



# Heart 'n Hands Mission

## An Outreach Ministry of St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church Spring 2023 NEWSLETTER

*Our mission is to collect and provide clothing and other necessities to the homeless and working poor of Northeastern New Jersey and to raise awareness of the plight of the homeless and working poor in this area and beyond.*

Heart 'n Hands Mission of St. Timothy Lutheran Church is an Outreach Ministry which provides quality donated clothing and personal care items to the homeless and working poor at five food pantries, soup kitchens and community outreach programs in Paterson, Passaic and Hoboken. We also assist the homeless in Newark, the Broad Street Benches program in Elizabeth, the Light Up Project in Palisades Park, GERA – a refugee assistance program in Paterson, and provide clothing for Veterans and their families through Catholic Charities in Paterson, Passaic and Clifton. We are in our thirteenth year of service in Wayne, reaching more than **4,000** people with our monthly distributions. In addition, we support Wayne Interfaith Network and members of the Wayne community. Heart 'n Hands Mission is 100% volunteer and 100% of all monetary donations go directly to meet the needs of the homeless and working poor.

### Our New Monthly Collection Program

In January, we began our monthly collection program with a request for warm gloves and in February we collected adult crew socks. We sincerely thank all who donated warm gloves and socks to the Mission. Our homeless friends were thrilled and comforted on those cold winter days and nights. In March, we received 10 travel shaving creams. In April we will be asking for donations of toothbrushes and full-size toothpaste. Please keep our monthly collections in mind when you are shopping. Every donation makes a difference to those who are struggling.

April – toothbrushes or full-size toothpaste

May – travel or full-size deodorant

June – travel size sun screen

July – travel or full-size shampoo

August – dental floss or flossers

September – travel size lotion

October – travel size body wash or boxed soap

November – protein bars

December – travel size talc free powder

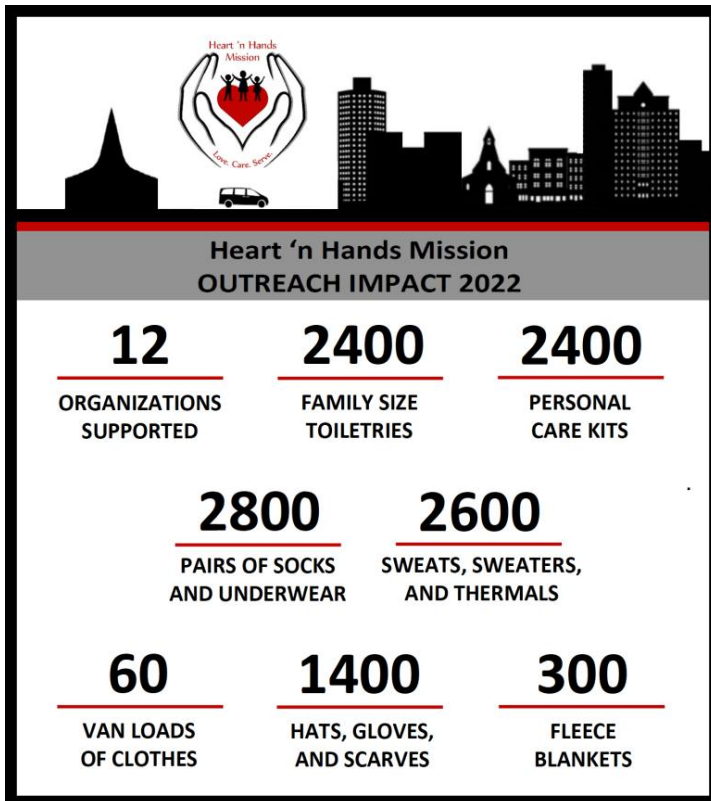


## Heart 'n Hands Mission Outreach Impact 2022

Our small but mighty team of sorters, shoppers, assemblers and deliverers were able to make a huge impact on the homeless and impoverished people we reach each month.

We are truly grateful to every person who donated clothing and toiletries, gave a monetary donation or donated through our Amazon Wish List.

This graphic shows just a portion of what we were able to do with your help and does not even specify the dozens and dozens of shoes, boots, jeans, coats, jackets, children's toys and books, feminine hygiene products and more that have been donated and distributed.



We want to thank BSA Troop 107 and the congregation of St. Timothy for their assistance in assembling personal care kits last year and our 2022 sorters: Barbara and Pat Kaplan, Lou Warner, Lori VanDerStad, Bob and Cathe Davidson, Debbie Andersen, Jane Carlson, Lois Clapp, Carol Cook, Ellen Grexa, and Mona Mosser. We also thank Bob Davidson, Debbie Andersen and Cliff Konnerth for helping with our deliveries throughout the year.

We are incredibly grateful to all of you for your dedication and service to Heart 'n Hands Mission. We could not accomplish this much without each one of you!



In November of last year, we were contacted by **Rose Pagan** of **A Hero's Welcome-NNJ** about a coat drive she was organizing and asked if the Mission needed coats. Rose was working with members of the **Hasbrouck Heights Green Team** and the **Hasbrouck Heights Contemporary Club** to organize the drive on January 12<sup>th</sup>. Bob and Cathe Davidson picked up the massive donation which included 156 coats, 23 fleeces and sweatshirts, feminine hygiene products, scarves and hats, travel size toiletries, and more than 200 pairs of socks! In March, they held another clothing drive for business attire and donated 1,000 articles of clothing including men's and women's suits, blazers, slacks, shirts, blouses, skirts, dresses, and over 100 pairs of dress shoes.

We are so grateful to Rose and the members of the HH Green Team and the HH Contemporary Club for organizing these drives and bagging the items by gender, size and type. What a tremendous effort to help the Mission expedite deliveries to those in need.

## Montville Partners Help Each Other

Two organizations in Montville collect donated clothing to help those in need. When each were overwhelmed with generous donations and few volunteers to help sort and distribute, they called on Heart 'n Hands Mission for support. We were happy to pick up 3 van loads of donations from **The Upper Room** and **The Hazel Project** to distribute to our friends in need throughout Northeastern New Jersey. We sincerely thank **Darlene Irwin, Renee** and **Ron Gilbert** from The Upper Room and **Rachel** from The Hazel Project, as well as **Roberta Ginsberg** for reaching out to us. There are so many individuals and families in need in New Jersey, it was our pleasure to assist these wonderful organizations in service as they take time to restructure their programs.

## Pines Lake Women's Club

We want to thank the **Pines Lake Women's Club** for their generous donations of clothing that just seemed to keep on coming! Special thanks to the members who delivered all of the bags on Monday mornings. We also found a special bag containing 50 bags of blessings from an anonymous donor. Each bag contained an emergency blanket, a raincoat, a pack of tissues, Band-aids, a small pack of cookies and hand wipes. These gifts were truly a blessing to those in need and we thank everyone who donated through the Pines Lake Women's Club for their kindness.

## Grace's Closet Helps Teens

**Grace's Closet** is an outreach program at **Grace Episcopal Church** of Rutherford. This year they held their second annual Give Grace Boutique and collected more than 1,000 prom dresses, shoes, jewelry and accessories to help area high school teens feel beautiful for their proms and other special events. The volunteers at Heart 'n Hands Mission are grateful to our supporters who donated special occasion dresses, fancy shoes and handbags, and we are happy to lend our support to Grace's Closet. We hope these teens feel the love as they prepare for their proms!

## St. Timothy Sponsors a Refugee Family



North Jersey Interfaith Cares

St. Timothy Lutheran Church will be working with **NJIC – New Jersey Interfaith Cares** to sponsor a refugee family who will be resettled in our area. An extensive list of household items to establish a home is available through the church office if you would like to help. Heart 'n Hands Mission is pleased to be helping this family of four with clothing, household goods and personal care items as they create their new home in New Jersey.

**Love. Care. Serve.**

## Care Kit Program

Heart 'n Hands Mission is focused on providing much-needed Care Kits on a regular basis throughout the year to our sites that provide services to the homeless. Our goal is to assemble a minimum of 250 Care Kits for distribution every month. Each Care Kit fits in either a sandwich or quart size food storage bag. Our homeless friends depend on these donations to help them maintain good health and hygiene.

Each Care Kit contains 1-to-2-ounce travel size items. See examples below:



We also assemble Care Kits of feminine hygiene products. These kits include a variety of pads, liners, tampons and feminine wipes. Our homeless women are so grateful for these monthly essentials.

Assembling Care Kits can be a wonderful service project for groups of any age! Please refer to the examples above and consider supporting this vital program. And please remember the homeless when you get back to traveling! New, unused hotel toiletries are always needed as well!



Our Amazon Wish List is updated regularly to reflect the needs of the sites we deliver to each month and includes items for our **Care Kit Program**. We distribute these necessities to men's homeless shelters, food pantries and community resource centers that serve homeless individuals and impoverished families.

Please look at our Wish List at [Heart 'n Hands Mission Amazon Wish List](#) and see how you can help others in need. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, you may send your donation to:

Heart 'n Hands Mission  
St. Timothy Lutheran Church  
395 Valley Road  
Wayne, NJ 07470

We are grateful to the following people who have donated through the Amazon Wish List since our last newsletter. These donations of personal care items and socks bring such comfort to our homeless friends.

The Schloesser Family

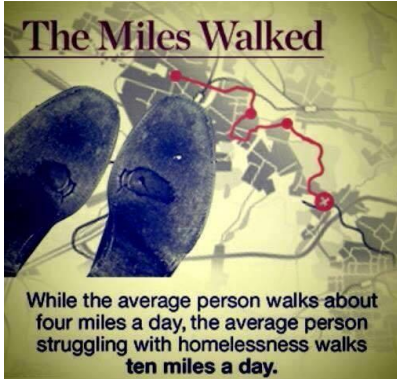
The Sajban Family

**WE NEED FOOD DELIVERY BAGS!**

We continue to collect clean silver food delivery bags. Please save them for us. How we use them is a secret but we are so grateful for them!



**AND CASUAL SHOES!**



Our homeless friends are always in need of good supportive shoes – **sneakers, hiking boots and hiking shoes** in good, wearable condition.

Our sites that serve homeless populations also regularly request socks, new underwear, and t-shirts.

Please consider donating these necessities – especially for men!

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**Let Us Introduce our Partner Organizations**

We would like to introduce you to our partner organizations that benefit from your continuing support of Heart 'n Hands Mission. Our first is **Community Outreach Services, Inc.** in Paterson.

Community Outreach Services, Inc., began in 2006 when Rev. Wayne Brown took a phone call from a woman who wished to donate a box of food to the hungry. Rev. Brown soon realized the extent of hunger and homelessness in the community and accepted the challenge to establish a food ministry. Over the next several months, Rev. Brown and his wife Elisa brought food to hundreds of families in the community.



In 2010 Rev. Brown formally established Community Outreach Services, Inc. as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and moved it into the facility on 6th Avenue in Paterson, NJ. Today, thanks to donors and volunteers like you, Community Outreach Services serves over 1,200 families per month, providing nutritious food, warm clothing, job assistance and referral assistance for help with utilities, rent and household furniture.

We were saddened to learn of the sudden death of Rev. Brown in February. He was a warm and caring man and always expressed heartfelt thanks for all that we provided to his outreach ministry. His wife, children, and supporters are continuing his legacy of assistance and we will continue to support them. Please join us in offering prayers for his family. May God grant him eternal rest.

# Thank You

We send a special thank you to everyone who has given so generously to Heart 'n Hands Mission. Every donation makes a difference to those who have so little.

We thank all of you who quietly leave donations at St. Timothy each week and those we see each Monday who wish to be anonymous. Your support is invaluable to our mission and your donations bring joy and comfort to so many each month.

We want to thank **Amy Michelis** for cleaning and organizing our donated reading glasses, sunglasses and eyeglass cases for distribution and **Marty** for his regular donations to the Mission.

Since our December Newsletter, we have received monetary donations from the following supporters:

Kathy Jones-Smith & Len Smith – to Honor the Memory of Judy Lupichuk  
Paul Monsees & Cathy Ventrell-Monsees  
William Lindsay  
The Loftus Family  
St. Timothy Benevolence Fund  
Patrons of the Montville Diner  
Lois Clapp  
Carol Belock  
Mary Laverack

We have also received these specific donations:

The Konnerth Family – 12 pair of new sneakers  
Anonymous – Brookstone Individual Hand Sanitizer  
Glen Schmidt & Angela Beharry - toiletries  
Anonymous – toiletries  
Camille Ludwig – handcrafted hats and scarves  
Claire Choi – socks and travel shaving cream  
Dr. Cory Wanatuck – 4 cases of toothpaste  
William Lindsay – personal hygiene items, new men's undershirts, shoes, clothing and more  
Anonymous – socks  
Lori Van Der Stad – socks, bras and underwear



A memorial gift of fleece blankets has been purchased and distributed to the homeless in Hoboken and Paterson from the Family of Judy Lupichuk. May each recipient feel wrapped in her loving arms.

*May we each honor a life well-lived by following Judy's example of just being kind.*



We are always looking for volunteers to help sort clothing, assemble Care Kits, load the van or be a delivery partner.

Do you have an hour or two to spare on a Monday morning? Are you available for a few hours on a Monday or Tuesday to help with a delivery? Are you a member of a social group that would like to assemble and donate Care Kits for our homeless friends?

The Mission is open for sorting on Monday mornings from 9 am – 11:30 am. Deliveries are on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please speak to Barbara Kaplan or Bob Davidson to say, “YES, I would love to help!”



All are welcome to join the group for some fellowship, sharing, laughter, coffee and... – all for a good cause! Any time you can give is truly appreciated.

We are thrilled to welcome our newest volunteers to the group – **Maureen Sciolaro, Donna Morano and Linda Nasissi**. They have been a wonderful addition to our Monday mornings and we thank them for their commitment to the Mission. We also thank **Cliff Konnerth** for joining Bob and helping with our monthly deliveries.

And of course, we are truly thankful for our faithful Monday Morning sorters under the wonderful direction of **Barbara Kaplan**. We are so grateful for your time!

Our Monday Morning Sorting Team: Jane Carlson, Carol Cook, Bob and Cathe Davidson, Ellen Grexa, Pat Kaplan, Mona Mosser, Lori Van Der Stad, Lou Warner and Maureen, Donna and Linda!

Our Delivery Team: Bob and Cliff

Our Staging and Loading Team members:  
Bob and Cathe, Barbara and Pat

We are incredibly grateful to all of you for your dedication and service to Heart ‘n Hands Mission.

Ah,  
kindness.  
What a  
simple  
way to  
tell  
another  
struggling  
soul that there  
is **love** to be  
found in this  
world.  
  
a.a.malee



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[Heart ‘n Hands Mission Amazon Wish List](#)

