# CODE ZERO



## Please help struggling men, women, and children in Akron this winter season

uring this time of year Haven of Rest implements its awareness campaign called 'Code Zero.'
Through local media we communicate the availability of services to men, women and children needing help during the winter months. The Mission's

doors are always open – twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Here they will not only have their basic needs met, but will also be offered hope for a new life through the ministry's many programs and services.

Your compassion and generosity are appreciated.

Thank you to all who support Haven of Rest Ministries through your financial gifts, volunteer service, or material gifts. You have made a change possible in the lives of hundreds of individuals. We appreciate you so much!

## Our Men's Residential Program Is





ast September, we expanded our men's residential program to include an initial eight-week phase called "The Only Person ✓You Cheat Is You." This new phase helps the men develop healthy thought patterns and tangible goals for their program and their future. That means they'll start their journey here with the end goal in mind, which they carry with them when challenges arise.

"For many of our men, it has been a long time since they completed anything," says Jim Cole, Director of our Men's Program. "Having a phase graduation at eight weeks gives us a victory to celebrate early in the process of transformation, which creates positive momentum that we build upon as they complete other aspects of the program."

There are hundreds of men in the Akron/Canton area and surrounding communities who are still lost in addiction and. despair. They need your help to begin the process of recovery and healing. Thank you for walking with them as they take steps toward



2019 Changed Hearts. Changed Lives. One Story At A Time





L-R: Jim Cole, Director Men's Division, David, Dwight Johnson, Manager of Client Services



L-R: Rev. Eric Brown, David

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### THEVOICE

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# From the Executive Director

Dear Friends:

I hope you had a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year! My parents always told me as you get older in life, the years will pass more quickly: how true this is. As we say goodbye to 2018 and look to 2019, I would like to share a few highlights from last year:

- •Harvest Home experienced an increase in the number of women and women with children.
- •Our long-term residential program for men experienced growth averaging 28 to 29 men committing to our Christ-centered program from six months and longer.
- •Haven of Rest celebrated our 75th Anniversary April 27th with the introduction of the men's renovation project.
- •The Learning Center was updated with new computers and chairs.
- •A much-needed renovation of our small chapel was done including new carpet and chairs.
- •One of our conference rooms had a new floor installed.
- •Two new vans were purchased in 2018 to help in transporting guests to appointments.
- •Over 305,000 meals were served in 2018 and over 63,000 nights of lodging were provided.
- •There were 730 chapel services provided to our guests as hope was presented to them through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As we move forward together in 2019, there will be many opportunities as well as challenges that God will bring our way. We will continue to stay the course of what God has called us to do and that is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with destitute men, women and children who come to us for physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have every lasting life."

For 75 years, we have experienced: Changed Hearts. Changed Lives. One Story at a Time. Thank you for your continued support, friendship, and commitment to what God is doing at Haven of Rest.

> In Christ, Rev. Jeff Kaiser **Executive Director**



eroin is one of the strongest drugs you can find on the streets. At rock bottom, it still wasn't strong enough for David. A lifetime of addiction had finally left him with nowhere to

"I was using one day and realized that I wasn't even getting high anymore," he says. "Then I found out later that there were some people here at Haven who were praying that exact prayer. For me to reach that completely broken state and not be able to get high.'

David praises God for the people who prayed that prayer because it brought him to where he is today. After years of battling addiction, he was no stranger to the staff here at Haven of Rest. "I should be in prison or dead right now," he says. But God had other plans for David—and your support has been a part of that plan.

#### **Recovery rooted in surrender**

"It came to a point where I realized it's not about me getting clean," he explains. "It's about allowing God to use me to help somebody else or help many." That realization was a breakthrough for David. Once he learned to shift his focus away from himself and toward God, he was finally able to take steps away from his addiction.

"Looking back, I see God's grace and mercy so much in my past," he says. Now that he has gone through our residential program and has seen God's miracles in his own life, he is eager to help others find that same healing and peace in their own lives.

This month, David will start working toward a college degree in human and social services with a minor in chemical dependency counseling. "Too many families have lost their fathers, mothers, brothers, or sisters to addiction," he says. "I want to help people walk free from that."

Because of friends like you, David has found a new way forward. "I just can't say thank you enough to everyone who's involved with Haven of Rest.'



# Give monthly to make a lasting difference

hroughout the year, donations ebb and flow but the needs of our hungry, homeless neighbors remain constant. Making a monthly donation is an easy way to help people in need all year long. You can even set up recurring automated payments that link to your checking account or credit card. To become a monthly giver today, please visit *havenofrest.org*.

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