

Mission Share

OUTREACH CENTER
where love touches people.



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FALL 2009

JEHOVAH-JIREH: THE LORD PROVIDES FOR MSOC!

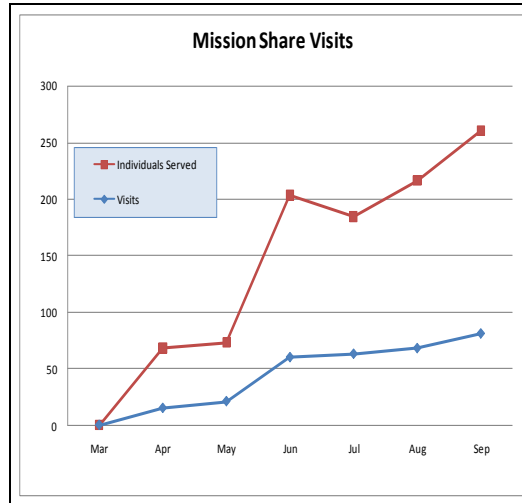
Mission Share continues to reach more and more families in our community. In June, we ministered to 60 families and in July we saw 63. In August we served 68 families. Eighty-three families sought our assistance in September, 45 of those families coming in the last 6 days of the month that we were open! Needless to say, the place was hopping!

With an increased demand comes a need for more food to give away, and I am happy to report that we have been approved to receive food from FoodLink to distribute. FoodLink has already been a huge blessing to us by providing up to 90% of the food that we give away. In fact, we were approved to receive over

30,000 pounds of food this fiscal year ending in June 2010. God is faithful to provide!

Mission Share was also blessed to receive a grant of \$10,000 by a local foundation. We received this grant in early July earmarked specifically for our crisis pregnancy center. We are endeavoring to open this aspect of ministry by late winter/early spring 2010.

To all who have donated their time to serve, I want



to express my gratitude.

The outpouring of practical support has been staggering and very much appreciated.

We can continue to show God's love in real ways only by working together, affecting lasting change through the power of His Spirit.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That our clients will be receptive to the Gospel
- That our application to FoodLink will be accepted
- That our plans for CareNet will continue to move forward
- That more business partners will come on board financially
- For wisdom to develop the next phases of Mission Share
- That our Bookbag outreach will be successful. We will be serving 500 children this year!
- For the development and implementation of our VET2VET outreach program

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

1. PRAYER
2. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED ON A WEEKLY BASIS
3. SPONSOR A FAMILY (OR TWO) FOR CHRISTMAS HOPE
4. FINANCIAL SUPPORT
5. TOILETRY ITEMS
6. VETERANS TO HOST OUR VET2VET OUTREACH

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES

We are continuing the process of developing our crisis pregnancy outreach. We are currently trying to identify our director for this ministry. It has been decided that hiring a director is important for many reasons: consistency of leadership; scheduling of volunteers; implementation of goals/vision; record-

keeping; grant-writing, among other things. It looks like it will be late Winter 2010 before we have all of the pieces in place to start.

A new outreach, called VET2VET, is on the planning table now to open in January 2010. The purpose of this group is to provide a forum for veterans to con-

nect with other veterans who have been or are going through similar life challenges. We endeavor to facilitate a re-acclimation to civilian life by working through the unique issues that a veteran faces. We will accomplish this through guest lecturers, group discussion, and/or one-on-one discussion.

Mission Share

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'where love touches people'

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Coming soon to the Web!

SUPPORTING CHURCHES

The Mission Share Community Outreach Center is a collaborative effort consisting of several churches from the town of Greece. For a detailed listing of the supporting churches please call the Mission Share office.

DONATIONS

There are no costs for services rendered by Mission Share. We operate and depend solely on donations.

RON'S STORY

Ron first came in when we were still remodeling Mission Share back in early April. He had been on unemployment for several months before landing a \$8.75/hour job, which was quite a life-style change from the \$60,000 + job he had held previously. Clearly, he needed help feeding his wife and 4 kids.

Every time Ron has come in he looks so tired and sad. Working 7 days/week has worn him out, physically and emotionally. Each time that he comes in, I take a moment to ask him how he is doing and then pray for him.

Several weeks back when he came in, he looked even more tired and depressed than normal. He began to sob uncontrollably when he told me that he was

MESSY, STINKY CHRISTIANITY

Donna, whose husband left her two years ago amidst a financial nightmare, came in the other day with her daughter, Samantha, looking for some help with food and clothing. Upon first glance, it was apparent that Samantha was a hurting girl. I assumed that she was around 14, but was surprised to hear that she was 19. Her body language and demeanor evidenced significant insecurity and fear...she would not look straight at me, not even return my "hello."

As I asked Donna for any prayer requests she might have, her eyes began to swell with tears. Beginning to cry, she asked for prayer for her children: her eldest son has epilepsy; her second son, schizophrenia; her youngest daughter, Samantha, diabetes. As I began to pray, I was overcome with compassion for this woman and her children. How must God feel for these hurting specific individuals? As a father myself, all I could think of was how much God, our Heavenly Father, loves them and desires to bring them close to His heart: to feel the safety and security that are found in Him alone.

Donna knows Jesus in a deep and profound way, sharing just a sliver of the rejection and abandonment that He felt from those He came to save, and temporarily, from His Father when He bore OUR sins on the cross. Christ is truly acquainted with all of our grief and hurt!

As I recall this story, and many others like it, I can't help but be challenged by God. Do I really want to help people...THESE people? People who have messed up lives, complicated relationships, and distorted views of life, God, and Christianity. It would be a lot easier and significantly more convenient and comfortable to leave it at "Jesus loves you and died for your sins...Repent" than to make the effort to disciple THESE people. Discipling/training/teaching/coaching THESE people is inconvenient, uncomfortable, time-consuming, frustrating, messy, and stinky! But I am reminded that that is what WE all used to be...THESE people, and without Christ, would continue to be...messy and stinky!



God has called me...YOU...to get messy and stinky for Him. Will you? Are you willing to invest your time and effort to reach out, share the Gospel, and disciple another soul, knowing you will be frustrated, inconvenienced, and uncomfortable? Remember, He did it for you...and He's still in the fishing business!

facing eviction within 7 days. As we prayed, I felt led to encourage him that God would guide and direct him.

Within 24 hours, Ron had found a new place to live and God had provided the security deposit from one of our supporting churches. When I called to tell him of the security deposit, he burst into tears and exclaimed, "You don't know how much of a burden you have removed from me!" God is faithful!

This past week, he attended a gospel-preaching church for the first time ever. God is working!

Please remember to pray for the individuals that come in to Mission Share...that they would receive more than just food for their stomachs, which is so temporary...but food for their souls which is eternal.