

TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION MONTHLY REPORT DECEMBER 2018

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FACILITIES: 785-354-1744

Hope Center for Women & Families #8
Men's Shelter #0
Distribution Center x366
Thrift Store 785-235-9094
TRM Boutique on the Blvd 785-478-5744
Children's Palace 785-730-8810



PROGRAMS: 785-354-1744

Dining Services x322
Food Distribution x366
Education & Mentoring x338
Volunteer Services x393

COMMUNITY:

Operation Street Reach 785-230-8237

DONATIONS:

Monetary: 785-354-1744 x316
Material: 785-357-4285
Food: 785-357-4285

website: TRMonline.org
email: trm@trmonline.org

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PRE-SORT INC

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING





A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Over the years Christmas at TRM has taken on many forms; from setting up in the basement of Open Way Church to a warehouse across from the main shelter to utilizing the conference room and hallways in the main shelter to our current location at the warehouse at 206 NW Norris. It takes hundreds of hours of donated volunteer hours, thousands of donated new gifts, and countless prayers to create a space that will help those we serve feel special, loved and cared for. It is a time of Christmas smells and twinkling lights; smiling faces and tears of gratitude and joy. It's a time where the warmth of the season and the love of Christ permeates every corner.

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There are so many wonderful memories but a few stand out. One year we had a snowstorm and a couple came in the door almost frozen. They had walked across the Topeka Bridge to come to the Christmas shop for their appointment to get their gifts. Their only means of getting there was to walk. We had them sit down, gave them something warm to drink, blankets to warm and showered them with attention and love. The man did not have a coat as he had given his coat to his wife and neither of them had a hat or gloves. As they warmed up, we talked with the couple to find out what they needed and by the time they were ready to leave they had new coats, clothing, hats & gloves, winter boots, other gifts and food. We loaded up the TRM van and transported them back to their home. We are sure they felt the Love of Jesus and were definitely blessed as were all those who had been a part of serving them. The opportunities to give and receive blessings during Christmas are boundless.

Another year, Barry

Feaker was leaving the Christmas shop and saw a man, who was visibly upset, out in the parking lot. Drawing near, he noticed the man was crying. Barry asked the man what was wrong and if there was anything he could do to help him. The man responded that this was the very first time he had been given a gift for Christmas and he was overwhelmed that people who didn't know him cared enough to give him gifts.

There are so many stories like these each Christmas season. Over the years the places have changed, as well as the numbers of individuals served, increasing from less than 200 to approximately 4500 last year. Throughout all those changes, one thing has remained the same; our goal to always provide an experience that is both welcoming and uplifting. For those we serve, we want them to walk away feeling loved and cared about. None of this could happen without the generosity of everyone who donates their time, money and gifts. Thank you for helping us make memories for everyone involved. †



THE JOY OF GIVING

If you have never experienced the amazing feeling of being a part of something bigger or greater than yourself, you have missed out on a blessing. There are many beautiful moments in life but they seem to always be sweeter when shared with others. TRM is awed to have had 1000's of individuals, plus churches and companies partner with us over the past 11 months to serve the "least of these" in our community.

The "least of these" is not a derogatory term. It's a term for those who belong to groups like: misunderstood, looks different than me, desperate to know I matter, need help, feel lost, hungry - groups of people utterly loved by Jesus Christ. Mother Teresa embodied graceful service as she poured out her life to help groups like these and inspired others to join her efforts. Her favorite scripture was Mathew 25:40, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine,

you did for me".

The Christmas holiday reminds us that Christ came for the least of these - God loves each one uniquely.

In a culture growing increasingly divisive by the day, the opportunity to be part of something greater than ourselves as we feed, clothe and provide beds for those in need becomes more than a blessing, it's healing.

In the world of sports, these moments come when strangers from all walks of life join together to cheer for their team. Everyone wants to be a part of the winning team; to make an investment in something that makes a difference. At TRM, we offer numerous opportunities to join the winning team through volunteering, mentoring, teaching, serving, praying and investing financially.

We have a fight on our hands to ensure the least of these are well cared for and have the necessary tools to step into God's best for their lives. It takes key players to make TRM the winning

team and we don't want to lose on behalf of the least of these. Are you willing to invest to ensure the least of these have a brighter future?

This December, join TRM as we provide a wonderful Christmas meal for those who are hungry or spending the holiday alone. Join us as we host a Christmas shop, filled with new items, where families can select their presents. Join us in providing Christmas gifts and a big party for kids who want to know they matter. Join us by partnering financially to ensure we accomplish 2018 goals and start 2019 strong, especially as we envision new ways to strengthen our community and decrease the root causes of homelessness. Please join us and be part of our team by making a tax-deductible year-end donation.

It's true - one person can make a difference. It's remarkable the impact a united community can have when one by one we come together to serve the least of these. †



WAYS TO GIVE

There are many ways of supporting TRM Ministries financially, both directly and indirectly!



As always, you can mail donations to:

Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries

600 N Kansas Ave.
Topeka KS, 66608

OR

PO Box 8350
Topeka KS, 66608
You can also call
785.354.1744 ext. 316



Azura: We have partnered with Azura Credit Union through their Community Impact Card. Available with all checking accounts, with no charge or fee to sign up for the Community Impact Card. Each time you make a purchase with your Azura card, Azura donates 5 cents from the Credit Union to TRM Ministries - there's no monetary obligation from your account!



PushPay: The most convenient way to give to TRM is through PushPay, an online giving tool. You can get there by going to our website at trmonline.org and clicking the “Donate Now!” button at the top of any page. Or you can text “TRMGive” to 77977 from your smartphone to receive a link that will take you directly to the donation page.

ALSO, you can click on the “Donate” button on our Facebook page to go straight to PushPay.

Did you know there are ways to give while you shop?!



Amazon Smile: The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charity of your choice. Simply go to smile.amazon.com, login to your account, search for and select Topeka Rescue Mission, Inc.



Dillon's: You can support TRM while grocery shopping through Dillon's Community Rewards. Go to dillons.com/communityrewards, sign in or create an account with your Dillon's Plus Card and select Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries or Organization Number NC233.



TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION 2018 CHRISTMAS NEEDS LIST

KITCHEN SMALL APPLIANCES

(Examples- Crockpots, Coffee Makers, Electric Griddles)

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

(Examples- Pots & Pans, Dishes, Cooking Utensils, Bakeware)

MEN'S GIFTS

(Examples- Wallets, Sports Attire, Tools, Toiletry Gift Sets, Thick gloves, Nice Razors)

TEEN GIFTS

(Examples- Ear Buds, Bath Bombs, Teen Games, Make-up Sets, Art Sets, Sports Balls)

WOMEN'S GIFTS

(Examples- Bath Sets, Hair Styling Tools, Make-up Sets, Perfume, Wax Warmers)

BEDDING SETS

(Examples- Twin, Full, Queen, King Sheet Sets & Blankets)

It's that time of year again!! As we make plans for Christmas-season activities at the Topeka Rescue Mission, we need your help with donations of new Christmas items for our guests and for community distribution. *It would be helpful to receive Christmas gift donations by December 5th.* This allows time for us to get the gift area set up. *However, we will gladly receive donations beyond this date as well.* We ask that, for Christmas, gifts be new items and unwrapped.

Please bring donations to:

DISTRIBUTION CENTER

401 NW Norris:

Monday – Friday 8:00AM – 4:00PM • Saturday 9:00AM – 1:00PM

Questions? Please call 785-357-4285.

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF
THE TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION!***