



# Hope Awaits MINISTRIES

August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Monthly Newsletter

After 2 years of covid restrictions we were able to resume “operations as normal” on June 11, 2022. Since covid began many people asked us how it has affected the day-to-day at the shelter. Thankfully, with all clients getting their own room, our capacity didn’t decrease. We did have some hardships and a temporary closure with staff and clients testing positive with covid, but God pulled us through each occurrence and allowed us to continue to provide services to those in need.

I think the biggest operational impact was that for two years we could only have 3 people eat at a time. Prior to covid we enjoyed “family” dinners every night at the shelter. At our program clients help with cooking and cleaning; so we would cook dinner together, eat together, and then clean up together.

Unfortunately, covid put a stop to that time of fellowship. The staff and clients worked around the restrictions, but the friendships that were built between staff and clients around the table were limited.

In scripture there are many examples of Jesus sharing meals with others. With tax collectors and sinners (Matthew 9:9-13), with Pharisees (Luke 7:36), with crowds (Luke 9:12-17), with a leper (Mark 14:3), and with his disciples (Matthew 26:20).

Sharing a meal together is one of the ways relationships are established, deepened, and enjoyed. It has been such a blessing to return to “family” meals at the shelter. Sitting all around the

table together, talking about each persons’ day, getting to know one another, and sharing laughter.

Praise the Lord for the relationships that are built around the table!



Our dining room during covid



Our dining room on June 11

Nicole  
Executive Director



## Glory be to God!

## Our Vision

To see men filled with hope and transformed by the love, grace, and power of God.

### Highlights

#### Client Stats

In July we had nine men reside at the shelter. Of the nine:

- Four men were still in the program at the end of the month
- One man chose to leave the program
- Four men were asked to leave

#### Notes of Praise

In July one of the people who regularly come to our door for care packages told us that he got a job starting immediately! In conversation with staff he said "I am pretty proud of myself".

One of our clients who had gotten a job continued to do well at work and enjoys the job.

Three men came to bible studies in July – all hearing the gospel at least once during the studies!

We had a previous client return this month. There is a noticeable difference in him, and we have seen his demeanor changing positively while being here.

One man came for intake, and upon the initial intake we were unable to admit him to the shelter. However, staff challenged him and told him that if he met the challenge to come back and pick up the conversation. The man came back a week later having met the challenge and was accepted into the program! It is encouraging to see that he is serious about making a lifestyle change.

### How You Can Help

#### 1. Donate Towards Our Care Packages

From March 14, 2022 to August 6, 2022 we have given out 1,650 care packages. In March, April and May we averaged 43 people a week. However, those numbers have dramatically increased. In June and July we have been averaging 130 people a week. That's a 202% increase!

You can help provide care packages to those in need by donating any of the following items:

- Bottled Water
- Juice Boxes
- Fruit / Apple Sauce Cups
- Nutri-Grain Bars
- Disposable Bags

#### 2. Donate Towards Our Current Needs

At the shelter, we are currently in need of:

- Toilet Paper
- Cereal
- Blankets

#### 3. Donate Gently Used Clothing

Did you know that we accept used men's clothing? Hope Awaits provides clothing to clients and anyone who comes to our door.

Currently our clothing bank is low on the following items:

- Large Men's Sweaters
- Large Long Sleeve Shirts
- Pants Size 36 or Smaller
- Summer Jackets

Donations can be dropped off daily between 6pm and 9pm

# Glory be to God!