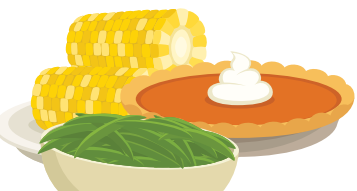


Thanksgiving Is on the Way!

We're planning our annual celebration of Thanksgiving and God's provision. Can you help? To serve 800 meals, we need:

- 28 large turkeys
- 9 boneless hams
- 40 #10 cans green beans
- 40 #10 cans corn
- 800 servings of instant potatoes
- 800 dinner rolls
- 40 loaves of bread
- 40 stalks of celery
- 8 lbs. of onions
- 8 dozen eggs

Please let us know ASAP what you can provide. Thank you!



You're helping Mary find hope and peace.

“The Homeless Are People Too”

Mary knows it could happen to anyone. She's grateful for your help.

This Thanksgiving, Mary is grateful for the Kokomo Rescue Mission, where she found a place to land, to rebuild and to find hope and peace.

For Mary, homelessness — brought about by joblessness — looked a little different than the stereotype. She wasn't sleeping on the streets and sidewalks. But she was crashing on couches of family members. And she didn't like it.

“I felt like a leech,” she says. “It made me feel beholden to them.”

When one family member downsized, there was no more couch for Mary, and she had no place to go. But thanks to your kindness, the Mission was ready and waiting with open arms.

A spinal issue causes chronic pain in her back and leg, which makes it difficult to

work. But the Mission has helped her apply for disability benefits. She says when she gets her first check, she's definitely making a donation to the Mission.

“Homelessness teaches you a lesson,” she says. “People have all these bad misconceptions about homeless people, especially the ones on the street. But they're people too. They've just fallen on hard times.”

Mary says that once she's able, she hopes to get a desk job — to keep her off her feet — find her own place and restore relationships with some family members. In the meantime, she's grateful for the Mission.

“I really appreciate everything they've done for me,” she says. “Thank you.”

Thank you for helping people find new life at the Mission!



A Message from Kevin

You Can Take Action Against Addiction



September is National Recovery Month, a time for spreading awareness of the hope-filled opportunities for people who struggle with addictions.

The Mission plays a vital role in helping neighbors overcome addiction. We give them a safe, loving place to live while also partnering with local Christian ministries that specialize in recovery programs.

If you know anyone struggling, we can help. So can these practical tips:



ATTENTION

Because addiction affects our communities and the families living there, it's important to bring attention to the situation. Using a variety of free online resources, you can educate yourself on the latest information, see what initiatives are already underway and discuss with your loved ones how best to help.



ADVERTISE

The Kokomo Rescue Mission partners with local Christian ministries that do an excellent job in helping people break free from their addictions. Share about the Mission on your social media, at your church or with someone you think could benefit from those services.



ADVOCATE

Those struggling with addiction need compassion and understanding. More than that, they need a voice. Unfortunately, stigmatizing language like "addict," "drug abuser" and "junkie" push those seeking recovery further away. Being an advocate begins with positive, empathetic and solution-oriented language.



ASSESS AND ALERT

Learn to assess possible signs of an overdose. These may include (but are not limited to) no response to stimuli; shallow or stopped breathing; and inability to be awakened. If you cannot get a response from someone, alert emergency personnel right away by calling 911, tell the operator your location and stay on the scene until an ambulance arrives.



ASSIST

One of the best and most powerful ways you can take action against addiction is to assist those struggling directly — either by making a donation or volunteering to support an outreach ministry organization like the Kokomo Rescue Mission.

Thank you for being a positive force for change!

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

— Psalm 107:1

This Thanksgiving season, I have many reasons to give thanks, starting with that verse. I'm thankful for God's goodness and enduring love!

But I'm also grateful for the opportunity to serve men, women and families here at the Kokomo Rescue Mission, which leads me to the second verse of that Psalm:

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble ...

Could any verse be more spot-on when it comes to a ministry like ours? Every day, we're seeing guests "redeemed from trouble" and finding help, hope and healing in the name of Christ. And we let them "say so" — in their testimonies at the Mission, in their conversations and in the pages of this newsletter.

I'm grateful to be a part of that ... and thankful for friends like you who've made it possible for 70 years of service. Thank you!

Serving Him by Serving Them,

Kevin L. Smith

Kevin L. Smith
Executive Director

"I Feel OK Again"

How your support helped Deanna find new life.

Deanna knows she's a changed woman after a year at the Kokomo Rescue Mission. She's at peace. She's confident. She's happy.

But Deanna has another objective measure of how much she's changed. And it has something to do with her language skills.

"I cussed like a sailor when I first got here," she says, laughing. But not anymore.

Deanna, 56, says that's partly because of following the rules, but it's mostly due to what she calls "a deep change inside." And she says that's because she feels deeply loved at Open Arms.

"Having people around me going through what I've gone through is a blessing," she says. "Being here has made me feel OK again."

Deanna hadn't been okay for a while, due to a meth addiction that started in her mid-40s — partly because she liked the buzz, and partly because it relieved chronic back pain. But the drugs ended up costing her her job, her home and most of her belongings.

She found a safe, healing place to land at Open Arms, and has had no desire to do drugs since. But she'd only been here a couple of months when she was diagnosed with cancer and went into a round of chemo and radiation.



Deanna is grateful for your kindness.

Whatever comes next, Deanna is facing it with courage. Her housemates bought her a T-shirt that says, "This is not the journey I would've chosen for myself, but I love life and I choose to fight."

"It made me feel wanted," Deanna says. "And needed."

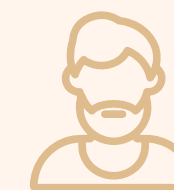
Because of you, women find new life at Open Arms. Thank you!

A Year's Worth of Goodness

Your generous support . . . by the numbers.

2022

108,564
meals served to hungry men, women, and children



292
men helped who stayed in our men's shelter



38,432
nights of provided shelter for our homeless neighbors



943

Thanksgiving meals served on Thanksgiving Day



768
families served by Red Ribbon Christmas, totaling more than 2,058 people

“I Want To Help People Get Clean”

Former cop now ministers to men he once busted.

A year ago, Troy Hintz was an officer with the Kokomo Police Department (KPD), arresting men who often ended up at the Kokomo Rescue Mission.

So when he took the job as Director of Men’s Ministry at the Mission last fall, you can imagine the reaction he got from some of the guys.

“What’s he doing here?” was a typical response.

It’s been a challenge since day one. But Hintz says that once a new guest has been around a while, they see that the former cop is truly there to help.

That desire started during his 26-year career as a KPD officer. He saw too many lives ruined — and lives lost — by drugs. He wanted to help by pointing addicts to rehab instead of jail. But they were always suspicious, because of the uniform.

So he retired from the force and came to the Mission, where he’s able to help men going through recovery while living at the Mission.

“I want to help people get clean,” Hintz says. “I want to show them God’s love and guidance for them. I want to help them learn how to be a man of God.”

Your support enables staff members like Troy do the sacred work of helping men find peace and purpose.



Troy Hintz now helps men land on their feet ... and not in prison.

Partner With Us To Bring Hope

Consider joining our team of monthly sustainers

We’d like to invite you to join **Partners in Hope**, a group of faithful supporters who give monthly to the Mission. That recurring commitment helps to foster hope here every day.

Hope is everything when ministering to people who are trying to break free from addictions, escape trauma or simply find a fresh start after life throws them a curve.

To join, check the monthly gift box in the response form below. Or, if you give online, check the monthly giving box. Thank you!

Volunteers Needed!

As the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays approach, we need lots of volunteers. Interested? Please email volunteer@rescuekokomo.org. Thank you!

▼ ▼ PLEASE CUT OFF THE REPLY FORM BELOW, AND RETURN IT WITH YOUR GIFT. THANK YOU. ▼ ▼

I Want To Transform Lives This Thanksgiving

YES, I want to help homeless, hungry and hurting men, women and families today and through the Thanksgiving season. Here’s my gift of:

- \$23.70** to provide **10 meals** and assistance.
- \$35.55** to provide **15 meals** and assistance.
- \$71.10** to provide **30 meals** and assistance.
- \$_____ to provide as many meals and as much assistance as possible.
- Make this a monthly gift** to join **Partners in Hope**.

Please make your check payable to the Kokomo Rescue Mission. Thank you!



To give online, use this QR code, or visit kokomorescuemission.org. Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law.



Kokomo Rescue Mission
P.O. Box 476
Kokomo, IN 46903-0476

Please charge my: VISA MC Discover AMEX

AMOUNT		
ACCOUNT NUMBER		
EXP. DATE	CVV	
NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
EMAIL		