, every day ...

 200
Beds Provided

 500
Meals Served

 100
Participants in
Recovery Program