

HOPE HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024



OVER 75,500 INDIVIDUALS WERE SERVED IN 2023

The staggering inflation of the last two years has led to an unprecedented surge in need in our community, resulting in a remarkable **69% increase in pantry recipients** compared to our usual numbers. Your support made it possible to serve this huge increase in need!



CHRISTMAS 2023

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT, we've brought joy to over 5,000 children this Christmas! Through our Hope-Filled Christmas program families were either adopted or able to "shop" for toys for their children. Each family also received a holiday pantry that included a turkey or ham. Your support was crucial to ensure no child missed out on Christmas joy.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR A TESTIMONY OF SOMEONE YOU HELPED THIS CHRISTMAS

THANKSGIVING 2023

YOU IMPACTED 4,439 LIVES THIS HOLIDAY

by providing a Thanksgiving pantry to working poor families in our community! Each family received a holiday meat, such as a turkey or ham, all the fixings, and a pie. With current food prices on the rise, your help ensured every family could enjoy a wonderful holiday meal.

HOPE



2023 PROGRAM UPDATES

GIVING HOPE ONE FOOD PANTRY AT A TIME

Your generosity helped us serve **75,610 people** last year which represents a **69% increase** over normal pantry numbers! Using the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator, it's revealed that what would have amounted to **\$1,000 in January 2020** **surged to \$1,819.02 by November 2023**. This stark increase highlights the profound struggle facing numerous working poor families today because **wages have not kept up with inflation**.

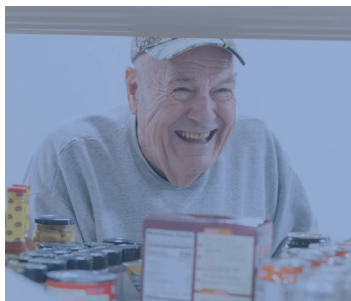
NEW AND EXPECTING PARENTS' PROGRAM

Through our New and Expecting Parents' Program, the pressure of caring for a newborn baby was lifted for numerous individuals.

New or expecting parents received **a baby bag packed with essential items**

including a baby bottle, pacifier, lotion, and valuable coupons. Parents also received **new baby items** from our baby boutique as well as **diapers**, and **formula** is also available.

Because of you, new parents received assurance that they can successfully raise a child in the midst of difficult economic conditions and expecting parents were able to know they had the **resources they needed to choose life and care for their child**.



Heartland Hope
MISSION

2023 NUMBERS

**75,610
INDIVIDUALS**
WERE SERVED IN 2023

36,407 INDIVIDUALS
RECEIVED A CLOTHING
PANTRY

4,216 RURAL OUTREACH
PANTRIES SERVED

1,970 MEALS
SERVED THROUGH
SUMMER FEEDING AND
HOMELESS OUTREACH

23,367 HYGIENE ITEMS
SERVED

10,410 DIAPER BUNDLES
PROVIDED

495 STUDENTS
PROVIDED WITH
SCHOOL SUPPLIES

266 SENIOR DELIVERIES
SERVED

246 REFERRALS
GIVEN

MATTHEW 25:35-40

Hope-Filled Christmas

HOPE-FILLED CHRISTMAS 2023

HOPE-FILLED CHRISTMAS 2023

WITH THE LOSS OF HER JOB, LASHEY FACED UNCERTAINTY IN PROVIDING CHRISTMAS TOYS FOR HER CHILDREN.

LASHEY'S STORY

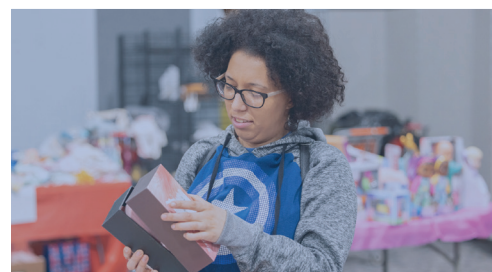
Amidst the trials and tribulations of being a single mother to five beautiful children, Lashey's journey has been a **relentless struggle** to make ends meet. Her dedication knew no bounds as she toiled tirelessly to ensure a stable life for her little ones. But fate took a cruel turn when she lost her job, plunging her into the depths of uncertainty.

With sheer determination, Lashey managed to secure a new job, but it offered only **a fraction of her previous income**. The surge of inflation further compounded her challenges, casting a shadow over her ability to provide for her cherished children. The weight of responsibilities bore down heavily, threatening to dim the sparkle in her children's eyes, especially during the festive season.

However, in the midst of adversity, **a ray of hope emerged**. Heartland Hope Mission stepped in, becoming a beacon of light to Lashey by providing compassion and support which breathed life into her shattered hopes, enabling her to fulfill a simple yet profound desire—to give her children the gift of Christmas joy.

Because of YOUR unwavering generosity, Lashey's heart swelled with gratitude and relief. She had newfound hope knowing her children's faces would light up with joy, unwrapping presents that seemed almost out of reach just moments before.

In that transformative moment, beyond the material gifts, there existed a priceless treasure—**restored faith, rekindled hope, and an overwhelming sense of community support** that mended a mother's broken spirit. Lashey stood empowered, no longer alone in her struggle, but surrounded by warmth and kindness that **mended the fractures in her family's holiday season**.



THANK YOU

Hope-Filled Christmas 2023 would not have been possible without the amazing organizations that partnered with us this year.

**Baldwin's
FlooringAmerica.**
where friends send friends™

 **GoToSMBO**.COM
SEE MY BENEFITS ONLINE
A KEELER & ASSOCIATES CO

 **vernco
roofing**

*your
energy
partner®*
OPPD
Omaha Public Power District

 **LIFE 100.7**



CATERING FOR HOPE 2023

YOU CAN HELP

Catering For Hope

We began our Catering For Hope program as a response to the 69% increase above normal in clients served.

You can **hire us to cater your next** event by emailing Diana@HeartlandHopeMission.org. You can learn more by scanning the QR code below or visiting HeartlandHopeMission.org



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CATERING FOR HOPE PROGRAM

Our Menu

TACO BAR

CHICKEN TACO BAR
BEEF TACO BAR
MIX OF BEEF AND CHICKEN
GUACAMOLE
CHEESY BEAN DIP

INCLUDES

BEANS, RICE, LETTUCE,
TOMATO, AND CHEESE

EXTRAS (WITH CHIPS)

SALSA
GUACAMOLE
CHEESY BEAN DIP

*Guacamole is seasonal

ITALIAN OPTIONS

SPAGHETTI
(PLAIN SAUCE OR MEAT SAUCE)
CHICKEN ALFREDO
MEATBALLS

EXTRAS

ROLLS
GARDEN SALAD

SALAD DRESSINGS

Ranch or Vinaigrette

*Gluten free noodles are available

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR



Due to the huge increase in need, our goal is to add 75 new monthly donors.

Can you be one of the 75?



SCAN HERE TO BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR OR VISIT HEARTLANDHOPEMISSION.ORG

WHEN YOU JOIN THE BREAKFAST CLUB, YOUR MONTHLY GIFT HELPS ENSURE THAT NO CHILD IN OUR COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES HUNGER!

- **\$35 PER MONTH PROVIDES**
1 CHILD WITH FOOD AND DIAPERS FOR A MONTH
- **\$70 PER MONTH PROVIDES**
2 CHILDREN WITH FOOD AND DIAPERS FOR A MONTH
- **\$140 PER MONTH PROVIDES**
A FAMILY OF 4 WITH FREE GROCERIES AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR A MONTH

SAVE THE DATE

SAVE THE DATE
DONOR APPRECIATION EVENT
FRIDAY, APRIL 12



FOOD DRIVES

SCAN HERE TO HOST A FOOD DRIVE OR VISIT HEARTLANDHOPEMISSION.ORG