

CURRENT NEEDS LIST

FOOD ITEMS:

Gallon Cans of Vegetables & Fruits / Coffee / Sack Lunch Items (*i.e. Pudding Cups, Fruit Cups, Granola Bars, etc.*)

SUPPLY ITEMS:

Storage bags – quart & gallon / Razors / Bath Towels / Diapers & Pull Ups – All Sizes
Dish Soap / Hairbrushes / All Purpose Cleaner / Pinesol / Disinfecting Wipes
Arm & Hammer Washing Soda / 20 Mule Team Borax / Fels Nephth Laundry Soap
Purex Crystals / Sheet sets: (full, queen & King sizes) / Household Sponges / Scrubbers

CLOTHING:

Men's Pants & Jeans – All sizes (Especially 30 – 38) / Men's & Women's Shoes – All Sizes
Plus Size Clothing – Men & Women / Men's Briefs – Size 32-34 / Women's Briefs – Size 5, 6 & 7
Children's Clothing & Shoes – 2T – 5T (used good condition is fine)

FURNITURE (*in good condition*)

Furniture – *i.e.* couches, recliners, loveseats, dressers, tables, mattresses *etc.*

Large & small appliances – *i.e.* washers, dryers, ranges, refrigerators & microwaves

CHILDREN'S PALACE UPDATE

We recently enjoyed two special ribbon cuttings and dedications for the Children's Palace. The first was held specifically for the families residing at the Hope Center and included a private ceremony, tour, homemade treats and many opportunities to explore and play. It was such a delight to see the laughter and joy that illuminated each one as they walked through and experienced the Palace for the first time! The second aligned with NOTO's First Friday and consisted of a public dedication ceremony and open house led by key leaders and supporters. Hundreds of excited visitors celebrated with us and toured the Palace with looks of amazement and expressions of awe at all the Lord has done.



His plans are perfect and we anticipate our doors will be permanently open soon! Thank you for your continued prayers and support as we finalize our childcare license with Kansas Department of Health and Environment and begin training staff. *For additional information, please contact jhosman@trmonline.org or call 785-730-8802.*

TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION **MONTHLY REPORT** MARCH 2017

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Facilities: 354-1744

Hope Center for Women & Families opt 8
Men's Shelter opt 0
Distribution Center x366
Thrift Store 235-9094

Programs: 354-1744

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

Community:

Neighborhood Empowerment &
Transformation (NET) Reach
785-783-2535 x106
Operation Street Reach 785-230-8237

Donations:

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

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



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THE SPIRIT OF **ADOPTION**



So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when He adopted you as His own children. Now we call Him, "Abba, Father." – Romans 8:15 NLT

THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION

At 32 years old, Kimberly* was dangerously close to the end of her rope. She had recently made it known that she no longer wished to live and made two serious attempts to take her life. Days earlier, if it hadn't been for some attentive Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries (TRM) staff members, Kimberly most likely would not have been with us today.

This particular afternoon, TRM staff, along with mental health professionals, were gathered in a conference room at the main shelter to discuss what we could do to help Kimberly want to stay alive. After her most recent suicide attempt, Kimberly was admitted to a treatment center. Now, post-discharge, she once again had nowhere to go. She was homeless, hungry and scared – a way of life she had known since she was a child. As Kimberly entered the meeting room, I saw the look of

hopelessness; a look projecting the scars of a life filled with unending disappointments. Her words spoke, "I'm sorry I've caused so much trouble for everyone. Please forgive me. I promise I won't do it again." Yet her eyes and past actions said, "If I can just get a place to stay tonight, I might regroup enough to carry out my plan to end it all tomorrow." She told us she had nowhere else to go and went on to share of how she had been coming here since she was six years old... we were the

only family she had. Kimberly had known suffering, rejection, homelessness and hunger most of her life.

My mind was swirling. *What could I do or say that would make any appreciable difference?*

We shelter thousands each year and feed hundreds of thousands, but those numbers pale into insignificance when you come face-to-face with hopelessness! At this very moment I knew, somehow, no matter what, this one in

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front of me must become the most important person in the universe. In desperation I cried out a silent prayer: "God, give me the words, questions, answers. God, don't let this one die. Help me to see this person as You see them: the most important person in the universe!" It's often through this desperation and brokenness that God answers our prayers, when we are bankrupt of understanding of what to say and sometimes even how to feel. *How can I understand what she's going through? How can I walk in the shoes of her hopelessness to the point of preferring death over life? Do I really want to know how much she suffers? And even if I do, what can I do about it?*

And then it came, like the sun breaking through a storm filled sky... an answer to my prayer. At that moment I remembered that Kimberly had been one of 400 volunteers at

our Children's Palace community playground build just two months before. I remember the morning when one of our construction leaders pointed Kimberly out to me and said, "See that woman over there? She looks a bit lost and could use someone to talk to. If you get a chance, can you speak with her and see if you can find a job for her to do?"

When I approached Kimberly, I could tell she felt out of place with all of the construction that was going on. Her heart may have been willing to help, but she didn't know how or what she could do; and I wasn't sure either. I didn't want to disappoint her, but I didn't know where to place her. As I was stumbling around for a solution, I turned and there stood a man with work clothes

and a toolbelt strapped around his waist. With an eager smile on his face, he told me hello and asked me to put him to work. How pleased I was to see Greg Allen, our original architect with Schwerdt Design Group, standing there enthusiastic to help. Greg was the one I

"At that moment, she was the most important person in the universe."

sought out two years before and asked if he could design a center for children that looked like a Palace. He sure did that, and did it well! Now he was back to

help with the volunteer army of playground construction helpers. I showed Greg where he could begin working and he asked for an assistant. As I looked around, there was no one available but Kimberly. With some reluctance because of her lack of construction experience, I introduced Kimberly to Greg. She told him she didn't have any construction experience and wasn't sure if she could really be any help to him. But he immediately told her, "No problem, I'll show you how this works." For the next several days, Greg and Kimberly worked side-by-side constructing one of three beautiful playground areas on the north side of the Children's Palace. After it was all done, Greg told me what a great help Kimberly was to him



Volunteers from Westar Energy at the Children's Palace community playground build.



and that he really enjoyed the opportunity of showing her how to construct the playground equipment.

As my thoughts returned to the meeting, I asked Kimberly why she didn't want to live. She told me it was because, "I am just not important. I'm just a burden for everybody." I asked how important she thought the playground at the Children's Palace was going to be for the little children that would be playing there. She quickly responded, "very important," and with a grin on her face said she wished we would have had that playground when she was little. I asked her if she knew how much she had helped when she volunteered to build the playgrounds. She told me she wasn't much help at all because she didn't know what she was doing. I asked her if she knew who the man was that she was helping during the playground build. She did not, but noted he was very nice. I told her he was

the man who did the original design work for the beautiful Palace. I could tell by the look in her eyes that she was not only surprised by this revelation of who she worked alongside, but that she had been chosen by him to help. I told her how he shared he really enjoyed working with her and could not have done all he did without her help. Tears began to well up in her eyes as she timidly asked, "Did he really say that?" I told her, "Absolutely... and because of your help many little children will feel loved for years to come." It was at that moment both Kimberly and I began to see how God had been at work all along. How He had been there two months before at the playground build, how He had been there when Kimberly wanted to take her life but was saved by the intervention of the TRM Ministries staff, how the treatment center had been there for her and how the Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries had been there for Kimberly since she was six years old. With eyes of sincerity, I looked at her and asked, "Kimberly, can you see that you really do matter?" With a smile on her face, hope in her eyes, and a nod of her head, Kimberly began to understand that she was of great value to God and to others.

How amazing it is for any of us when we come to the

revelation that the Creator of the universe invites us to join Him as He builds His Kingdom! He not only invites us to join Him but adopts us as His own children. Today, Kimberly is moving forward with a renewed understanding that she belongs to the family of God through Jesus Christ and that she has great value and worth. Thank you for praying for her, and many others like her who step through the doors of the Mission.

In this month's report you will see some amazing statistics from 2016. Each of these numbers represents one unique individual. A man, a woman and a child – each one lovingly adopted by you through your support, and by God. Yes, with your help, TRM Ministries doesn't serve orphans lost without hope; we strive to help those lost in the darkness of physical, emotional and spiritual poverty understand that they are loved and no longer orphans, but adopted by their Creator, Abba Father (Daddy). And that indeed, each one is the most important person in the universe! Thanks for standing with us and for making hope possible for over 63 years. †

In His love,

* To protect person's identity, name has been changed.

CATEGORIES

2016

GUEST TRACKING

Un-duplicated individuals who received shelter	2,142
Men	1,128
Women	672
Children	342
Total nights of shelter provided	91,202
Individuals sheltered on average each night	250
Highest number of guests on a given night	300 on Dec. 19

DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Individuals who received clothing through the clothing bank	1,914
Household items, including beds, furniture and major appliances given to households	6,891
Number of households that received items	6,671
School supplies given to those in need	912

FOOD SERVICES

Meals served from the kitchen	280,595
Meals distributed through food boxes	119,264
Meals supplied food to partner agencies	141,821
Total cost per meal	14 cents
Total meals served and distributed	541,680

CHRISTMAS

Children assisted with gifts, clothing and food	2,593
Total individuals (including children) who received gifts and food baskets	4,580

DIRECT HELP

Occurrences of medical help, including visits in our clinic, as well as dental, vision and prescription assistance	1,853
Transportation vouchers (bus tickets, cab fare, etc.) provided	7,411
Occurrences of rental and utility assistance provided	21
Occurrences of additional direct help for miscellaneous items (phone cards, stamps, identification, etc.) provided	767

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteer hours provided	52,540
Number of volunteers	1,650
Volunteer instances occurred on average each month	1,500
At minimum wage (\$7.25 an hour) these hours would have cost:	\$380,915

DOXAZO

3-on-3 Basketball (Monthly)

Average Participants	40
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Doxazo Camp

Summer Participants	300
Winter Participants	320

Mighty Men (Summer Program)

Kids	55
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Daughters of the King (Year Round)

Kids	49
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DARE TO DREAM (offered at both TRM and NET Reach)

Shelter participants	59
NET Reach Participants (Adults and Children)	149
Total participants	208

SIT - SERVANTS IN TRAINING

Participants / Graduates	61 / 15
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RESTORE HOPE

Number of victims served	92
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TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

CATEGORIES

2016

NET REACH

Taco Tuesday

Meals served total	6,314
Average number of people served each week	154

Dare to Hope Women's Group

Average attendance each week	5
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NET Rewards Store

Average number of residents shopping each month	22
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Dare to Grow (Summer Program)

Meals provided total	3,400
Average attendance each day	190

Dream Center

Total number of visits	108
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EXPENSES BY SOURCE

Budget Percentage

Programs – <i>This includes shelter, meals, street outreach, rehabilitation programs, case management, housing referrals, and services provided through our Distribution Center.</i>	71%
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Repairs and Maintenance – <i>Covers the upkeep of all the Mission's properties.</i>	13%
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Administrative – <i>Includes donor system management, volunteer management, guest records and evaluations.</i>	7%
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Direct Help – <i>Financial assistance provided for rent and utilities, medications, transportation, identification, stamps, phone cards and similar services provided to both guests and non-guests of the Mission.</i>	4%
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Public Relations and Advertising – <i>Efforts used to acquire financial/material resources and volunteer recruitment. All efforts supported entirely by donations, no government funds used.</i>	3%
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Public Education – <i>Information to the public on how to help the homeless.</i>	2%
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INCOME BY SOURCE

Income Percentage

Individuals	79%
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Businesses	10%
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Churches	5%
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Thrift Store	4%
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DC Recycling	1%
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Associations	1%
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Please consider leaving an estate gift for TRM Ministries.