YOUR GIFTS & COMPASSION GIVE

HOPE
One life at a time

2019 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

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"Something was different here. I felt hope for the first time. They loved me at Hope Ministries like no one else. They cared for me and it was just . . . profound."
—CHUCK

hopeiowa.org
Our Mission
To rescue those who are homeless, hungry, abused or addicted, providing opportunities for hope, recovery and restoration through the love of Jesus Christ.

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This month—thanks to your wonderful support—Hope Ministries is embarking on its 105th year of service, providing safe refuge, warm meals and life-changing recovery programs for individuals and families in need. We’re also celebrating our 20th year since Bethel Mission (open since 1915) and Door of Faith (open since 1969) merged to become Hope Ministries.

For decades, God has sustained this ministry, and support from friends like you has helped us remain faithful to our calling as we meet the needs of those who are homeless, hungry, abused or addicted in Central Iowa. As I look back on 2019, I’m grateful for the many ways you partnered with us, through financial giving, volunteer support and most importantly of all, prayer. And on a personal note, I’m thankful to have celebrated my 25th anniversary at Hope Ministries!

Throughout this Annual Impact Report, you’ll read about how your partnership has made a difference inside the doors of our seven ministry centers. I especially hope you’ll take the time to read Chuck’s testimony on pages 4-5. I’ve been impacted by knowing Chuck, and I know many others have, too.

In addition to the thousands of men, women and children who received rescue services this past year—and the hundreds who worked hard to rebuild their lives in our life recovery programs—2019 also saw a variety of building improvements, program enhancements and community involvement activities. We continued partnering with thousands of generous individuals, businesses and churches and collaborated with other local organizations.

All in all, 2019 was another wonderful year of God’s provision for Hope Ministries. It’s our privilege to work alongside you to fulfill our mission of rescue, recovery and restoration... one life at a time. Thank you for Giving Hope and Changing Lives.

Your partner in ministry,

Leon Negen
President/CEO
On a rainy day in February 2013, with only the clothes he was wearing, Chuck left the house where he’d been staying temporarily with one goal in mind: Find a downtown Des Moines drug house.

But at the last minute, he saw Hope Ministries’ men’s shelter. “I’m standing there cold and soaked through. I’m thinking, ‘I got nothing left in me.’ I went back and forth across the road three times,” he says, until finally—desperate, broken and hurting—he made it inside. That was six years ago.

Chuck is a different man today, inside and out. But the journey to who he is now wasn’t easy . . .
Rescued from his past
“Drugs were always around,” Chuck says of his childhood. “My life was a mess. I went through treatment in the past, but I know now that I was always missing the key piece.”

Chuck found that key piece—God’s transforming love—at Hope Ministries. “I could feel it when I walked through the door,” he remembers. “I felt hope for the first time. They loved me at Hope Ministries like no one else. They cared for me, and it was just . . . profound.”

As he looks back to that time, Chuck says he’s still amazed by what happened in his life during his year in our life recovery program. “I became accountable for the first time in my life. I learned how to be dependable. I realized I didn’t have to be alone anymore.”

Restored to his family
Chuck and his wife, LaVonne, had been divorced for many years before Chuck came to Hope Ministries. Near the end of his time in our program, Chuck reached out to LaVonne . . . and eventually, God restored their relationship.

Chuck and LaVonne were remarried about one year after Chuck completed our program. “God restored so much. It’s amazing. I never could’ve imagined it.”

But Chuck still had a hard road to walk. In the summer of 2015, the couple lost both his dad and hers within 13 hours of each other. That fall, Chuck had a stroke. And only months later, Chuck and LaVonne lost their son.

“Honestly, I didn’t think we’d get through it. I don’t think that grief ever goes away. It’s only by God’s grace that I’m sustained. He’s seen me through so much.”

Committed to sharing hope
Today, as a member of our Hope Ministries maintenance staff, Chuck finds purpose in all he’s gone through. He spends much of his time working at our men’s recovery center . . . which means he has countless opportunities to talk with men who are right where he was years ago.

“I love that I was healed, restored and loved here, and now I get to be a part of what was already in motion before I got here,” he says.

Chuck says if he hadn’t come to Hope Ministries in 2013, he’d probably still be using, in prison . . . or worse, he might not be alive at all. But today, “My worst day now is better than my best day back then. God has taken my guilt and shame and replaced it with hope.”

These days, in addition to working at Hope Ministries, Chuck loves spending time with his grandchildren. “My granddaughter fell asleep on my lap the other night, and I looked down at her and thought, ‘I know there’s a God . . . and He loves me.'”
Ministry Centers
Your gifts help make an impact at all of our ministry centers!

**Bethel Mission**
Providing shelter, food, clothing and case management support for homeless men. In 2019, **more than 1,000 men** were served, many of whom continued on to our men’s life recovery center.

**Door of Faith**
Providing long-term life recovery for men, including life skills classes, job readiness training, substance abuse counseling, educational opportunities and more. In 2019, **more than 195 men** received help and guidance at our Door of Faith.
Hope Center for Women and Children
Providing single women and mothers with children—victims of homelessness who have experienced traumatic life challenges—compassion and safe refuge. Last year, **100+ women and children** found help and care at Hope Center.

Hope Café
Serving free breakfast, lunch and dinner 365 days a year to our shelter and recovery residents as well as to guests from the community. In 2019, we served a record number of meals—**more than 190,000 total!**

ENCORE Thrift Stores
Providing reasonably priced new and used clothing, furniture and household items. Through our two locations, job readiness training is provided to men and women in our life recovery programs. The stores provide **more than $1 million** annually in support of our programs and services.
**ASSETS**

Current Assets  $4,130,697  
Fixed Assets (net)  $6,014,564  
Other Assets  $6,194,964  
**Total**  $16,340,225

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

Liabilities  $1,365,878  
Net Assets  $14,974,347  
**Total**  $16,340,225

*Audit by Denman & Company, LLP

When added together, our general, administrative and resource development costs are well within the acceptable standards of the Better Business Bureau, the Combined Federal Campaign and the Evangelical Council on Financial Accountability for nonprofit organizations. We choose not to receive any funds that could compromise our Christ-centered mission.
In 2019, we laid the financial and architectural planning groundwork for a much-needed renovation at our Bethel Mission men’s shelter to help us meet the current growing need in our community while preparing our facility for future decades of service. It’s under way now!

The project includes renovation of our shelter dorm, restrooms, locker and laundry facilities, chapel and other spaces that have not been updated in nearly 30 years. The project also includes the addition of an elevator, making our facility handicap accessible.

When renovations are completed later this year, our facility’s capacity will increase from 80 shelter beds to 110, which is the maximum occupancy allowed in the building. We expect to be able to shelter 250 additional men in need every year!

“This place is without question the biggest blessing for men who are lost and broken and crying out. The genuine love and compassion here is amazing.” – WILLIAM, 2019 RESIDENT
AN UPDATE ON ONE OF OUR 2019 GRADUATES

We love celebrating with men and women who have completed our life recovery programs! Kelli is one of our 2019 graduates. She and her son Manny spent two years at our Hope Center for Women and Children, receiving help for the depression and other life struggles that had plagued her for so long.

“When I think about where I was then to where I am today,” she shares, “it’s just amazing. My faith in God is stronger than ever, and there’s been major improvement in every area of my life.”

Today, Kelli is working part-time while attending college classes full-time. She’s also active in our Hope Aftercare program, continuing to participate in Hope Center activities and receiving continued guidance from our aftercare case manager. “It’s so good to still be connected with everyone at Hope Center. I still have my Hope Ministries family even as I move forward in my life.”

We’re so proud of Kelli and all our 2019 graduates. Please join us in praying for each of them!

“Hope Ministries is one of the best things that’s ever happened to me. I’ll never stop being grateful!”
2019 Highlights

Holidays
On Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas—with the help of hundreds of volunteers—we served and delivered thousands of meals! Thanksgiving was especially buzzing as three churches helped us expand our outreach. Huge thanks to Lutheran Church of Hope (Ankeny), Heartland Presbyterian (Clive) and Living Faith Lutheran (Clive). Thank you to everyone who volunteered and donated food, Christmas gift bags, quilts and more.

Record-Setting Numbers
Your partnership helped us reach two big milestones at our Door of Faith men’s life recovery center in 2019. In January, we hit the highest number of men in life recovery that we’ve ever had. That same month, we provided the most bed nights in one month’s time than ever before! We also provided a record number of meals and nights of shelter ministry-wide in 2019.

New Van and Other Facility Improvements
In September 2019, we reached out to you as we faced a variety of needs . . . you blew us away with your support! Thanks to your generosity, we’ve purchased a new van for our Hope Center for Women and Children, which will be used for family outings, daycare runs, etc. Plus, your giving helped us obtain a new snowblower attachment and commercial washer and dryer, and also provided for needed repairs at our Door of Faith.
Thank You

Thank you for your gifts, volunteer support and prayers that made 2019 another incredible year of rescuing and caring for struggling people in Central Iowa.