



Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.

There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land.

Deuteronomy 15:10-11

It's been a while since our last update, and now that winter is here, I thought it would be good to let you know what we have been up to and what's in store for Hope In The Streets in the coming months.

Since last winter's Winter Warmth Kit campaign, we have focused most of our efforts on the weekly meal delivery service to the poor and homeless in the Kansas City downtown and river bottom areas. We have found that during the late spring, summer, and early fall seasons, the primary need of most homeless individuals is really just food and basic healthcare. As such, our efforts to serve the homeless these 9 months out of 12 each year will center around the meal delivery service, and the companionship that goes along with that regular weekly interaction.

We have had many blessings over the last several months, including many generous donations. Our resources have continued to grow as several of our supporters have been providing regular monthly contributions, and we are also grateful for the one-time donations that have come our way as well. We have been building up the supplies for this year's Winter Warmth Kit campaign, which is made possible by the many donations we have been blessed with from our supporters. Thank you.

Another blessing that can be overlooked is simply the time we are afforded to keep the organization and it's efforts moving forward. Delivering the weekly meals has been a real joy, and the people we see on a regular basis look forward to our visits. Along the way we get to hear about other kinds of needs they may have beyond the meals we are bringing. Because of your donations, we are able to help meet many of those needs with specific purchases of shoes, clothes, walking canes, etc. that we deliver on the next weekly route.

We have had a few disappointments as well, most notably the lack of response from the IRS on our application as a non-profit organization. The attorney's have assured us that we can continue to operate legitimately as a non-profit prior to getting an initial ruling from the IRS. They shared with us that all the applications are being held up by a major backlog at the IRS. I would like to see this wrapped up soon so we can move to the next step, but patience is prudent and we will leave it in God's hands and his time frame.

We had also hoped to have a delivery van donated by a local Kansas City company, which may still come through for us, but it hasn't happened yet. The lack of a van hasn't held us back, though, since we are able to volunteer with the Salvation Army and have access to their vehicles to not only deliver meals, but also take out the supplies we are providing to the homeless, such as the Winter Warmth Kits. We are still looking for a delivery van for our organization, and if a vehicle donation doesn't come through, we may use cash donations as an alternative channel.

The Winter Warmth Kit campaign is fully underway now, with some of the supplies already purchased. There is still a lot of work to do, and more supplies to buy, to pull together our goal of 50 kits, but we are happy to report that we have already delivered 11 kits just in November. We will also look to purchase a supply of heavy winter coats, hats, and gloves to have on hand for those who don't need the full warmth kits.

To those who have donated so generously to our foundation, we and the homeless we serve are very grateful. Since we are operating our foundation as a "Zero Overhead" program, our only way of attracting new donations is by word of mouth. If you like what we are doing and how we are doing it, and believe we are making a difference, please help spread the word. Tell your friends, family, and coworkers about Hope In The Streets, and with God's grace we can continue to serve the poor and homeless here in Kansas City.

May God bless you, your family, and our homeless brothers and sisters.

www.HopeInTheStreets.org