

STORIES of HOPE

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MEGAN IS GRATEFUL & BLESSED THIS THANKSGIVING

because of your support

You've given her hope and
new life this holiday!



DON'T MISS...

2 Our Thanksgiving Campaign has begun!

3 "Through these doors, I found peace."

4 Volunteers Needed



“When I walked
through
these doors,
**I WAS AT
PEACE.**”



All Megan knew growing up was chaos and dysfunction. “My dad was an alcoholic and there was domestic violence... you start to feel like that’s normal.”

Her older sister raised Megan and did her best to shield her from the turmoil. “But it had a bigger effect on me than I thought, because I started down a really bad path.”

Megan’s troubles began when she was evicted and ended up living in the woods. Scared and alone, when some people she met introduced her to drugs, she decided to try them.

“I struggled with methamphetamine for three years... homeless, in addiction and hopeless.”

The turning point came when Megan was in jail. She began reading the Bible and felt hope stirring.

When she was released, Megan’s sister brought her here to Gateway Mission... and everything changed.

“When I walked in the doors I felt so welcome and at home. I cried and cried, because it was the best feeling to have safety, structure and stability... I was at peace.”

In our Gateway Program, Megan discovered a relationship with the Lord. The coaches, spiritual guidance and community of support brought her healing and new life in Christ.

After graduating, Megan works full-time in our Thrift Store as part of our Transitional Development Program. “They keep you busy and I love to do that... I’m very motivated.”

She has also reunited with her three sons, whom she was unable to care for in her addiction. “I am a new person in Christ, raising my children. I have been made whole.”

**“I SURRENDERED 100% AUTHORITY
TO GOD... TRYING TO WALK
ALONGSIDE PEOPLE IN THE SAME
WAY THE MISSION WALKED
ALONGSIDE ME.”**

She continues to focus on her recovery and walk with the Lord, as she waits on Him to guide her next steps.

Megan’s heart is overflowing with gratitude this Thanksgiving because YOUR loving support gave her the confidence and support to rebuild her life. “I’m thankful to the Mission because they supported me and walked alongside me through my brokenness and struggles.”

Celebrating Thanksgiving Every Day of the Year



A Message from DARRYL BARTLETT

Here's a wonderful Bible verse for this season of Thanksgiving: *"This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."* (Psalm 118:24) During

Thanksgiving, we gather to thank the Lord for blessings of family, food and health.

But what if we kept that same, abundant spirit of the holiday in giving thanks every day of the year?

Each day at the Mission, I see people who are thankful for the gift of new life that YOU helped make possible! You wrap them in God's loving embrace. Teach them skills to build brighter futures. Lift up our ministry and guests in prayer. And rejoice over every heart restored and life rebuilt!

Life is challenging right now. With continuing inflation, costs for necessities like housing, gas and groceries are

higher than ever. It's even harder for our struggling neighbors to make ends meet... and for our ministry to meet our community's pressing needs.

Through it all, I remain faithful to God's calling and grateful that I can rely on friends like you. My prayer this Thanksgiving is that you will do the same.

I hope you will take comfort in the love of friends and family, and the joy of knowing hearts are changed thanks to you. God bless you!

Darryl Bartlett
Executive Director

2022 THANKSGIVING CAMPAIGN

YOU can give our hurting neighbors reason to celebrate!

28,000

Meals Needed this Thanksgiving Season

Thanksgiving can be another difficult day for our neighbors struggling to overcome homelessness... poverty... addiction. But you can change that!

Just \$2.05 provides a hot, nourishing meal. Your gift welcomes someone to our table and leads to a better life through:



Safe, welcoming shelter



Warm clothing, coats & shoes



Classes & job training



God's life-changing love



We need your help to serve thousands of meals this holiday season! **Please rush your 2022 Thanksgiving Campaign gift today using the enclosed reply card and envelope OR online at hopefoundhere.org.**

Read Megan's story – a life you helped change!





Leave a Legacy
&
Make an Eternal Impact

As you plan for your future, it's important to create a will or trust to care for your loved ones. But have you considered including your favorite nonprofit organizations as well?

Leaving a legacy gift provides you with an extraordinary opportunity to support the work of Gateway Mission both now and for generations to come. Your gift will create a lasting legacy of support to share God's love and mercy with hurting and homeless people in our community.

For more information about the options available to you, please contact Rachael Neal, our Development Director, at **(616) 396-2200**. If you have already included the Mission in your will, please call so we can say "thank you."



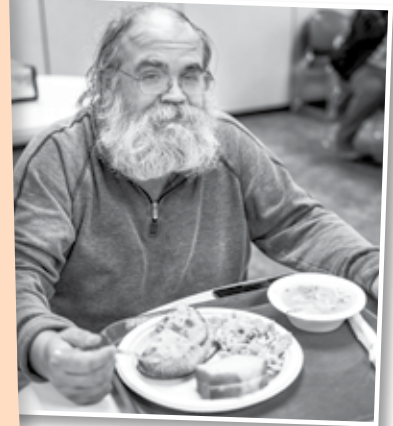
Help Us Get Ready!



You wouldn't believe how much we still have to do to get ready for the Thanksgiving season... **you can help!** Host a food drive or shop for these critically-needed items, then drop them off at **166 S. River Avenue, seven days a week.**

Don't have time to shop? Send a gift in the envelope provided to help us purchase what's needed on our food list.

Turkeys
Hams
Stuffing mix
Cream of mushroom soup
Milk
Dinner rolls
Recyclable cups and napkins
Canned vegetables



Thank you for making these meals extra special!

Volunteers Needed

Do you have a heart to serve men, women and children here at the Mission? **We would love for you to join us as a volunteer!**

Contact us today to see how you can help...

Call: **Katie Taylor at (616) 928-3451**

Email: **volunteer@hopefoundhere.org**

Or visit **hopefoundhere.org** to find out more or sign up now!