AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Isaiah 49:16 "Behold I have engraved you on the palms of my hands: your walls are continually before me"

I don't ever want to forget that a Holy, righteous, loving God has me on His mind and says "I don't forget about you. I'm committed to you. Everything that I'm doing—I'm thinking about you!" There is no doubt that life will get difficult at some point. We live in a fallen world that is in hourly need of God's glorious salvation and restoration. Even on the good days, we need the humility to know that God is holding us in the palm of His hand. It's such a picture of our homeless and their daily struggles. I want to share with you one of my friends, Mike. I met Mike about 15 years ago. He was raised by 1 foster mom but became rebellious and at 18 was kicked out. Mike even joined the bloods for a while

until his addiction became too much. His foster mom passed away and he realized he was alone and we became like a 2nd foster family. He was in our men's shelter for a while, (hiding out when he exited the gang). We placed him into 2 rehabs and then a few years ago he went into Victory Outreach in Philly. He gave his life to Jesus there and began to really see what life could be like in Jesus. He left Victory Outreach after a few months for a job. He really had dreams of reuniting with his son and his girlfriend. Mike continued to struggle with addiction then sobriety--back and forth. I just saw him last week on our Street Outreach. We got a big hug and talked for a while. He said he was sober and he looked it. He was homeless again, living in a tent in the woods and looking for work. Then Saturday I received a message that he went to be with the Lord. As broken hearted and sad as I am, I rejoice that he is with the Lord now and his struggles are no more because Mike was engraved in the hand of the Lord! I ask that you pray for his son who is fatherless now but lives with his grandparents. Also pray for the other homeless people that were living with Mike. My prayer for them is that they see that tomorrow is not promised and there is hope. The hope that Mike found in Jesus, that we all can find. Pray for my staff and volunteers that go out with me, that through the sadness they see that they are truly the hands and feet of Jesus!

Christian Caring Center

I feel privileged to have experienced the power of agreement when churches and you reach out to the Christian Caring Center in support, prayers and giving to help others, and I can tell you this — I wouldn't want to work in God's Kingdom any other way. Unity among the brethren reflects the heart of the Father, and He says that where unity prevails, the anointing of His presence saturates and commands His blessing to manifest in their midst (see Psalm 133)! The Christian Caring Center has continued to be a blessing to individuals and families all because of your generosity and agreement and we are grateful! Thanks so much for your continued support and prayers as we all minister to the kingdom of God.

Madelyn Sutton Executive Director



Gideon's Army

All of you are like Gideon, a mighty warrior for the Lord and for our clients. You are the selected 300 in our Army fighting against the invaders of hunger and homelessness. You are the Army of God that supplies the needs of the Christian Caring Center as we provide: food, case managers who help people with homeless prevention by catching up on late rent payments, helping someone who is homeless get into a new apartment, find a new job, reunite with family, help someone with no heat, or a large utility bill, a warm winter coat, take a shower, get clothing, etc. This help is monumental when someone is in need, it's a life changer. It also provides us an opportunity to pray and share the Gospel with our guests, which is the real-life changer for eternity. We do all this in love the same way Jesus did as He did on this side of heaven. Please prayerfully consider joining our Gideon Army as a supporter for a commitment of \$35 per month and be a life changer!





Corn Hole Fundraiser

The Corn Hole Fundraiser is hosted by the Medford Knights of Columbus at St. Mary of the Lakes School, 196 Rt. 70, Medford. This Fundraiser will support the Programs of the Christian Caring Center. The Knights do a wonderful job of supplying the volunteers, food and prizes. We just need **YOU** to come and play! You'll have a great time at this family-friendly event. Our goal this year is \$15,000, no donation is too small or too large.





To read our Impact Report, simply scan the QR Code or visit us at www.christiancaringcenter.net What we do



Christian Caring Center

Men's Emergency Shelter Program

Jack Stelle Men's Emergency Shelter: We have 3 men in the shelter right now. Rich, Robert and Quincy. Rich is on disability and looking for housing. Quincy is working at Dollar Tree and in an outpatient program while looking for housing. Robert is applying for a Senior Housing Apartment. We are asking for your prayers for all the men. Holman House: Is temporarily closed to residents right now as we are going through renovations of adding a bathroom and bedroom for an isolation room. Marion House: Our mom and 4 children were placed in another program. We are interviewing a few new Moms for the placement. Please pray for them as there are many and we can only select 1.

Volunteerism

As we are open 5 days per week, we greatly need volunteers. We only have 10 regular staff (5 full time and 5 part time staff) to run 12 programs. We have opportunities to fit your schedule: weekly, monthly, virtual, project oriented like Holiday baskets, food pickups, food or basket shopping, events such as our Corn Hole or Sleep Out fundraisers, etc. Randy Holston has been promoted to Development Coordinator and he is eager to work with your group, church, and volunteers to further our ministry and minister to our growing needs. If your workplace, group or church are looking for opportunities to serve the community, Randy would love to talk to you. Drop us an email at christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com or call him at 609-793-3917.

Emergency Food

The Lord through the Christian Caring Center helped **379** households or **1,032** individuals with **18,576** meals in the month of July 2024- PTL!!!

Community Lunch/Rural Homeless Program

The Lord through the Christian Caring Center served **943** hot cooked lunches and continental breakfasts in the month of July 2024. We also go out to the streets/woods on Wednesday and Friday to deliver **45** lunches and outreach to the homeless, alcoholic, addicted or mentally challenged men, women in 2 area motels. Please continue to pray for the people still out there homeless and struggling as well as the staff and volunteers.

Salvation Army Service Units & Grants in July 2024

The Christian Caring Center serves as a volunteer service unit for the Salvation Army. 5 families and 6 individuals totaling 11 households were helped with utilities. SSH assisted 3 families with security deposits. SSH/TANF assisted 6 families with security deposits. 4 households were helped with back rent. 3 households were helped with first month rent with 1 motel placement. Totaling 13 households helped.

Bridge of Hope



We have a new mom who has 1 child and just moved into a new apartment in Edgewater Park. Thank you for all your support and prayers.

The Cristian Caring Center opportunity Volunteer

7 Most Wanted Volunteer Positions

1. Interviewers/to pray with the people receiving food.

 Sleep Out Fundraiser (participants, supporters/sponsors, food, etc.)
Corn Hole Fundraiser (participants, sponsors)

4. Volunteers to work with homeless clients locating housing & jobs.

 5. Volunteers for making gift baskets for auction at our fundraising events.
6. Volunteers to sort our clothing and shed for our Baskets

7. Volunteers to work with our jewelry fundraiser.

Sleep Out

SLEEP OUT FUNDRAISER The Sleep Out is on October 5th at the Medford United Methodist Church, 2 Hartford Road., Medford. This fundraiser will support our Bridge of Hope Program and Family Promise Program. Both minister to homeless families with children. Our goal with your help is \$25,000. This is a great program to include children in, some have community service hours or confirmation hours. Or you can do this as a family, even sleep on the living room floor as many homeless families must do at relatives' homes. Give Randy a call or drop him an email to see how you can participate. Scan below for more information





Back to School

The next Basket outreach will be Back to School backpacks for the children and homeless on August 22, 2024. We were able to distribute to 167 children last year. If you would like to volunteer, donate backpacks, school supplies, conduct a food drive, have your Church or Sunday School put together a card to place in the backpacks (children love putting notes for other children), we would love to have you!. Please drop us an email find out more at christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com

Needed Items

FOOD PANTRY CLOTHING

- 1. Peanut Butter & Jelly 1. Warm sweatshirts and sweatpants
- 2. Tuna & soups 2. Jeans of all sizes, but especially 32-36
- 3. Instant Potatoes 3. Sneakers
- 4. Cereal, Breakfast bars, Nutra grain bars 4. Tee Shirts
- 5. Juice, shelf milk , bottles of water 5. Hygiene items
- 6. Pasta (we received sauce from the F/B) 6. Sleeping bags

& bug spray (Off)

- <u>SHELTERS</u>
- 1. Twin Sheets for our 3 shelter
- 2. New comforters for our 3 shelters
- 3. Gently used or new pots and pans
- 4. Cleaning supplies (Dawn, bathroom cleaner, etc)
- 5. Gently used or new towels & washcloths
- 6. Zippered plastic sheet protectors for twin beds

The Christian Caring Center also receives YOUGIVEGOODS.COM, you can purchase items and they will ship them to us.