

# Help's on the Way - Issue 14, Summer 2008

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Page 1

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, which is located at 40000 Six Mile Road in Northville, Michigan is supporting the Help's on the Way, School Supplies Program by collecting backpacks and school supplies beginning Sunday, July 13, 2008 at Ward Church. Ward Church hopes to collect one hundred bags filled with supplies for Help's on the Way. Distribution to the children of clients of Help's on the Way will begin in August. School supplies are being collected by age level, and the following list is a breakdown of supplies needed by grade level. If you plan to make a donation at Ward Church, please mark the package of donated items as either lower elementary, upper elementary or high school.

<u>Lower Elementary:</u>	<u>Upper Elementary</u>	<u>High School</u>
2 glue sticks	2 glue sticks	2 glue sticks
1 box Crayons 24 count	1 box wide markers	1 box slim markers
6 pencils	6 pencils	6 pencils
6 pens	6 pens	6 pens
1 pencil sharpener	1 pencil sharpener	1 pencil sharpener
1 blunt scissor	2 post-it notes	2 post-it notes
2 post-it notes	1 three subject notebook	1 three subject notebook
1 notebook	1 package filler paper	1 ruler metric/inch
1 pad of paper	1 ruler Metric/Inch	1 pencil case
eraser caps	1 pencil case	2 duo-tang folders with pockets
Metric/Inch ruler	Pink Pearl erasers	1 pack collegiate ruled paper
2 duo-tank folders with pockets	2 duo-tank folders with pockets	1 three ring binder 1-1/2"
1 backpack	1 three ring binder 1-1/2"	1 pack index cards
	1 backpack	1 backpack

## In This Issue

- Ward Church / Help's on the Way School Supplies Program
- An Invitation to Serve
- God at Work
- Court-ordered Community Service
- Annual Help's on the Way School Supplies Program
- Donor Opportunities

## An Invitation

When I was in Junior High School I was talking with a friend I had known all through school and he was telling me about the chess club. I was an avid chess player and he invited me to check it out that day after school. Jim said " Tell you what, meet me right here after the last bell and we'll go together." After last bell Jim never showed and the next day I asked him what happened. He said he went to chess club and said he didn't meet me on purpose. When I asked why he simply said he wanted to see if I would go on my own and that if I did not it would teach me a lesson. Well I was pretty unhappy about that and never spoke to Jim again about this particular incident, even though we went all the way through high school together. The last time I talked to Jim he was a successful business man.

I never did join the chess club; however I did learn a very valuable lesson. Thanks to Jim I learned to do things on my own and this carried over into all areas of my life. I was never again shy about going somewhere by myself and trying new things or meeting new people. How about you? Are you willing to take a chance and see Gods handiwork? I invite you to come down to 5358 Beech Daly in Dearborn Heights and help us to spread the Gospel, give out food and clothes, carry groceries to cars, pray with people and to give out bibles and Our Daily Bread. Help us put a smile on kids' faces when we give them a new backpack filled with school supplies or a new coat and a hat, gloves or a scarf. Tell you what; I'll meet you there this Thursday between 5:30 and 6:00pm to help clients, or next Tuesday around 6:00pm to sort clothes and stock food shelves or break down cardboard boxes. Believe it or not we have a lot of fun while doing this. See you there, or maybe I won't, but either way you won't be disappointed.

Tell you what, maybe you can't be there on a Tuesday or a Thursday. You can still put a smile on a kids face and give hope to someone who has fallen on hard times. Through our pay pal account you can show love and support by donating money to help buy food, coats, school supplies, bibles and hope. Yes I said hope. For many people we are sometimes the only friendly face they may see for sometime. Our clients come from all walks of life, some with Masters Degrees needing temporary help or even working on a Doctorate degree. Many of our clients are attending college or GED classes and a high percentage are single mothers with young children. Other clients may be struggling with mental illness, medical disabilities, lack of education, unemployment and alcohol or drug addictions. We pray with them and encourage them to get help, often referring them to other agencies and resources. Some of our clients have been poor all their lives and that may not change for some. We treat everyone with dignity and respect and demand that our clients do the same while they are there. Thank you Jim wherever you are and thank you brother or sister for reading this column. Please consider supporting Helps on the Way any way you can. We are truly doing God's work and we are changing people's lives and giving them hope.

**Your Brother in Christ, Walt Hyvari**

## The Official Poverty Rate

The official poverty rate in the United States increased for four consecutive years, from a 26-year low of 11.3% in 2000 to 12.7% in 2004, then declined somewhat to 12.3% in 2006. **This means that 36.5 million people were below the official poverty thresholds in 2006, compared to 31.1 million in 2000, and that there was an increase of 5.4 million poor from 2000 to 2006 while the total population grew by 17.5 million.** The poverty rate for children under 18 years old increased from 16.2% to 17.8% from 2000 to 2004 and had dropped to 17.4% in 2005 and 2006. The 2006 poverty threshold was measured according to the United States, Department of Health and Human Services.

**Everybody Needs a Little Help Sometime**

Your ministry tends to focus most of its energies on helping clients who find themselves in a state of need. Occasionally, however, a prospective volunteer also needs a little help. For some time, local courts have informed individuals who have been sentenced to court-ordered community service, that Help's on the Way meets the requirements of the court. We try to accommodate those court-ordered volunteers when it is appropriate to do so. Being sensitive to issues of safety, we have developed a policy that requires a fair amount of information about the person who wishes to perform court-ordered service at your ministry. Additionally, we feel that court-ordered volunteers would most greatly benefit from being mentored and shadowed by one or more of the board of directors while they are on campus. It has been our experience to date, that an awakening of some sort is taking place with these volunteers, and we have come to believe that volunteering in the Christian environment of Help's on the Way will result in these volunteers considering a different direction in which to live their lives. As a service to all who may have questions about this policy, we plan to post all of the relevant information on our web site in the near future.

**Bill Swift - Executive Director**

**God at Work**

God is at work so clearly at Help's on the Way. You can see it in the clients faces, you can see it in the volunteers and John and I experience it each week. Many times when we have prayed with a client, tears will come to their eyes or they will say they have chills because of the prayer. The Holy Spirit has touched them and they know it.

One particular time, was when a young woman came and had so much hope in her face and such determination that I was led to write down her name and specifically pray for her. The following night at our Bible study, I mentioned her to one of the fellows in our group and told him about her determination to get a grant to further her education as she wanted to become a nurse. He said that if she was interested she could apply for a part time job to help her while she was getting her education at one of the nursing homes that he directs. The next time we were at Help's on the Way, I remembered about his offer and her name, which is God's doing as I have a terrible memory. As I could only remember her first name, I asked if we could look up her file and we were able to find it and get her phone number so I could call her. God is amazing and she was delighted with the opportunity He provided.

**John and Patricia Calhoun**

**2008 United States Department of Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines**

**Persons in Family or Household**

**48 Contiguous States and D.C.**

	<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Hawaii</b>
1	\$10,400	\$11,960
2	14,000	16,100
3	17,600	20,240
4	21,200	24,380
5	24,800	28,520
6	28,400	32,660
7	32,000	36,800
8	35,600	40,940
For each additional person, add		
	3,600	4,140

**Michigan Unemployment Data**

Michigan's unemployment rate jumped to 8.5 percent for May, the highest jobless rate in 16 years for a state that has been hardest hit by the combined downturn in the U.S. auto industry and the slump in housing. The Michigan unemployment rate, up from 6.9 percent in April, was three percentage points higher than the national rate of 5.5 percent for the month. Part of the surge in the jobless rate for the month reflected the presence of students looking without success for summer jobs in the work force. **The Detroit area, including the suburbs of Livonia and Warren, posted an unemployment rate of 9.3 percent on the seasonally adjusted basis tracked by the State of Michigan.** The overall state unemployment rate was the highest since October 1992, when the Detroit-based auto industry was struggling to rebound from the recession that ended the year before. Comparisons with other states were not immediately available. In April, Michigan had the highest unemployment in the nation, followed by Alaska at 6.7 percent. Over the past year, Michigan has lost 47,000 jobs in manufacturing and another 15,000 jobs in construction.



# Help's on the Way Annual "School Supplies Program"

During the months of July and August of 2008, Help's on the Way will partner with Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Northville, Michigan to conduct a school supplies donation and distribution program. In addition to the collection of items at Ward Church, donors may drop off items at our Client Service Center in Dearborn Heights, Michigan on Tuesday and Thursday evenings between the hours of 5:00 and 8:00 PM. We are encouraging donors to provide our client's children with donated packages by grade level as discussed on the front page article, or to consider donating individual items listed below.

Set of 24 crayons

Set of 48 crayons

Set of 12 colored pencils

Backpacks

Filler Paper (wide ruled)

Filler Paper (Collegiate Ruled)

One-subject notebooks

Rulers—Metric/Inch

Three-subject notebooks

Dry erase Markers

Pink pearl erasers

Three-ring binders

Composition notebooks

Index Cards

Duo-tang folders with pockets

Post-it notes

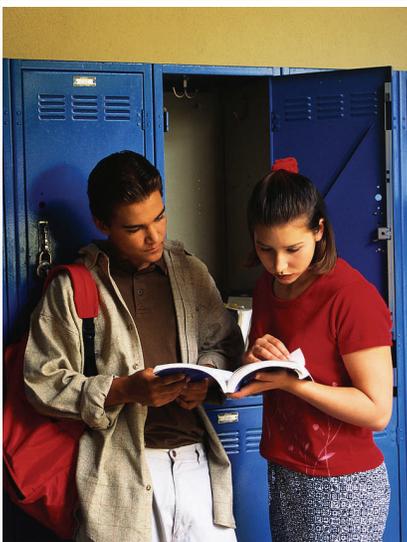
Pencil Packs

Fine-point felt-tip markers

Highlighters

Standard size clipboard

Clear-view three-ring binders



**Donor opportunities**

- Help's on the way depends upon the generosity of hundreds of people to provide food, clothing and spiritual care to many families who are facing difficult times. Over the years, Help's on the Way has assisted over thirty-five thousand men, women and children in a Christian environment. We are staffed entirely by volunteers who donate their time effort and energy to help the strangers who come to our ministry. We consider ourselves to be good stewards of what we receive from donors, and we are hopeful that you will consider supporting this ministry.
- Help's on the Way is a 501 C-3 nonprofit corporation, and donations are tax-deductable within the guidelines of the United State, Internal Revenue Service. Additionally, for Michigan residents, individuals, married couples and businesses may claim fifty percent of their cash donations to Help's on the Way on their Michigan Income Tax Return as a **tax credit** for contributions to homeless shelters and food banks. Individuals may claim fifty percent of gifts up to two hundred dollars, married couples filing jointly may claim fifty percent of gifts up to four hundred dollars, and businesses may claim fifty percent of gifts up to ten thousand dollars. A complete guide to Michigan tax credits can be found on the web at [helpsontheway.org](http://helpsontheway.org) and then by linking to the **Donor Opportunities page**.
- You can find a complete listing of client needs including reading materials, food, personal hygiene items, and household supplies on our web site, [helpsontheway.org](http://helpsontheway.org) and then by linking to the **Donor Opportunities page**.



We have partnered with Charity Motors, and we ask that you please consider donating your car, truck, motorcycle or recreational vehicle to Charity Motors. Information and instructions for donating vehicles can be found at [helpsontheway.org](http://helpsontheway.org) and by linking to the **Donor Opportunities page**, or by calling Charity Motors at (313)255-1000, and please remember to designate Help's on the Way as the recipient of your donation.



We have partnered with the Meijer Community Rewards Program, and we encourage you to consider joining this program. Our agency code for the Meijer Community Rewards Program is **392614**. Information and instructions for becoming a partner in the Meijer Community Rewards Program can be found at [helpsontheway.org](http://helpsontheway.org) and by linking to the **Donor Opportunities page**.



A convenient method of financially supporting the ministry is available to donors by using PayPal. If you choose to donate by credit card or debit card, you are not required to open a PayPal account. Simply log on to [helpsontheway.org](http://helpsontheway.org) and link to the **Donor Opportunities page**. For donors who would prefer to set up a **monthly twenty dollar subscription**, a PayPal account must first be established. Please log on to our web site, [helpsontheway.org](http://helpsontheway.org) and link to the **Donor Opportunities page** for a full explanation and the step-by-step process for establishing a PayPal account.

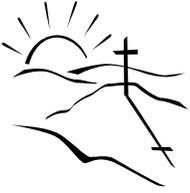
As always, donors may send a financial donation to our corporate office:

**Help's on the Way**

**6784 Edwards Road**

**Belleville, Michigan 48111-1136**

*Thanking you in advance for supporting the ministry of the Help's on the Way.*



Help's On The Way  
6784 Edwards  
Belleville, MI 48111-1136

**Corporation Officers**

President - Jack Schmitt  
Vice President - Jim Kelly  
Recording Secretary - Shannon Schmitt  
Treasurer - Frank Housholder  
Executive Director - Bill Swift  
Chairperson, Board of Directors - Gloria Hyvari

**Board of Directors**

Elizabeth Bennett	Underwriter, National City Mortgage
Helen Davis	Medical Technologist, Retired
Frank Housholder	President, Frank Housholder PC
Mike Howard	Food Service Director, Livonia Public Schools, Retired
Jim Kelly	President, Kelly Window & Door
Kathleen Oemke	JD, Livingston County Friend of the Court
Jack Schmitt	President, Jack's House Construction
Bill Swift	Ford Motor Company, Quality Systems, Retired
Mark Crowther	President, The Gingerbread Trim Company
Walt Hyvari	State of Michigan, BBOS, Office Manager, Retired
Gloria Hyvari	Office Manager, Retired

**Mission Statement**

"Help's On The Way," is a, non-profit 501 ( C ) ( 3 ) incorporated organization, that works to provide food and clothing to the community mission field. We define the community mission field, simply as 'all of God's children.'

**Mission Project**

Our mission project is the operation of a facility that will meet the needs of the community as defined above. This building is located at 5358 South Beech Daly Road in Dearborn Heights, Michigan.

**Our Vision**

With God's grace, Godly inspired leadership, and the assistance of volunteers, both near and far, we hope to accomplish the following:

- Feed and or provide food to those in need.
- Develop and administer a "clothes closet," for those who are in need.

Our Client Services Center is located at 5358 South Beech Daly Road in Dearborn Heights, Michigan, one and one-half miles south of Michigan Avenue. We are open for client intake each Thursday, with hours of operation being six to eight-thirty PM. **Clients must be in line no later than 7:30 PM.** For a complete listing of services, times of service, and types of donations we presently accept, please call 734.776.3184, or visit our web site.

**[helpsontheway.org](http://helpsontheway.org)**