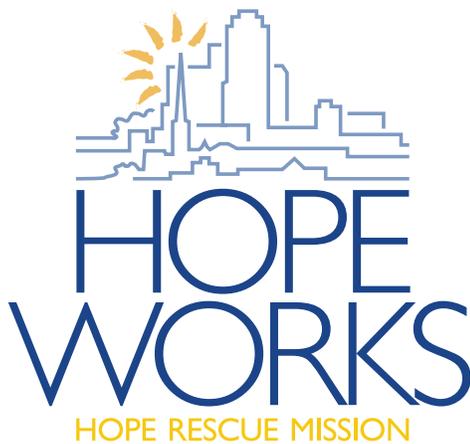


HOPE FOR TODAY

HOPE RESCUE MISSION – READING, PA

APRIL 2022 EDITION

HopeWorks Rebuilds Lives Through Employment



All of us know the pain of losing something we took for granted. Circumstances beyond our control or past decisions we regret may have changed employment, relationships, or the short-term course of our plans.

However, few of us know the devastation from a storm of events and consequences that takes away the very place we call home. The men of Hope know. How do you come back from homelessness? By going back to the beginning.

One of God's first gifts, when He created man, was the gift of work. Through work, man reflected the industriousness and creativity of God. Work confirmed man's sense of purpose and value and provided sustenance in the management of home, family, and the world.

Hope Rescue Mission helps men rebuild their lives through the gift of work in a program called HopeWorks. Providing workforce development classes in job skills, employment searches, job retention, GED classes, and more.

Christian Santiago, HopeWorks Coordinator, says, "The goal is simple – reacclimate men to a workplace environment and equip them with tools to attain long-term employment."

This one thing – a job – is a game-changer. Now you can make a huge impact in one easy way. Consider partnering with HopeWorks for

your next project. Some men are employed through city contracts on beautification projects providing day labor, litter clean up, and clean-outs. Others do light interior cleaning, snow removal, lawn care, and simple gardening projects. Whether you are a small business, a church, or an individual, HopeWorks offers an affordable service with attention to detail.

Contact Christian Santiago at 610-375-4224, ext. 213 or email HopeWorks@HopeForReading.org for more information on partnership in rebuilding lives through employment.



Testimonies

Art's childhood dream was like thousands of other children. He wanted to learn how to fly. He would never have imagined the unthinkable family tragedy that brought his adult life to a halting crash. Struggling to recover from his grief, Art experienced difficulties at work which affected his income. When the pandemic hit, he lost his home and began living out of his car. He came to Hope in 2021, where case managers quickly recognized

ART

his experience and leadership ability and referred him to the HopeWorks program.

"Without this place, I would still be struggling," he said. *"I've learned not to give up."*

Art is a program graduate and works at Morgan Corporation as a material handler and forklift driver. When asked about the future, he said, *"The sky is the limit."*



SETH

Just a few years ago, Seth was a Marine serving in the Middle East. That was before a war injury changed everything. At 35, Seth is one of the estimated 40,000 homeless vets in the U.S.

After living in his car for a few weeks, Seth decided to check in at Hope Rescue Mission in October of 2021. A few weeks ago, he started the HopeWorks training program. Now he helps to clean at a local movie theatre overnight.

Seth's favorite topic is investing. He's glad to talk about the markets, Warren Buffet, and sound investment strategy.

"Coming to Hope saved my life. This place is amazing." Seth is beginning to see his future, and it's no surprise that he wants to become a financial planner. While we can't predict what God will do, we're confident in Hope's investment strategy into Seth's life.

Frank Miller was born and raised in the greater Reading area. He is an Alumni of Schuylkill Valley HS and served in the Army at Ft. Polk, LA, from 77' -79'.

Frank came to HRM after losing his job as a security guard. He started serving with our janitorial staff. From there he entered the Discipleship program and eventually became the department lead.

Frank eagerly volunteered with the "Street Team," a volunteer opportunity to serve the city. On his first outing he was asked by Rob Turchi how he liked

FRANK

it and eagerly replied *"This is great! I would do this every day."* Frank got his wish.

When the "Street Team" became the HopeWorks program, he joined as an inaugural program participant. Frank is currently splitting his time between HopeWorks and HRM laundry crew, playing a pivotal role in both.

He is working with the HopeWorks Coordinator to find outside employment and plans to move out of the Mission shortly after gaining that employment.



For more information and caring ways for you to support the Hope Rescue Mission, plus a list of most-needed items, visit our website:

www.HopeForReading.org

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