

85¢ of each Dollar goes to back to our Programs that Serve the Poor

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“Jesus I trust in You”...what is the Face of Mercy?



People have a notion of House of Mercy (HOM) as a place where food is given to the poor. And so they **donate nutritious canned food**. Or, they think of HOM as a Donation Center, where used goods are turned into some sort of good for the community (which they are). **Rarely do people think of House of Mercy as the Face of Mercy.**

The Face of Mercy, and House of Mercy, is the non-judgmental recognition of the value of others, an appreciation of others and our selves, as broken children of our Lord. Indeed, inside the walls of HOM, people convert to the myriad faces of Jesus. People served aid and people Serving aid, both are the faces of Mercy. This is the presence of gentle love recognizing the dignity of others and ministering it to it.

It is the same face of Mercy, a simple circle of Love, enveloping everyone's gifts, material, physical or spiritual and then releasing them. This is the Love, the timbre, of this place, which all people feel when they visit the first time.

Click this link to gain a better understanding of WHAT the House, and Face, of Mercy are: (click on film)

<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/new-film-shows-how-mercy-can-transform-your-life-69965/>

Aid by the numbers

This statement is predicated by the understanding that each interchange is one of wrenching compassion. (A mom and children arriving hungry from out of state, or a very sad man wearing a shiny vinyl cap hating every second he needs to ask for help.) These numbers don't begin to touch on the stories, by any means.

In March 2017 –

Total number of people served clothing and food: 702

This included 96 adults and 124 children who received aid at least one time during the month.





In April 2017 –

Total number of people served clothing and food: 593

This included 212 adults and 235 children who received aid at least one time during the month.

The very sad eyes of Bill, who hates his need to receive aid. He endures his humiliation to serve his family.

“U” is for Undies June 8

House of Mercy on the Manassas/Gainesville border is hosting a day-long “drive-thru” on Thursday, June 8 “Do More 24” Day. People will purchase a new package of underwear, any type, any size, any gender, and drive through the parking lot on June 8 to throw them into a big bin. There will be friendly volunteers there to accept the donations, and provide a tax receipt, if required.

Felice Hilton, Assistant Director at House of Mercy stated, “We hope to make this an annual event, along with the School Shoes program and Christmas with Mercy. Unlike the other programs, “U is for Undies” helps all our clientele and not just children. A large need really does exist.”

Welfare workers and school nurses locally and around the U.S. report that around half of the U.S. population is “going commando”, and not out of choice. This anecdotally includes children at most local Title 1 elementary schools.



At House of Mercy many women who seek aid, report that they must choose between underwear and food. “I recently was in this situation,” an anonymous mother said. “I literally had to say to myself, ‘your underpants are in tatters, but I need to buy food’. Food always wins.”

When the local thermal shelter opens and the public requests way to help, the first answer is “underwear”. There is a huge need for underwear among the poor and near poor in the greater Manassas, Bristow and Gainesville area, and throughout the U.S.

CAPTION: It is hoped that “U” is for Undies brings in at least enough packages to provide the clients of House of Mercy, with surplus for other area agencies.

For more information about the House of Mercy’s free classes, or how to register as a client, or to donate financially, email help@houseofmercyva.org or call 703-659-1636.
