

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

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HOUSE OF MERCY
making God's love visible to those in need

Angels surround us!



Those of us who spend time at House of Mercy (HOM) often recognize that things are not what they seem.

Just when we think we don't have something, an angel brings it through our door. For instance, almost monthly Carol brings a huge amount of food, backpacks, or shoes...whatever it is that is needed for our clients that month. Emily, just barely 18 years old, provides food monthly for our pantry, and has done so for over a year. Helen gets word out in the Ft. Belvoir area and then drives the donations of new shoes or clothing here for us. Frank was able to provide us with 25 gift cards from a grocery store. A score (or more) of financial donors step forward every month so that we may keep a roof above us. Children come to pack rice, adults come to answer the phone or sort clothes. No matter what the need, someone has miraculously appeared to help House of Mercy and the Poor we serve. God bless each of you, regardless the anonymity of your gift. We sing your praises and know that you act for the greater Glory of God. Angels truly do surround us.

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.

Number of people served:

May: 613 June: 552

Number of families served:

May: 176 June: 163

Bags of food provided:

May: 1104 June: 1008

Pieces of clothing provided:

3,567 and

168 packages of diapers

98 pairs of shoes

44 packages of underwear



“U” is for Undies June 8 RECAP



We had an INCREDIBLE outpouring of underwear for the First Annual "U" is for Undies Campaign. In total we received 752 packages of underwear for men, women and children.

We will have enough to distribute a package to each child who will receive a new pair of shoes to start their school year. The rest are available on-demand by clients. And, hopefully, when the Manassas Thermal Shelter opens through Hope for the Homeless later this autumn, we'll be able to provide Manassas Baptist Church (the hosts for the service) with enough packages for the men, women and children who will seek shelter there this winter.

Thank you, all of you who donated.

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.



Growing number of “not poor, not rich” families need help

How is the face of hunger changing? Hunger is often associated with the very poor and homeless. In reality, people who experience hunger and food insecurity in our greater Manassas area community are young and old, working and non-working. They are the people who have slipped into the “not poor and not rich” working class category. House of Mercy is enrolling families now who have never had to ask for help before. They're finding they require a food pantry as a leg-up, allowing them to keep up with rent, utilities and the cost of caring for growing kids.

A week ago, a quiet and reluctant mom named Claire* asked me how to apply for help. We sat at my desk, and the story unfolded. Claire's husband is an accountant and struggling to keep his small business going. The total family income for this family of six is a little over \$1,900 per month. To some this might seem plenty. But their mortgage payment is \$1,350 per month, leaving not much for food, clothing and utilities.

Claire was embarrassed as she asked for help, she didn't even want her kids to hear the story. They were left in the store with the eldest son, sitting quietly and people-watching.

By the grace of God, and with YOUR help, we are here to provide the food and clothing assistance this family needs to get them through this rough spot.