

# THE VOICE

HOPE AND A FUTURE

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

## “THIS PLACE SAVED MY LIFE!”

Kerri's journey from darkness to light began in Akron, Ohio, with her escaping an abusive relationship and addiction. With nowhere to turn, she arrived at Haven of Rest with only a backpack and the clothes on her back.

Haven of Rest quickly became home. Daily chapel services and the words of Jeremiah 29:11 (“For I know the plans I have for you...”) offered Kerri hope and a sense of belonging.

### Peace and hope for Kerri—thanks to YOU!

Staff provided encouragement and support, something Kerri had never really had before. With that support, Kerri worked through addiction, found employment, saved money, and eventually moved into her own residence..

“I learned about faith here,” she shares. “This place saved my life.”

Now, despite battling cancer, Kerri carries the hope she found here, trusting God's care and plan for her life.

READ MORE INSIDE ABOUT THE  
CHANGES YOU HELPED MAKE ►

[facebook.com/havenofrest.org](https://facebook.com/havenofrest.org)[twitter.com/HavenofRestOH](https://twitter.com/HavenofRestOH)[instagram.com/havenofrest.akron](https://instagram.com/havenofrest.akron)

*You are opening doors to new possibilities*



## SHELTER FOR CASSANDRA AFTER HER LIFE FELL APART

Cassandra's life was unraveling when she walked through the doors of Haven of Rest, desperate for a fresh start.

She had dropped out of high school, had no job, and had no real stability. "I couldn't stay with family anymore," she says.

"I was trying to find housing, and in order to get on the list, I had to find a shelter home."

### **A fresh start, a new hope**

Cassandra's first days at Haven were overwhelming.

"It was rough," she remembers. "Living around strangers and adjusting to a lot of structure."

But something changed in Cassandra during her time at Haven. The staff were kind and supportive, encouraging her to open up.

"The best part was hearing the stories of the women who were there," she shares.

### **Peace and purpose for Cassandra**

Today, Cassandra's life is a testament to the power of faith and change.

"The Lord is real—trust in Him," she says.

After years of struggle, she found peace and purpose. Now, she volunteers at Haven, giving back to the place that helped transform her life.

You make stories like Cassandra's possible. You're giving women a chance at a new beginning. Thank you for making a lasting impact.



## WOMAN OF THE YEAR:

*Nancy Largent*

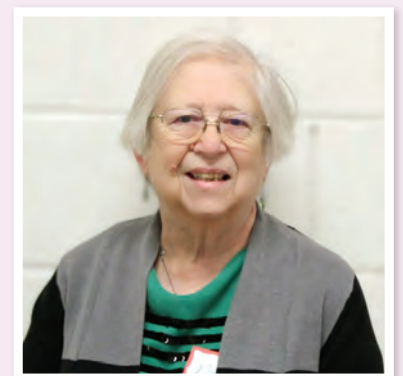
Meet Nancy Largent, our cherished Auxiliary member and this year's Woman of the Year!

For nearly 20 years, Nancy has brought warmth and belonging to our community, always welcoming others with her dedication and bright smile.

Beyond her volunteerism, she celebrates 60 years of marriage this May, with a loving family of three children,

seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Congratulations, Nancy, on this well-deserved honor!



**You can meet Nancy and other amazing women who make up our Auxiliary on the first Tuesday of every month.**





## EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SEWING

At Haven of Rest, the Women's Sewing Program is helping women build new skills and confidence.

As part of the Future Story Enrichment Program, this special class teaches women how to sew useful items like tote bags, aprons, and more. Volunteers guide participants each week, helping them learn new techniques and improve their sewing.

### **You offer skills that open doors**

The program does more than teach sewing—it also gives women a chance to earn money. Items they make

are sold at the Future Story Shop, and participants receive 50% of the income. They also learn business skills like tracking sales and working with customers.

After completing ten quality items, women receive a free sewing machine to continue their work. Some have even gone on to become professional seamstresses!

Thank you to our generous donors for making this program possible. Your support is helping women gain skills, confidence, and hope for the future!

## HAVEN OF REST COMMUNITY CONNECTION



*Mark your calendar: Hope Fest—June 25*



Join us for the 32nd Annual Hope Fest on **Wednesday, June 25, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM.**

This free picnic is open to the community. Last year, over 400 people attended!

Come enjoy a picnic lunch, treats, face painting, music, and more. Multiple tables will be set up with community service info and giveaways. See you there!

## MOTHER'S DAY HOPE—FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW



**REV. JEFF KAISER**  
CEO

Every day at Haven of Rest, we witness how God opens the doors to new possibilities, especially for mothers and families seeking a fresh start.

No matter how broken their past may be, His love brings hope, healing, and new beginnings.

A warm meal, a safe place to sleep, and words of encouragement can make all the difference for someone feeling lost, especially a mother longing for a brighter future for her children.

**With God, no story is over—He is always writing something new.**

Thank you for helping mothers and families step into the future with hope.

Let's keep trusting Him for the new possibilities He has in store!

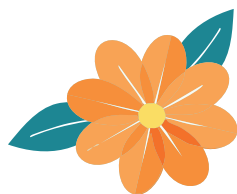
In Christ's love and service,

Rev. Jeff Kaiser, CEO





## NEW POSSIBILITIES START WITH YOU!



Life doesn't always go as planned. Many who come to Haven of Rest never imagined they'd be homeless or struggling to get back on their feet. But hardship, addiction, and loss can happen to anyone.

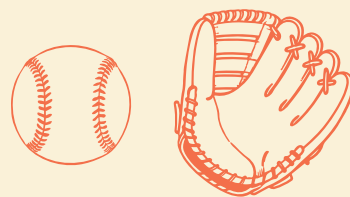
That's why Haven of Rest is here—to offer a second chance.

A hot meal, a safe place to sleep, and people who care can spark real change. With faith-based counseling, job training, and the love of Christ, men, women, and families can move forward with hope.

Right now, many are searching for a fresh start. Will you help? Your gift today will provide meals, shelter, and life-changing support for someone who needs these the most.

**“Take me out  
to the ballpark!”**

**Get your tickets today!**



**Join us Saturday, June 7, 2025  
7:05 PM at Canal Park**

**Akron RubberDucks**

vs.

**Chesapeake Baysox**

Buy your tickets here:

**[fevo-enterprise.com/event/  
HavenofRest](https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/HavenofRest)**

and Haven of Rest will receive  
\$3 for every ticket sold.



*Your gifts bring hope to our struggling neighbors!*

## 3 WAYS YOU CAN HELP RESTORE LIVES

1

**GIVE BY MAIL** by  
sending your gift  
and reply form in the  
enclosed envelope.

2

**GIVE ONLINE** by visiting  
[havenofrest.org/give](https://havenofrest.org/give)

3

**SCAN HERE** with your  
mobile device.

