YOUR GIFTS & COMPASSION GIVE

HOP A Faithful Presence

### **2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT**



HOMELESS **IOWANS** SINCE 1915

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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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT/CEO

Here at Hope Ministries, we have a little tradition whenever a staff member reaches a special work milestone. On every fifth-year anniversary we gather to celebrate their hard work. I always take the

opportunity to speak at these gatherings and there's a word I love to use when I do...

Longevity. It's not a flashy, exciting word, but it's weighty and meaningful. It speaks of commitment and faithfulness to a shared mission. It's a word that not only applies to dedicated employees who use their time and talents to serve men, women and children in need, but to our ministry as a whole. After all, Hope Ministries has been serving homeless and hurting people for 108 years!

For over a century, we've strived to be a faithful presence in our community. To help individuals and families discover what it's like to feel safe, loved and valued. To provide the simple but essential comforts of a warm meal and a comfortable bed, as well as life-changing recovery programs that are breaking the cycles of chronic poverty, addiction, abuse and more.

We're able to be a faithful presence for our neighbors because of God's faithful provision . . . and your faithful support. Truly, we couldn't do this vital work without you! As you read Shay's story on pages 4-5 and catch up on all our exciting happenings and areas of growth throughout the rest of this impact report, I hope you're filled with joy, knowing that through your financial gifts, volunteer efforts and/or prayers, you're a part of it all.

As we look to 2023 and all it holds, I'm so grateful to get to work alongside you as we build on the longevity of those who've come before us, faithfully fulfilling our mission of rescue, recovery and restoration. Thank you for helping us give hope and change lives.

Your partner in ministry,

Leon Negen President/CEO



I'm right uhere I belong

n the summer of 2021, Shay faced a life-changing crossroads. "Basically," he remembers, "I was going to die, or I was going to get help."

No stranger to grief, he'd used drugs and alcohol to numb the pain of one heart-wrenching loss after another. As a teenager, he lost one brother to suicide. Later, another died when he was hit by a drunk driver. And another passed away from cancer.

Add to that the angst of divorce and then, just two years ago, the death of his father, and Shay found himself spiraling. He lost his job and his addiction worsened. "There was so much grief. I just felt like I was alone and I was done. Honestly, I wanted to die. But it turns out God has a lot more for me."

Shay began to discover that "more" when he came to Hope Ministries in August of last year. A good friend, who also happens to be his ex-wife's husband and his daughter's stepdad, had gone through our life recovery program in the past—and he was the one to drive Shay from his home in Missouri up to Des Moines.

Shay arrived at our men's shelter on a Thursday and, he admits, he was mainly looking for "a way out of trouble" and didn't necessarily have high expectations for changing his life. But only four days later, God got ahold of his heart during a church service.

"The songs they were playing and the message that was preached—it's like it was directed toward me. It broke me down and I knew I was where I needed to be. From that point on, I *wanted* to be here."

That desire was a powerful catalyst. Shay found himself eager to grow in his faith. He pursued sobriety and faced the past hurts and areas in his life where he needed healing. For the next ten months, he dug into his classes and dedicated himself to a new way of living.

"What God has done in my life is incredible. I have more feelings now—good feelings. I'm not shut down or isolated. Now I have bad moments instead of bad days. I've learned that it's okay to ask for help." Each step of the way, Shay was uplifted by the support of his family, including his 21-year-old daughter. "She's my best friend. We talked every day that I was here." In late May 2022, Shay graduated from our program and moved back to Missouri, where he now works at the same farm where he previously lost his job.

And if you happened to run into him today, you'd probably have a hard time believing this is the same man who was ready to give up a year and a half ago! In between hanging out with his family and attending a tractor pull whenever he can, he's had multiple opportunities already to share his story with others. A video created by his church and a filmed speech he gave to high school students have both been viewed thousands of times.

"It's overwhelming and humbling and exciting," he says, adding that he also feels drawn to a new purpose. "I feel like God is leading me to become a drug counselor. I want to go back to school."

To those who have supported Hope Ministries through financial gifts and prayers, Shay says he's eternally grateful. "Without you, I don't believe I'd be here today. That's the truth."

## YOUR COMPASSIONATE SUPPORT HAS CHANGED SHAY'S LIFE FOREVER. THANK YOU!



#### **Hope Center for Women and Children**

Providing safe refuge, warm meals and life recovery programming for single women and mothers with children.

#### **Hope Ministries Steve Lankford Campus**

The site of our future center for women and children at 3800 E. Douglas in Des Moines. (More info on page 9)

#### **Bethel Mission**

Providing safe shelter, warm meals, daily essentials and case management support for homeless men.

#### **Door of Faith**

Providing long-term life recovery for men, including life skills classes, job readiness training, substance abuse counseling, educational opportunities and more.

#### **Hope Café**

Serving free breakfast, lunch and dinner 365 days a year to community members and our shelter/life recovery residents.

#### **Hope Ministries Thrift**

Providing reasonably priced clothing, furniture and household items—plus job readiness training for our life recovery residents—at two locations.

#### **Hope Ministries Drop-in Center**

Serving our neighbors through housing/job application assistance, referrals to community resources, and other practical assistance.



147,475 meals

59,419 nights of shelter

261 people in life recovery

848 volunteers

27,514 volunteer hours

Financial Update JULY 1, 2021-JUNE 30, 2022\*

ASSETS		How Your Support is Used	Where Our Cash Revenue Comes From
Current Assets	\$ 9,605,191		
Fixed Assets (net)	\$ 10,383,734		
Other Assets	\$ 12,060,752		
Total	\$32,049,677		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
Liabilities	\$ 3,213,323	81% Programs & Services	80% Individuals
Net Assets	\$ 28,836,354	<b>13%</b> Fundraising	<b>16%</b> Corporations/Foundations
Total	\$32,049,677	6% General & Administrative	4% Churches

\*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 Christcentered mission.

# An Update on our Future Center for Women and Children

Hope Ministries Steve Lankford Campus

Last year, we made wonderful progress on our vision of expanding our programs and services for women and children with a future center at 3800 E. Douglas in Des Moines.

In the spring of 2022, our *Empowering Women, Uplifting the Community* capital campaign went public with a \$1 Million Matching Challenge . . . which was met in early June! We were thrilled to be able to move forward with our project, holding a groundbreaking and name unveiling in mid-September.

Today, the major renovation and new construction needed to create our 100-bed center for homeless single women and moms with kids is under way at our Hope Ministries Steve Lankford Campus. We hope to be operational in our new center in 2024. We look forward to keeping you updated along the way.

A Look Back at Last Year



**Community Outreach Growth:** Last year, we continued our community outreach expansion—building relationships and providing practical assistance at our drop-in center. We also provided transportation to monthly onsite events, which included free haircuts, tours of our men's shelter and more.

**Meal Numbers on the Rise:** Feeding hungry people has been at the core of our ministry since we began in 1915! In the first six months of 2022, our meals number rose 15%. By the fall, they were up 24% over 2021.

**More Men's Mentors:** We started our men's mentoring program at our Door of Faith life recovery center four years ago . . . with four mentors. By 2022, we were up to 19 trained mentors who are investing in the lives of men as they work hard to rebuild their lives.

**Celebrating Personal Milestones:** Some of our favorite moments are the small moments and milestones that happen daily in our residential centers. For instance, last year one of our life recovery residents got his driver's license back after 20 years of it being suspended. He was able to pay off all his fines and pass both a written and driving test! Seeing men and women making important life strides—receiving high school equivalency diplomas, paying off debts, going out on job interviews—is a daily joy.



"There's Always Hope!"

*Hope. Recovery. Restoration.* These are words in our mission statement. But thanks to your compassion and support, they're also possibilities that become beautiful realities in the lives of those who turn to Hope Ministries for help—like Cindy.

The loss of Cindy's sister in a car accident and other childhood traumas sent her looking for something to help her cope . . . which is how her drug addiction began. Thirty-five years later, she found herself homeless, living in a storage unit, and once again desperate for help. So she reached out to our Hope Center for Women and Children.

Since she walked through our doors in July 2020, Cindy's life has been transformed! She completed our entire two-year life recovery program. She's been sober for two and a half years. She's paid off all her debts and fines. She has a full-time job and is living on her own, and she's rebuilt relationships with family members. She's active both in her church and our aftercare program. And now she has a mission to share hope with others . . .

"I want to be a witness to all those out there who think there's no chance of change. There's always hope. There's always love, there's always forgiveness. Most of all, there's always the love of Christ. If you think you're too broken, too down, you've done too many wrong things, you've lost your family ... it's never too late to change."



Thank you

Thank you for your gifts, volunteer support and prayers that made 2022 another meaningful year of rescuing and caring for struggling people in Central Iowa.



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