

Psalm 46:1 "God Is Our Refuge And Strength, An Ever Present Help In Trouble."



Help's On The Way

Issue 9 Winter 2005

Hello and welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for 2005. 2004 was an exciting and interesting one for Help's On The Way, and in this issue of our newsletter, I want to help develop a better understanding of how we function as a Christian Mission. One of the ways to demonstrate how that happens is to describe the preparations we make for serving the clients, that you, our generous donors, support with food, clothing, furnishings, appliances, furniture and financial support.

Clothing and Household Furnishings: Our clothing and household furnishings ministry operates by collecting items that are either delivered to our Client Services Center, picked up by volunteers, or obtained from the collection point in the Single Adult Ministries office of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church. All of these items end up at the Client Services Center where they are sorted by our Tuesday sorting team. After items are sorted, the team stocks the shelves with clothing and furnishings. If you haven't taken to the opportunity to visit our Client Services Center, you would be impressed, as our clients are, with the method and order of how



clothing and furnishings are displayed. Clients tell us that they feel valued by the presentation of items at the center, the cleanliness, order and welcoming attitude of volunteers that staff the clothing and household furnishings center communicate to clients the value we place on them.

Food and Bakery: Our food ministry also requires a great deal of preparation. Board members and volunteers have developed a network for the food ministry that includes picking up bread and pastries from the Panera Bread Company and the Wonder Bread Company. We also receive an annual donation of food from, Curves For Women, as a result of their annual food drive. The clients of the Plymouth and Canton Curves For Women locations have been most generous in helping us feed our neighbors in need. Our partnership with Gleaners Community Food Bank provides the bulk of food that we distribute on Thursday evenings. Our relationship with Gleaners began in May of 2004, and this partnership has allowed us to stretch our food budget. Other agencies, churches, organizations and businesses assist with the donation of foodstuffs during the year and at Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. The Tuesday



sorting team has taken on the responsibility of stocking the food shelves which allows clients to make food choices based on the number of people in the household, their ages, and any dietary considerations, such as diabetes or other nutritional considerations.

Furniture and Appliances: Most of the donations of furniture and appliances are picked up by our transportation team. We receive calls at our Client Services Center (734.776.3184), and schedule a pick up. Items are delivered to the Client Services Center where we store the items awaiting a request from clients. Over the years we have received many items of furniture, but the one item we never seem to have enough of is beds and bedding. Please keep us in mind if you are updating furniture, and you have clean, serviceable beds and or bedding.



Financial Assistance: Our total financial assistance results from the generosity of community donors. Individuals, churches, businesses, corporations and community support agencies provide the financial resources that allow us to buy food, pay the mortgage, utilities and other operating expenses. We are a fully functioning, state of Michigan incorporated, 501 C—3 non-profit corporation. We have no paid staff, and all financial donations are directed to the needs of our clients.

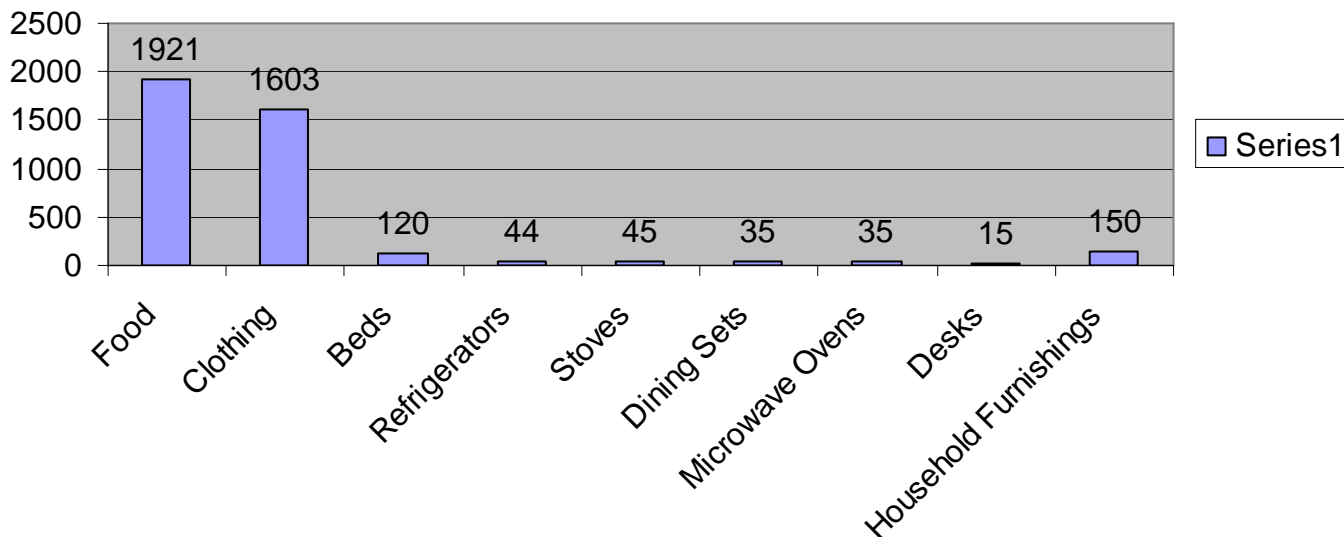
2004 In Review

We have been busy this year with assisting clients. Along with being busy, we are putting a great deal of effort into quantifying the services we offer. We know that donors have a right and need to understand the impact they are having on the community by their continued generosity. For 2004 we have delivered the following service and assistance in the numbers listed below.

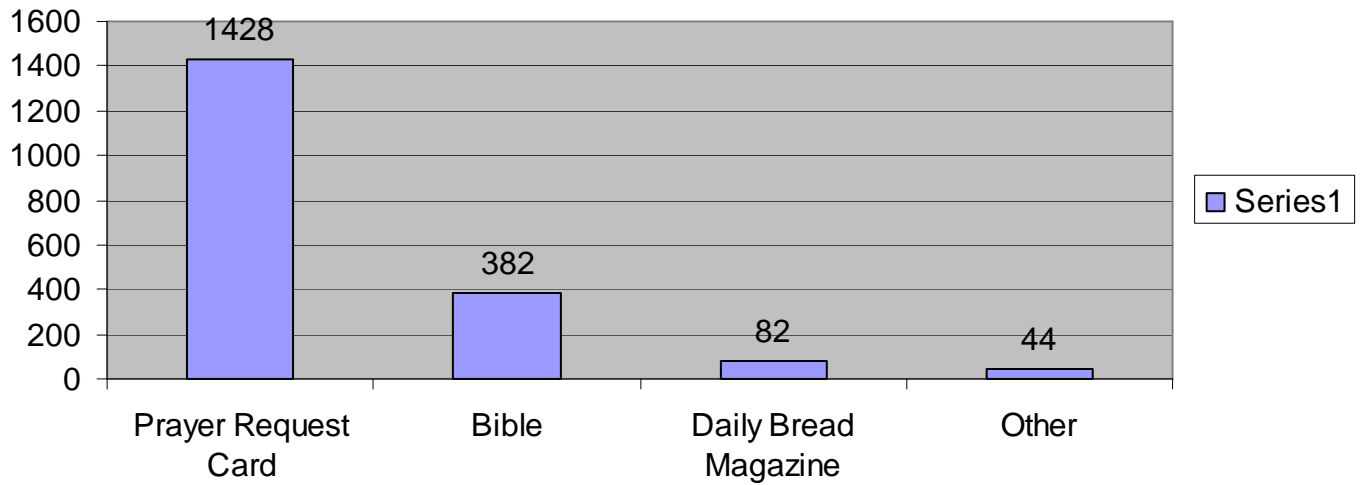
Families served 2,131	Adults served 3,403	Children served 4,464
Adult females 1,698	Adult males 434	Pantry service 1,921
Clothing service 1,603	Bibles 382	Daily Bread 82

The charts on this and the following pages, we hope, will give you a further understanding of our clients and how they are served.

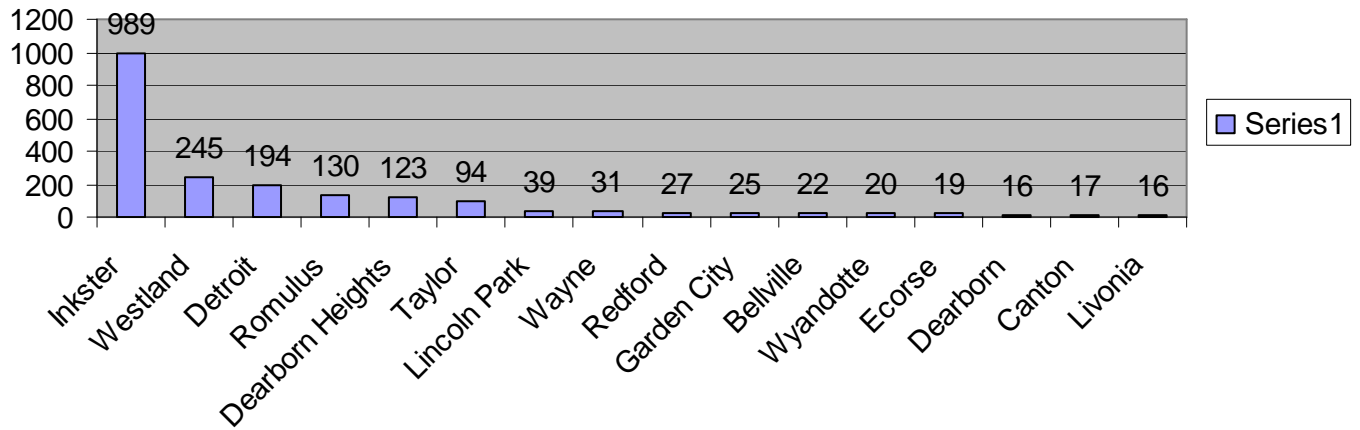
2004 - Assessed Client Tangible Services



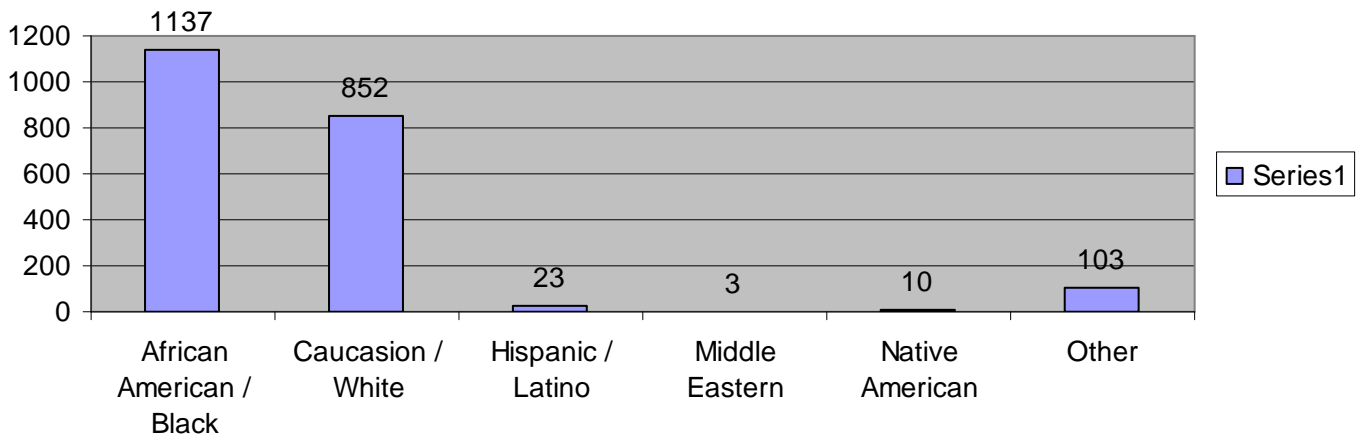
2004 - Assessed Client Spiritual Services



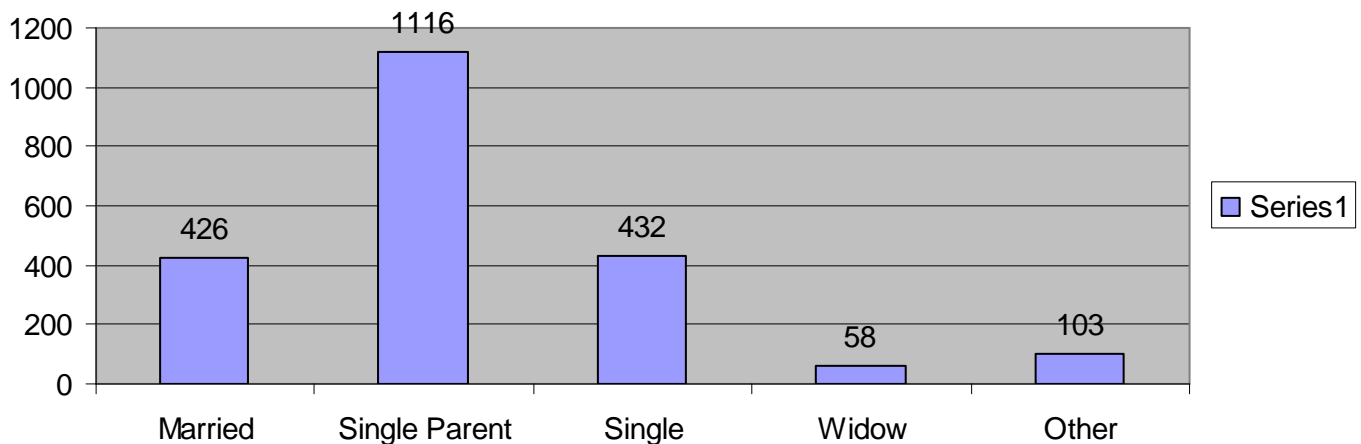
2004 - Assessed Client Residence



2004 - Assessed Client Ethnicity



2004 - Assessed Client Relationship Status



A summary of client demographics indicates that our typical client is a single mother with, on average, two minor children. She lives in Inkster, Michigan, and has an *annual* income at or below the State of Michigan poverty guideline of fifteen thousand six hundred-seventeen dollars. When she arrives at our Client Services Center she will receive two grocery bags of food, and one grocery bag of baked goods and or bread. If she visits our clothes closet, she will pick out any items of clothing that she needs for herself, and for her children. Depending on our supply of furniture and appliances, she may also receive beds, bedding, furniture and or appliances that we have on hand. As always, we are only able to serve our clients, because of the continuing generosity of you, our faithful donors. From the Board of Directors, Volunteers and clients of, Help's On The Way, thank you for making it possible to serve not only this women, but many others as well.



Visteon—"See The Possibilities Fund" has granted, Help's On The Way, three thousand dollars in support of our community mission. Visteon Corporation, with headquarters in Van Buren Township is truly a nearby neighbor. Their web site, www.visteon.com gives an accurate description of their commitment to the community, and reads as follows:

"Visteon Corporation is committed to community citizenship through making contributions that enrich the lives of children and improve the environment. Visteon supports local, community based organizations that recognize and meet the needs of the communities where Visteon employees, live work and volunteer."

The receipt of this grant will allow us to purchase nearly sixteen thousand pounds of food from the, Gleaners Community Food Bank, which will indeed enrich the lives of many children. From the Board of Directors, Volunteers, and our many clients we extend a sincere thank you to the Visteon Corporation.

Volunteer opportunities at Help's On The Way take many forms. We have the **Tuesday** sorting and stocking team, the **Thursday** client service team, the **Monday** Gleaner's food pick up team, the **any day** you can help transportation team, the data entry team, the publications and clerical team, and we have teams that are in development. A position we are presently trying to fill is Volunteer Coordinator for Help's On The way.

The duties for **Volunteer Coordinator** would include:

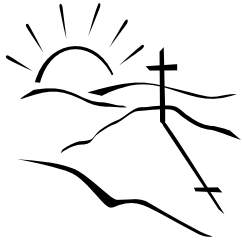
- Maintaining a volunteer roster with contact information such as phone and e-mail address.
- Development of weekly and monthly calendars for volunteer scheduling.
- Coordination with team leaders related to number of volunteers needed for each team.
- Informing volunteers about the policies and procedures of , Help's On The Way.

The candidate for this position would need good people skills and access to a computer with e-mail capabilities. Experience with Microsoft Office would be a great plus, as we presently use that software for clerical, publishing, and spreadsheet tasks. This new position is in the developmental stage, and we would be working with the person who fills the position to improve and streamline the process as we are able. If you think you may be interested in this position please leave a message at 734.776.3184, and an we will set up an appointment to discuss this opportunity for you to serve the community.

Our first, "**Volunteer Christmas Meeting,**" took place on Monday, December 13, 2004. The board of directors decided it was the right time to organize a meeting of all the volunteers and board members of, Help's On The Way. We met at Kirby's Koney Island Restaurant at 7:00 PM for dinner and fellowship. This was a great opportunity for everyone to see how many volunteers are helping out with our ministry.



We presently have seventy people who are volunteering at our client services center, and in other areas of the ministry. Our goal is to continue developing the volunteer base of Help's On The Way, both to expand our service to clients and to spread the wealth of presenting people with an opportunity to help others. If you feel that you would like to help our ministry, please call 734.776.3184 and leave a message.

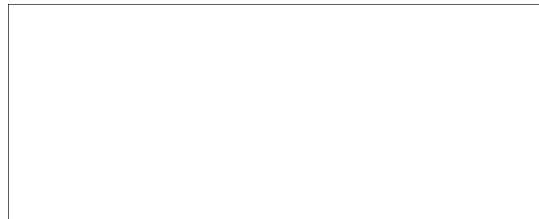


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Help's On The Way

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Corporation Officers

President and CEO—Mike Howard

Vice President—Jim Kelly

Secretary/Treasurer—Jack Schmitt

Board of Directors

Elizabeth Bennett—Underwriter, National City Mortgage

Frank Housholder—President, Frank Housholder PC

Mike Howard

Jim Kelly—President, Kelly Window & Door

Kathleen Oemke—JD, Livingston County Friend of the Court

Jack Schmitt—President, Jack's House Construction

Shannon Schmitt—Registered Nurse, CDE, Sinai Grace Hospital

Bill Swift—Visteon Automotive

Helen Davis

Mark Crowther—The Gingerbread Trim Company

Beverly Moeller

Community Advisory Representative: Molly Malpass-Wayne Westland Schools, Social Services / Parent Involvement Coordinator

Mission Statement

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

Mission Project

Our current mission project is the establishment and 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.
- The collection and redistribution of donated household items such as furniture and appliances.

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 nine PM. Additionally, phone messages may be left by leaving a message on our answering machine at any time. Please call 734.776.3184 to speak to a volunteer during business hours on Thursday, or to leave a message at other times.

To schedule a pick up of items you may wish to donate, such as furniture and or appliances, please call 734.776.3184 and leave a message. A volunteer will contact you and schedule a pick up date and time.