

TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 2022

Topeka Rescue Mission • 600 N. Kansas Avenue • Topeka, KS 66608-1240

call: 785 - 354 - 1744

email: trm@trmonline.org

website: TRMonline.org

FOR OUR CURRENT NEEDS LIST

VISIT: TRMONLINE.ORG



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THE CALL TO CARE

“Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” - Colossians 4:4-6

As we enter the holiday season we realize that although the holidays can be a celebratory time for those of us who have traditions, family and fellowship, they can be a time of remembered trauma, loneliness and depression for others who lack the resources or relationships to celebrate.

At TRM it is our calling to care about those in need, whether these are primarily the physical needs of food, shelter and

safety, or the emotional needs of connection, family and home. In the work of TRM, investing time into someone is just as important as investing money. If we have the donations to pay for changing someone’s life, but don’t have the people to do the work, we can’t do it. What good is a shelter if you don’t have shelter staff? What good is a clothing trailer if you don’t have people to hand out the clothing? What good is having a kitchen if no one is there to serve the food?

In order to change someone’s life for the better, it takes ALL of us doing whatever our part is: staff members showing up, prayer warriors praying, donors supporting financially, and volunteers helping with the many different parts of our ministry. This month we asked some of our dedicated volunteers the question: Why do you serve at TRM? What keeps you coming back?

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Gary Comstock, a Distribution Center Volunteer of 13 years says this about serving at TRM:

“All I can say is I’ve been a volunteer at the Mission since I retired in 2009. I’ve had a blessed life and wanted to give back to the community now that I had more time to do so. I had been a Cub Scout and Boy Scout Leader for many years and also did church volunteer work, but now had more time to do other volunteer work as well. I was volunteering with Hospice in their Veteran’s program, but unfortunately Covid ended that. I hope to perhaps start volunteering again in the future with Hospice.

I really enjoy helping at the Mission because they do such a great job helping those that truly need help. I principally work in the food distribution warehouse. Covid also interrupted my work at the Mission, but now I’m back and will continue to volunteer as much as I can. God has called all of us to help those in need. The Mission has many volunteers, and we all work together as a team. I always look forward

to coming in on Monday and sometimes will show up at other times when the need arises. For anyone looking to give back for all the blessings in one’s own life, I highly recommend joining our volunteer team at the Topeka Rescue Mission.”

Tina McNeely, a new volunteer with TRM says the following:

“I have been praying for some time for God’s will and direction in my life. I feel he led me to TRM. Since I am just getting started, I don’t know exactly what that means yet but He does. What I do know is I believe in the work TRM is doing, their mission and their values. I am humbled by the people who work at TRM and their daily dedication to make a difference in people’s lives. I feel blessed just to be a small part of it.”

Cindy Risch, a Business Office volunteer of 4 years says:

“As soon as I decided to retire, I started looking around for where to spend my time volunteering. It seemed like everywhere I looked I found out about more of the loving services TRM provides



to our community. I could see clearly that God was using this incredible organization to do His work and I wanted to join them. The people I work with here genuinely care about the people they serve, and I can’t imagine what our community would be like without them.”

Amber Martindale a volunteer with Mobile Access Partnership (MAP) also says:



“There was a moment in my life where the scale could have tipped either way and I could be where our homeless friends are. God touched me and I am living proof that there is hope for a better life.”

Thank you Gary, Tina, Cindy and Amber - and the many other extraordinary volunteers at TRM - for your willingness to follow the call to care for those who are in need in our community!

Are you curious about the ways you can serve at TRM and help those in need? We put together a list of our current volunteer opportunities and would love to have you join us! †

Volunteer Opportunities

November/December Volunteer Opportunities

- Decorating TRM Buildings for Christmas
- Other Christmas Volunteer Opportunities

For more details please call 785-730-8856 or email our volunteer department at volunteer@trmonline.org.

Men's Side & Hope Center Front Desk Support- Flexible on days and times

- Assist with answering phones and door buzzers
- Assist TRM Staff with administrative work if needed
- Must be able to communicate with a variety of individuals

Application Support - Monday-Friday 9-5pm (Days and times may vary each week)

- Assist guests with filling out applications for housing or resources.

Housing Stabilization Housing Checks - Tuesday & Thursdays 10-2 (Days and times may vary each week)

- Complete home visits as needed to support program participants in performing the tasks required to maintain housing stability, including on-time payment of rent and household maintenance.
- Work with program participants to resolve issues around lease and/or program rules with the landlord or any barriers to housing.

Children's Palace Front Desk

- Opportunities M-F, 8-4pm
- Answering phones, welcoming visitors etc.
- Assist TRM Staff with administrative tasks.

Mobile Access Partnership (MAP)

- Tuesday & Thursday - Morning and afternoon shifts available
- Email volunteer@trmonline.org for current hours

For our FULL LIST of opportunities and more information, visit:
TRMonline.org/volunteer



GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday is coming!

Join us November 29th for a very special day of giving.

COMING SOON!

Opportunities to engage with those on the streets and the unsheltered homeless.



Did you know?

In 1991, when TRM first opened its brand new shelter and kitchen (what is now the main building), the majority of staff were living at TRM. We had very little funding, and we did not have a volunteer program at that time. We were concerned that there would not be enough staff and volunteers

to help us with running the new building, so we began to pray and invite people to come help us. From the first day our main building opened in 1991, volunteers came out of the woodwork and saved the day! Some of our volunteers came every single day to work at TRM. They were an integral part of our team and we could not have run the mission without them. Today, our volunteers continue to make the difference as a workforce that helps us meet the increasing needs in our community!