



HOUSE of HOPE
OF THE PEE DEE

Hope In Action

The House of Hope's Newsletter
Winter 2019

1020 West Darlington Street, Florence, SC 29501 Post Office Box 7129, Florence, SC 29502 www.hofh.org 843.667.9000

30 Years of Serving

In 1988, Bill and Jean Fryer witnessed as many as 20 homeless people being turned away from a shelter here in Florence and were deeply troubled by the fact that there was no safe haven for them. This turned out to be a moment that would forever change both of their lives. After much prayer, Bill and Jean sold their home in Winston-Salem and moved to Florence, leaving behind friends, family and the life they had known. At the end of 1989 the original men's shelter was opened in Effingham, SC in the old Bonaire Elementary school and was called the **Area Rescue Mission**.



In 1991 they received their official non-profit status and become the **New Life Rescue Ministry**. The growing need to care for women



Bill with the first resident, Dennis

and children prompted the opening of a new facility and in 1999 the Darlington street location was opened. To unify these two locations, in 2006 the official name for both facilities became **House of Hope of the Pee Dee**.



In 2015 the unexpected death of Courtney Graham prompted her family to want to open an emergency shelter to honor her work with those in need. They contacted the House of Hope to see about partnering in making her dreams come true. The **Courtney McGinnis Graham Community Shelter** opened in October of 2016 and in 2018 alone housed, 1142 men, women and children, offering more than 25,000 meals and nearly 10,000 nights of lodging.



As the original men's shelter in Effingham began to deteriorate it became necessary to move the men to another facility. In 2017 the men were moved to the Darlington Street location and the women were moved to the community shelter. Because of this move we have begun fundraising to build another building on the grounds of the community shelter so we can accommodate the ever growing homeless population in the Pee Dee. Our goal is that no man, woman or child should ever go without food, shelter, clothing and especially the love of Christ.



A Mission Not Adrift

Philippians 3:17-20 (ESV) “Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,”

I recently watched a movie called “Adrift” about a young couple that got lost at sea due to a hurricane. Their boat was badly damaged. The GPS system and engine that would help chart the course and provide the power were gone which left a young lady named Tami alone to chart her way home. I remember her detailing that even the smallest miscalculation in her course could have the devastating consequence of her missing the safety of a small chain of islands. Truly being adrift and getting off course can be fatal in these types of situations.

Paul warned the Church of Philippi that getting off course as a ministry can be fatal as well. He noted that some that were once faithful to the cause of Christ were now enemies of the Cross. Wow! How could someone become so adrift that their initial goal was no longer their final destination? Below is an email from Mitch Gowan, our Director of Adult Ministries to our staff. It encouraged me and I hope that it will encourage you as well.

Dear Staff, Most organizations have a tendency to drift from their original calling. Consider this statement, "To be plainly instructed and consider well that the main end of your life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ." This statement could come from a Bible college, but it's actually from Harvard University. As Harvard began to drift from God, Yale was founded in 1701 to combat that drift. Today, neither remains true to its original call. While celebrating the 350th year anniversary of Harvard, Steven Muller, former president of Johns Hopkins University said, "The bad news is the university has become Godless". Not only schools but many organizations slowly drift from their original calling. They seek to accommodate outside pressures and begin to compromise and cease to function as they were originally intended.

The more I think about the House of Hope's Courtney McGinnis Graham Community Shelter's purpose to reach the lost with the Gospel of Christ, the more I am convinced that we are staying true to our original calling. Every social service we provide, every Case Manager meeting, all of our Bible Studies, children programs, down to our policies and procedures, everything we do is viewed through the prism of this purpose, to reach the lost with the Gospel. This is what sets us apart. We are not just a shelter that provides wonderful social services. We do these things well -- but rather, we are a Gospel preaching ministry foremost. Every day I see men, women and children who were once hopeless now living productive, fulfilled lives only because of the transforming power of the Gospel.

As our ministry continues to change and grow, we don't need to reinvent what we do, just reaffirm what works -- Jesus Christ changes lives. We must stay true to this calling so we will not drift nor fail. We must continue to stand with our feet firmly planted on the Rock of our salvation, Jesus Christ. This is why we are here and this is why the Courtney McGinnis Graham Community Shelter exists. - Mitch Gowan

With this I conclude that after 30 years the House of Hope continues to make the Gospel of Jesus Christ the focus of our ministry. We provide the love of Jesus Christ to those we serve through shelter, clothing, food and life recovery programs but an eternal home in Heaven is what we desire most for our guests. Below are the number of people served and that came to know Christ as their Savior through our Ministry. Glory to God for all that He has done and we thank you for your support.

In His service,
Bryan Braddock

2018 House of Hope Statistics

47 known Salvations— 20,000 nights of lodging—50,000 meals served—1200 different guests—122 children



It's Graduation Time!

About once a quarter we have men who have completed the program at the House of Hope and are ready to graduate into their future. This is not an easy road they have completed. They have overcome the issues that brought them to us. They have become employed. They have a savings account, some for the first time. They have learned how to cook, do laundry and manage money. Most importantly they have come to the most impactful relationship of their lives, with Christ. Come and help us celebrate them on **February 19th at 6:30** in the Florence Baptist Temple's chapel. You will have the opportunity to hear from them about their journey to, and through, the House of Hope. Stay and have coffee and donuts and congratulate them in person!



Are There Other Ways to Support the House of Hope?

YES! Let me count the ways!

1. **Donate** with this form or on line. One time or monthly!
2. **Volunteer** your time. Go to www.hofh.org and fill out an application, Karen will get in touch with you and plug you in!
3. Clean out your house and take the extras to the **Mission Marts!** 100% of the sales go to the House of Hope to care for the homeless!
4. **Come** be a part of our Evening of Hope with Willie and Korie Robertson. Invite your friends to come to this fun evening and hear about what we do!
5. **Attend** the Graduation. This will forever change how you view the homeless!

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ @ _____

YES, I/We would like to support The House of Hope and help the homeless.

I/We would like to contribute:

- \$500.00 will provide shelter for five residents for one month
- \$200.00 will provide transportation for eight residents for one month
- \$100.00 will provide cleaning supplies and personal items for one month
- \$ _____ Other
- My company will match my gift.
- I would like to be a LIGHT OF HOPE monthly giver.**
I would like my gift drafted on
 - 1st or 15th of each month.
 - Use my credit card information below.
 - Use my voided check enclosed.

Payment by: Check to House of Hope Visa /MasterCard Discover
Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ 3 Digit Security Code _____

Name as it appears on the card: _____

Signature: _____

To donate online visit www.hofh.org. Or Text "Homeless" to 73256 for text giving

March 4, 2019 at 7pm



At the Florence Center

Evening of Hope 2019 with Willie and Korie Robertson!

We are so excited that the Robertson's will be coming to speak at our 30th Anniversary event. Their outspoken faith on their popular TV show Duck Dynasty, their close family, and their business acumen have made them nationally known! But for duck hunters they have been popular for many years with their Duck Commander duck calls. For general admission tickets stop in at the civic center box office, or order them online through Ticketmaster. 100% of the ticket price goes to the House of Hope!

Mission Marts

As you're cleaning out the house getting ready for Spring, please remember to bring your excess to our Mission Marts. 100% of the proceeds go back to the local homeless! We're at 2523 W. Palmetto and 953 S. Irby. St. If you have a large donation go to www.pickupmydonation.com and we'll come pick it up!



HOUSE of HOPE MISSION MART



Visit us at: www.hofoh.org

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