



HEART OF HOPE
MINISTRIES

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

President's Annual Report for Calendar Year 2022

We did it! We completed the renovations on our Giving Hope House, and it is **BEAUTIFUL!** There were many disappointments and delays, but the house has been transformed into a welcoming home. We are extremely grateful for Mr. John Kessler, who first mentioned acquiring the vacant house that is adjacent to our parking lot. John not only mentioned acquiring the house, he dedicated countless hours to working on the renovations. We can't thank him enough for all he did to bring excellence to this big project! We then must thank the One Eighty Enterprises for sending their team to finish the vast amount of work needed in painting all rooms inside and the two-story exterior of the home; installing all new cabinets in the kitchen; laying all new flooring inside; rebuilding the front and back porches; and all the other tasks involved in the transformation. And then there was the non-profit "Humble Dwellings" led by founder Karen VanDeCastele, that put the finishing touches on the house. They made our Giving Hope House into a warm, "move-on-in" home that all who enter, want to stay. It truly took much effort, including the donations of so many who helped us raise over \$82,000 to pay for the renovations. Our **GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to each of you. You invested into the lives of those who will have a place to call home, while they strive to also experience **TRANSFORMATION** of their personal lives!

Our first annual audit was conducted by Mr. Chris Vershaw, CPA. We are very proud to share that Heart of Hope Ministries received his highest audit opinion!!! Due to increased grant revenue and investments made in renovating our Giving Hope House, we finished the year with Total Assets of over \$410,000! And our 2023 Budget targets additional growth as we strive forward in getting our Business Property at 900 18th Avenue in Rock Island adding value to the community, and generating revenue for program expansion.

Our vision statement expresses our goal of **revitalizing** Rock Island neighborhoods, providing opportunities that **empower** individuals to become self-sufficient, and **equipping** future generations for success.
BY GOD'S GRACE, WE ARE DOING JUST THAT!



[1] Exterior of the renovated Giving Hope House.

[2] The beautifully decorated new living room.

[3] The kitchen after renovations with new appliances.



A Recap of Special Events In 2022:

- In April, over 100 computers were distributed to households meeting poverty income guidelines by an organization called PCs for People. They came with a semi-truck from Oak Lawn, IL and people lined up!
- In June, we were honored with an award from the Rock Island County NAACP Committee for their 2022 Religious Image Award.
- In August, Heart of Hope Ministries participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Family Fund Day Parade!
- In August, we invited our supporters to join us for an Open House as we showcased our Giving Hope House. Four local pastors, and numerous community leaders joined us also. Miles Brainard, Director of Economic Development, was one of our guests. He saw the house pre-renovations and helped with the acquisition. After attending the open house, he commented that he was thinking of some other houses in Rock Island that he could get us to flip!
- In September, Cassin Wolfe and Lucas Dengler of Modern Woodmen of America hosted a very successful Golf Outing Charity Fundraiser for Heart of Hope. These two amazing young men were able to generate \$6,482!
- In November, we held our first Annual Dinner Gala at the Rock Island Holiday Inn. We were extremely blessed by a wonderful evening as our guests filled the room and enjoyed the program. We were able to raise around \$16,000!
- In December, we hosted a Christmas Community Give-away that caused families to line up outside to receive new clothing, underwear, coats, boots, gloves, hats, scarves, toilet paper, pillows, blankets, and toys! This was made possible by the generosity of SO MANY!
- In December, we created special Christmas Baskets for the elderly and disabled and blessed them with new blankets, and needed household items, and of course candy. A Christmas Card containing a \$20 gift card was also included thanks to Woodriver Baptist.

[1] The Giving Hope House Open House was attended by Karen VanDeCastele and her husband, joined by Mr. John Kessler (on the right), volunteer Project Manager for the renovations.

[2] Attendees of the Christmas Community Giveaway.

[3] The Dinner Gala Fundraiser held in November.

[4] MKLJ Family Fun Day Parade. Jake is a Heart of Hope food pantry volunteer, and he brought a special friend to be our private parade mascot.

Heart of Hope Ministries continues to partner with these agencies:

- **Christian Care Men's Rescue Mission** – serving at their outreach center once a month and sharing of food and clothing donations between organizations.
- **Royal Neighbors of America** – Heart of Hope Ministries has a chapter relationship with this very supportive organization. They provide \$700 quarterly in support and \$1,000 matching grant award for fundraisers!
- **Churches United** – our Food Pantry is listed as an agency under their umbrella. Food resources are made available to us as they receive them.
- **River Bend Food Bank** – where we purchase food for our weekly distributions. We also receive a monthly delivery through the State of Illinois EFP Program.
- **Midwest Food Bank** – from Peoria, IL is a wonderful source of free food distributed monthly in our area at the QC Expo Center.
- We owe much gratitude to **Little Caesars Pizza in Rock Island**, and **Hy-Vee Food Stores on Locust Street in Davenport** for their years of donated pizzas and bread and pastries weekly. Two area farmers also provide fresh eggs and produce in season.
- **Underwear Because We Care** organization continues to provide new underwear garments for men, women, and children twice a year.
- **Modern Woodmen of America, The Rock Island Public Library, The Rock Island Rotary Club, Walmart Stores, Silvis, and Aetna Insurance** have all been wonderful partners in 2022.

Reporting on our 2022 Efforts

FOOD PANTRY: In 2022 our Food Pantry served 3,510 visitors to our pantry and, made 1,943 deliveries to the elderly and disabled. This totals 5,453! These visitors reported 13,319 family members in their households. **This represents a 40% increase in individual family members being served between 2021 and 2022! Over 202,000 pounds of food was given to these needy families.** Since opening our Food Pantry in May of 2014, we have served 19,793 visitors representing 72,002 family members! What amazing numbers reflecting the difference we are able to make in the lives of those in need in our community! Another amazing fact is that we are able to distributed healthy meats, produce, dairy items, canned and boxed food items, and toiletries for only \$.66 per individual served!!!

CLOTHING MINISTRY: Pre-Covid 19, our clothing ministry had an average of 25 visitors per month, estimating about 300 visitors per year. We learned to be innovative and put our clothing and small household items outside on Thursdays to allow food pantry visitors to make clothing selections when they came for food. Now, hundreds of clothing items are taken by our outside visitors from an abundant supply brought in from numerous donors. Neighborhood youth were able to select school clothing items which included shoes, socks, underwear, coats, gloves, and hats.

YOUTH OUTREACH MINISTRY: We plan to start our youth after school programs again this summer after discontinuing due to the pandemic. We have been able to give food and clothing items directly to many of our neighborhood young people who live in the neighborhood of our Outreach Center. Many of these young people are from large African families that were refugees to our communities and have very limited financial resources. Illinois Casualty Company held a back-to-school backpack and school supplies giveaway for us in July. Many families were served through this. Left over items were brought to our outreach center for further distribution.

ADULT OUTREACH PROGRAMS: We network with numerous other community organizations to assist adults in need of those items that we cannot supply. We can provide food, clothing, and referrals. Our computer lab is available for usage by individuals to look for job opportunities, type up resumes, and search for information. We have seen some of our frequent volunteers obtain employment due to these resources. Several of our volunteers obtained employment with John Deere during 2022! Food and Clothing has been given to help clients prepare for employment positions. Assistance has been given for travel needs, medication costs, or other miscellaneous emergency needs.



[1] Delivering baskets to the elderly and disabled.

[2] Box of fresh vegetables given out to those in need.

[3] Neighborhood youth ready to share a meal.

[4] Young ladies helping with food pantry enjoying a ride in our food pantry wagon.

[5] Family waiting on the food pantry to begin.

Church Mission Support:

- We are grateful for the continued financial support from **River City Church, Moline** and for our new church mission support from **Bettendorf Christian Church!** BCC has also come alongside us in work projects throughout the year. In December, their whole administrative team came to serve at HoH. They cleaned our yards, cleaned gutters, and worked on projects inside our Giving Hope House! So grateful for Pastor Barry Steiner, Mission Pastor. What a servant-hearted church they are!
- Pastor Scott Casto, from **First Church of the Nazarene in Rock Island**, also blessed us with a toilet paper drive that collected over 1,000 rolls! WOW!
- We are thankful for EVERY ministry that came alongside us in some way!



[1] Pastor Barry Steiner, Bettendorf Church Missions & Care Pastor, with Pastor Lynda on stage at their November 20th Sunday service.



[2] Pastor Scott Casto and family, from Rock Island First Church of the Nazarene ROLLING in the Toilet Paper!

Grant Awards in 2022:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • UnityPoint Health – Trinity Rock Island , \$1,500 | • Bechtel Charitable Trust , \$20,000 |
| • Wal-Mart , \$1,000 | • Doris & Victor Day Foundation , \$5,000 |
| • Kiwanis – \$800 | • QC Community Foundation , \$20,000 |
| • Rock Island Township , \$1,000 | • Rauch Family Foundation 1 , \$2,000 |
| • The Moline Foundation , \$3,000 | • Foundant Charitable , \$2,000 |
| • Regional Development Association , \$10,000 | • Hubbell Waterman Family Foundation , \$20,000 |
| • Greg & Joann Conroy , \$1,000 | • Greg & Joann Conroy , \$1,000 |
| • Black Hawk Bank , \$1,000 | • Doris & Victor Day Foundation , \$1,000 |
| • United Way , \$11,250 | • Newborn Family Legacy , \$5,000 |
| • Genesis Philanthropy , \$5,000 | |
| • Greg & Joann Conroy , \$1,000 | |
| • Rock Island Community Foundation , \$1,000 | |



We look ahead to continued serving in all these areas in 2023 and plan to expand services as we get our Giving Hope House fully occupied with men that we might help empower them to become self-sufficient, and equip them for future generational success. We are making plans to get our donated Business property at 900 18th Avenue ready to add value to the community, and to create a new stream of income for Heart of Hope Ministries!

In sincere gratitude for your continued support!

Lynda J. Sargent

Lynda Sargent, Heart of Hope Ministries Founder and Board President