HAVEN OF REST MINISTRIES

VOL 65 | NO. 1 | JANUARY 2024

HOPE AND A FUTURE

Special

**NEW YEAR** 

**EDITION** 

# **"I DON'T KNOW HOW I SURVIVED**"

## Your generosity helped Ryan find freedom from years of addiction!

On the surface, Ryan was living the life of his dreams. He was well-off, engaged, and a successful chef at his own restaurant.

But underneath his achievements were decades of alcohol addiction. "I kept it together, but I was physically and emotionally falling apart," says Ryan.

Ryan could only push his struggles under the rug for so long. Addiction was controlling his life, and he realized that if he didn't seek help then, it would be too late.

Putting life on pause to find help felt like a high cost. But it was a price worth paying if it meant lasting change. "I abandoned my life to come to Haven of Rest," says Ryan.

On the other side of Ryan's surrender, he found new life.

#### **GRACE AND DISCIPLINE**

When Ryan describes the new clarity he has, he can't put it into adequate words. "I finally got out of the haze I was in," he says. "I don't know how I survived as long

**READ MORE OF RYAN'S** STORY INSIDE



# Your giving is transforming lives . . .



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## "I DON'T KNOW HOW I SURVIVED ...."

*"Coming here"* 

has been a

turning point

in my life."

as I did before coming here."

The journey to full recovery wasn't quick and easy for Ryan. "It took

grace and discipline to regain my work ethic, habits, and passion for life," he says. Having a committed community of men and loving staff made all the difference.

#### AN UNFORGETTABLE TURNING POINT

Here at Haven of Rest, Ryan found the help and tools he needed to rebuild his life on a solid foundation. Through interning in the Men's Day Room and running the kitchen, he began to find purpose and passion again. Now, Ryan plans to continue working in the recovery field and helping other men overcome the struggles he once

faced. "Coming here has been a turning point in my life," he says.

Your giving helps make lifetransformation possible for Ryan and so many others.

"I wish that you could see the lives changed in front of your eyes," says Ryan. "Your support is not just a gift. It's a life-changing gift."

There are struggling neighbors in our community who started this new year hungry, homeless, and hopeless. Your support today will open the door to their new start!

### GIVE MONTHLY AND MAKE A LASTING IMPACT!

Monthly giving is the best way you can serve our struggling neighbors and transform lives.

Your monthly support will provide vital help year-round.





Nourishing meals

Safe shelter and clothing





Life-changing programs Christian counseling and more

# right here in Akron!



# GIVE HOPE TO PEOPLE FACING HOMELESSNESS

## Help fill hope totes!

Small necessities make all the difference for someone facing the pain of poverty.

Operation Hope Tote is a special outreach where individuals, church groups, school classes, organizations, and businesses fill Hope Tote bags with personal care items. These bags are then distributed to hundreds of struggling people in our community. Get together with a group to fill Hope Totes for people hurting from homelessness! **You can help us collect these items for men:** 







Toothpaste and Body toothbrush sh

Body wash and Disposable razors shampoo and shaving cream Deodorant

Body lotion

For more information, contact Special Events Coordinator David John at 330-535-1563 or djohn@havenofrest.org.



## NEW BEGINNINGS



It's an honor and a joy to watch men and women's new beginnings unfold firsthand.

REV. JEFF KAISER CEO Ryan's new beginning started when he

set aside his plans and ambitions to seek help at Haven of Rest. Other people who walk through our doors will tell you their new beginning started with a meal, a warm bed to sleep in, or a compassionate conversation.

No matter how or how long it takes a struggling neighbor to find their fresh start, one thing remains the same: God's grace is sufficient.

Here, we believe no one is so far gone into homelessness, addiction, or poverty that God can't restore their life. This truth is reflected in the compassionate care you make possible.

As you consider a gift in this new year, I invite you to think back to the beginning of your partnership with us. However long you've stood alongside us, your support is accomplishing long-term good for God's kingdom and our community.

Because of your generosity, Haven of Rest will always be a place where fresh starts are possible.

# Struggling neighbors need your help . . . CHANGE A LIFE TODAY

When you have warm meals on your table, a roof over your head, and a cozy bed to sleep in each night, you don't have to worry about the harsh Ohio winters.

But our neighbors struggling on the streets do. For them, winter brings added unimaginable misery.

Today, you can rescue someone from the dangers of homelessness and hunger in the bone-chilling winter. Your gift of life-transforming care will help men, women, and children overcome cycles of poverty and live lives of selfsufficiency.

Please consider the lives that are at risk this winter. Your generosity will make all the difference!

When you give, please be sure to include your reply form.





#### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

## HELPING TRANSFORM LIVES FOR 80 YEARS

#### Join this compassionate group of women and make your impact!

On November 6, 1944, a group of women came together and committed to helping Haven of Rest meet needs and change lives. This was the first Women's Auxiliary meeting of many!

Over the years, women in our Akron community have joyously and prayerfully invested their time, talents, and financial resources into worthwhile projects that have supported Haven of Rest in changing lives.

From funding vital renovations to putting on anniversary banquets, this determined group of women has made Haven of Rest a place where men, women, and children can seek help and restore their lives.

If you want to join the Women's Auxiliary in making a local impact, we invite you to join us on the first Tuesday of every month. The

gift shop and clothing store open at 10am, lunch is served at 12pm, and a special program begins at 1pm.



