



A Newsletter From New Life Ministries: **Spotlight**

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New Life Overnight Shelter

In December New Life Ministries made the big decision to open up the basement of the church to be an overnight shelter in January and February. There have been 5-8 people every night at the shelter who are experiencing safety, warmth, and God's love through New Life Ministries and our partners. Thank you to everyone who has made this ministry possible!

There have been some unexpected financial challenges with the shelter. With the extreme cold of the last few weeks, utility bills have skyrocketed. We are stocked on supplies, but to keep the furnaces running we need some financial help. If anyone could help fund utilities for the last month, it would make a difference to all those who come in.

Talking To Jonas

Jonas Espinosa is our live in volunteer at the shelter, we asked him questions on how it is going.

Q: Jonas, how has the shelter impacted you?

A: It has been a great learning experience on taking care of people in need. It's hard to see them, that they have no place to go, and that they need to leave in the morning.

Q: Do you think we are making a difference?

A: I think so, definitely. It is different from person to person, some show gratitude and others don't. Some are starting to get jobs now and it's good to see.

Q: What has been your favorite part?

A: Being able to build relationships with people and share the Gospel with them. One of the males has been coming to church with me on Sundays for a few weeks now. It's good to see him talking about church.

Sit Down with MM Volunteers

The Meal Ministry has been in full swing this January, we sat down with volunteers Susan Denbo and Jerry Bauer from Bethel United Methodist and asked them about their time volunteering at the MM.

Q: What are your thoughts on the Ministry?

S: I think it's awesome I feel blessed by it, [Director] Bob brings out the best in people.

J: I agree, it's a small way to give back, and sometimes when you leave you feel that you got more out of it than the people who you served did.

Q: Do you have any favorite stories or stand out moments from your time working here?

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NLM Receives Walmart Grant

Last December New Life was blessed with receiving a grant from our local, Huntington Walmart! The grant was for \$1000 in order to pay for a new water heater for the Women's Life House. The ladies were without hot water for a few days and the grant money received was enough to pay for the heater and any piping/fittings needed to install it.

New Life Ministries wants to say thank you to Walmart for selecting us to receive funding and for being willing to help out the communities and people where they do business. We are blessed by all of our supporters who make anything and everything we do possible!

J: I have one, there was a night where things got confused and there was not a cook here to prepare any food, and it was too close to serve time for us to make anything. So we call Little Caesars and explain, and they told us to come over and the church bought out every pizza they had ready and we served that.

S: And when we tried to unlock the door that night the key broke inside the lock! Someone had a knife, so we were able to get it open, we kind of broke in!

Q: Do you feel the Meal Ministry has a positive impact on the community?

S: I think so, there a lot of churches that volunteer their time 365 days a year, if that's not positive I don't know what is.

Q: Can you speak more about the amount of churches that help out down here?

J: Yeah, it is spreading the wealth. We are a small group volunteering, which is typical. If there weren't so many churches that do volunteer, the few that did would be here every other night. And that leads to burnout.

S: It's amazing that Huntington is stepping up to help with this ministry.