

THE VOICE

HOPE AND A FUTURE

FROM THE STREETS TO THE SAVIOR

“God did for me what I could not do for myself.”

Taranta grew up in a tough environment, surrounded by bad influences and making poor choices. As a result, he fell into a cycle of substance abuse and crime.

“There was a void I was trying to fill, an emptiness,” he said. “I was self-medicating to fill that void, but these were temporary fixes.”

Seeds of hope YOU help plant...

In 2007, Taranta came to Haven of Rest for the first time.

“It was a short stay because I wasn’t ready to make a change,” he said. “But a seed was planted.”

Taranta soon returned to the streets and his destructive habits. “God was still there tugging at me,” he said. “But I was ignoring it.”

His turning point came when he ended up back in jail.

“There was someone in the cell beside me, a foul-mouthed,

READ MORE OF TARANTA'S
STORY INSIDE ►



The compassionate care you offer is such a blessing.



“KIDS HELPING KIDS” CAMPAIGN

Christmas should be an exciting time for children. Yet for those experiencing homelessness, instead of experiencing the joy of the season, many face the pain of uncertainty. Instead of excited anticipation, they are left wondering where their next meal will come from.

The “Kids Helping Kids” campaign helps bring a little sunshine into the lives of children by providing gifts that can be shared throughout the holiday season, and presents for families to have for Christmas Day.

Children and young people, with the assistance of their parents or family, are invited to bless disadvantaged children by donating new toys for Christmas.

If your church, school, youth group, or family would like to participate in our “Kids Helping Kids” campaign, your donations should be delivered to Haven of Rest by November 22.

For more information visit havenofrest.org or contact **David John** at djohn@havenofrest.org

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From the streets to the Savior

mean, angry man,” he said, “God showed me that this man was me, and He said, ‘Even when you were like that, I still loved you.’ I realized God gives us unconditional love. He doesn’t see our sin.”

A second chance for Taranta—thanks to YOU!

After his release from jail, Taranta saw it as an opportunity to return to Haven of Rest. He had a “heart change” and knew this was where he was supposed to be.

Psalm 23 (“The Lord is my shepherd”) became his guiding light.

“When you have a child and you hold your finger out, they take your hand in such a way that shows they trust you,” he said. “They don’t ask where you are

taking them, they just follow. God showed me to trust Him in that same way—to follow Him.

Life change you make possible...

Today, Taranta’s goals are centered around loving others as God loves him.

“I want to be the father God intends for me to be,” he said. “I want to have the light of Christ in me that others would see the love of Christ.”

Thank you for all you make possible for lost souls like Taranta. Please continue to pray for him—for guidance and wisdom—and that he will keep his eye on Christ.



YOU ARE PLANTING SEEDS OF CHANGE

Men's Garden Project

Amazing things are growing at Haven of Rest!

While you may not be familiar with it, our Resident Men's Gardening Program has been harvesting vegetables, flowers, and hope since 1997.



Originally funded by a grant through the Ohio State University Extension program, the Men's Garden is an annual project that provides participants in our Conquerors Recovery Program with the unique opportunity to learn gardening skills. They also find some unexpected benefits as they participate in the program, which serves as an outlet

for men who are struggling with a variety of things as they come into the Mission. They are reminded of their capability to learn new things. They are given the chance to practice important life skills such as teamwork, creativity, planning, and follow-through. They are given the opportunity, perhaps for the first time, to understand the value of nurturing something. They build community as they work together to build a garden.

Indoor classes begin in March, supported by master gardener volunteers and special speakers who share knowledge on specific topics. In June, classes move to the "outdoor classroom" as the men plant, maintain, and later harvest their garden. Last year, more than 1,250 pounds of fresh produce was harvested and used by the kitchen in preparing meals for our guests.

"I didn't realize this would be about so much more than just planting flowers and vegetables," said John, a previous graduate of the program. "What I've learned is that relationship is the key to anything we want to grow, whether it be a garden, or even our lives."

Hope is being harvested at Haven of Rest — one vegetable at a time!

HARVESTING HOPE IN A SEASON OF THANKS



REV. JEFF KAISER
CEO

As Thanksgiving approaches, we reflect on the abundant blessings God has provided.

In Matthew 9, Jesus says, "The harvest is plentiful but

the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field."

This call to action reminds us that the fields of hope and healing are ripe for harvest, especially within our homeless communities.

At Haven of Rest, each meal served, each warm bed provided, and each word of encouragement given is a seed planted in the fertile soil of broken hearts. These acts of kindness, rooted in faith, cultivate hope where despair once reigned.

Together, we are reaping a bountiful harvest of changed lives and restored spirits.

Thankful for you,

Jeff





The easiest way to grow your legacy

Donor Advised Funds (DAF) are currently rated the #1 planned giving tool in the United States.

- ▶ **They are simple.** You can support several charities from one account. You control how the funds are distributed.
- ▶ **They are smart.** Opening a DAF provides immediate tax benefit to you.
- ▶ **They are family friendly.** Invite your children or grandchildren to research and recommend charities your family would like to bless, like Haven of Rest Ministries.

What a great way to give this holiday season!



Donor
Makes charitable contribution, often appreciated securities.



Donor advised funds (DAF)
Recommends distributions.



One or more charities
Potential capital gains tax avoidance & income tax deduction.

HELP HARVEST HOPE FOR OUR STRUGGLING NEIGHBORS



Thanksgiving is a time to gather with family and friends, reflecting on the many blessings in our lives.

However, for men, women, and children facing homelessness, this season can be a stark contrast. Many will spend Thanksgiving lonely, hungry, and feeling as if they have little to be thankful for.

This is where your compassion and generosity can make a life-changing difference. By giving today, you can help provide the Christ-centered care they desperately need.

Your gift will offer physical relief, critical services that lead to stability, and the hope of the Gospel.

Together, let's harvest HOPE this Thanksgiving!

