



# HAVEN OF REST MINISTRIES

# THE VOICE

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*Hope and a Future*

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

### *Haven of Rest's Harvest Home Serving Moms and their Children*

Moms come to stay at Harvest Home for either short or long periods. Sometimes they come for emergency or safety reasons and transition out quickly. Other women stay longer to benefit from the many ways Haven of Rest Ministries offers comfort, hope and encouragement for their future through quality programs and services. As they apply themselves and utilize the many classes, trainings, Bible studies, and helps provided by the Mission, the greater the growth and transformation can be witnessed.

Helena is one of the moms who benefitted. Originally from Akron, Helena's mom moved to Texas when Helena was 16 along with her two younger brothers. The older brother decided to stay with his dad in Akron. Helena struggled to find her identity and make life decisions while trying to finish high school. When she was 22, she met a man at her workplace that she developed a serious relationship with and bore two children. However, when the boyfriend became an alcoholic, she had to find a way out of the relationship. Helena moved to Maryland to be where her mother had moved. She went to

cosmetology school and tried to make a life there. Discovering that she was unable to afford living expenses in Maryland, she moved back to Texas and lived in a shelter for a short while.

She began another relationship with a man whom she felt would provide for them and could then raise her children in a stable environment. However, Helena had to escape another addict and went back to the shelter. This time she left her children with their biological father. After establishing herself through finding work and a place to live, she began a relationship with a man whom she perceived would be good to her. Unfortunately, he turned out to be controlling and physically abusive. At her wit's end with all the difficulties of finding her way and a good partner, Helena started to binge drink in 2017. She was again looking for a way out of this relationship by the end of 2020. Her youngest brother moved back to Akron around this time and found help he needed at Haven of Rest. He suggested she go there as well. Her mom had also moved back to Akron, so Helena decided to return with her two children.

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MINISTRIES**



## FROM THE CEO

2020-2021

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#### Dear Friends:

Every Sunday morning the Haven of Rest Radio Broadcast is played on several radio stations. Four stations including WNIR 100.1 FM, WAKR 1590 AM, WKVX 960 AM, and WKJA 91.9 FM air at 7:30 a.m., WHBC 1480 AM airs at 8:00 AM.

Over the years, we have had men and women who stay at the Mission share their testimonies. This is not always easy for them, as their past of addictions and other struggles in life can bring a variety of emotions such as guilt, fear, anxiety, as well as tears. It takes enormous courage for them to share about their lives on the radio. Many of the men and women are giving us a glimpse into their lives and how Christ is impacting and changing their lives for the better.

To witness transformation happening in the men and women through Christ is a miraculous experience. You are a part of these great testimonies in so many different ways. It does not mean everything will be easy for them, but the difference in them is Christ. In Matthew 7:24-25 it says, *“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.”*

Thank you for your prayers for all of our guests that come to Haven of Rest. Your friendship in partnering with us is precious. †

Blessings In Christ,

Rev. Jeff Kaiser, CEO



A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.



Enter here. Start anew.



## HEART OF THE HOME – KITCHEN RENOVATION PROJECT



Kirk LaVigne, *Foodservice Clerk*

The Mission's kitchen renovation project is underway! It has been long overdue. Some equipment is over twenty years old, worn, outdated, not working as it should, or breaks down often. Plans are for the installations of 6 new convection ovens, an additional steamer, new upper cabinets, a braiser with a pot filler, and the expansion of the prep area counter space. As the kitchen is considered the Heart of the Home, this much needed project has been under discussion for some time. If you would like more information, call the Mission at 330-535-1563 and ask for Rev. Kaiser.

# Haven of Rest's Harvest Home

(Continued from page 1)

Harvest Home welcomed her with open arms as she returned from Texas. This was her third time in a shelter, and she shared how she hopes it will be her last. Her children, Kahnani and Kevin, are now 10 and 8 years of age and have expressed much delight as they have been given many toys and gifts of their very own. They also take online classes throughout the day and go to the afterschool program. Helena shares, "Morgan and Miss Jessica would take care of the kids throughout the day while I got situated and received the help I needed. We enjoyed 2 Easter egg hunts and we loved the baskets. My kids were given a childhood to enjoy."

Already, Harvest Home helped Helena find a house in Akron where she plans to re-establish herself after 18 years. She said so much has changed, but remembers enjoying her childhood nearby where she played with her cousins and friends. "I plan on making the new place a home for myself and my children and look forward to reconnecting with family," she says. Her mother

has been at the Harvest Home too, and they have a good relationship. Helena has found a job, and also has been creative while working on crafts. She wants to turn her gel wax candles into a business she can work from home.

Helena shares her newfound faith with joy. She exclaims, "I have found peace-of-mind in the Bible studies and every evening I do devotions. I have taken a nutrition class and also have started therapy at Community Health Center. Angela has led me to a book on forgiveness and I have been able to forgive people who have hurt me." She also adds, "I feel safe at Harvest Home and the staff are pretty great. They listen when I am going through something." She says she plans on finding a church and has developed the habit of praying morning and night, surrendering herself to Jesus. Helena said it has been difficult growing up without a father and has tried to do it on her own. Now she is learning to lean on Christ.



As you pray for Helena, she asks for the ability to stay focused and not to rush into anything, especially relationships. She has found her greatest and best relationship is with the Lord.

(Staff mentioned in this article are Morgan Kaiser, Child Advocate, Jessica Gurreri, Child Advocate Assistant, and Angela Stewart, Harvest Home Secretary) For more information about the Harvest Home or how to refer women who need the Mission's help, call 330-434-1149.†



## FOOD DRIVE

In place of the Letter Carrier's Annual Canned food drive, the Mission is accepting monetary donations to purchase the items. Food donations are also being accepted for canned and non-perishable items at the drive-thru. Donations should be taken to Haven of Rest's donation drive-thru at the rear of our Client Services Center at 207 East Market St. in Akron. The donation drive-thru is completely covered from the elements. Drive-thru hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The drive-thru is closed on Sunday.

# HOPE TOTE CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

Hope Tote campaign began in 1999 because people were going without basic personal care items such as socks, toothpaste and toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, lotion, facial tissues, brushes and combs, shampoo and conditioner, and more. It has evolved into a special outreach where individuals, neighbors, family, friends, co-workers, church groups, school classes, civic organizations, and businesses all participate to fill Hope Tote plastic bags with such items.



Every year since, people look forward to receiving these Hope Totes. For over twenty years, thousands of people in Northeast Ohio (including Summit, Stark, Portage, Medina, Holmes, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties) have been blessed with items they may not have been able to purchase for themselves and

their families. Sometimes the Hope Totes will have added donated gifts or toiletries made available to the Mission at that time.

This past Easter, over 90 bags were handed out to guests who enjoyed the Easter meal and hundreds more will be given out during May and June. They are also distributed on holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas. Throughout the entire year they are given to people who are in need. In 2020, over 900 Hope Totes were handed out to families.

If you are interested in donating items toward the Hope Totes campaign, please drop them off at The Donation Center. If you have questions, call David John, *Special Events Coordinator*, at 330-535-1563. Haven of Rest's Donation Drive Thru is located at 207 E. Market St., Downtown Akron. They are open on Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday: closed.

## SAVE THE DATE! AKRON REGIONAL DINNER

TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021  
AT 6:30 P.M.

Guy's Party Center,  
500 E. Waterloo Rd.,  
Akron, OH 44319

To register, and for more details, visit [www.havenofrest.org](http://www.havenofrest.org) under "Events" or call the Mission at 330-535-1563 or email Lynne Taylor at [ltaylor@havenofrest.org](mailto:ltaylor@havenofrest.org). CDC Guidelines will be practiced during this special event.

Thanks again and we are looking forward to seeing everyone and spending this special evening together!

## Give a Charitable Gift Annuity and Receive a Lifetime Income

Do you know there are many ways to give to Haven of Rest Ministries and that your giving potential may be greater than you realize?

Through a charitable gift annuity (CGA), you can experience the joy of supporting God's work and at the same time be assured of a lifetime income. You enter into an agreement whereby you transfer cash or other assets to Haven of Rest in exchange for guaranteed regular payments for life.

In the year you make the gift, you will receive a federal income tax deduction for a portion of your contribution. When the regular payments are received from the CGA, the portion of the payment representing your cost basis is tax free.

If you want to learn more about a CGA or if you want to establish a CGA and receive a lifetime income, contact Controller Chris Bugg at 330-535-1563 or [cbugg@havenofrest.org](mailto:cbugg@havenofrest.org). A customized proposal will be prepared for you to review.

*Haven of Rest Ministries is not engaged in rendering legal or tax advisory services. Please seek the services of an estate planning attorney or professional financial advisor.*

**Proverbs 11:25 – A generous person will prosper; those who water others will themselves be refreshed.**

