



SHELTER • FOOD • CLOTHING • RECOVERY • EMPLOYMENT • HOUSING • HEALTH • MENTAL HEALTH • SOCIAL SERVICES • OUTREACH

## PROFILE

### A CLIENT'S PERSPECTIVE: **Guy's Story**

It's often said that many people in the United States are but a few paychecks away from being homeless. Guy never thought he would stay at a homeless shelter. Unfortunately, circumstances made it a necessity.

#### Here is his story:

I lost nearly everything in my divorce and soon after got laid-off from my job. I lived in my truck for a while, but eventually had to sell it. That brought me to the Hope Center for the first time. Since then I've stayed here off and on when I don't have a job.

*"I lost nearly everything in my divorce and soon after got laid-off from my job. I lived in my truck for a while, but eventually had to sell it."*

**Guy**

The good thing about the Hope Center is I don't have to worry about not having money. They help me with food, a place to stay, even let me take showers. The clinic helps me get insulin so I can take care of my diabetes.

The worst part of being homeless is that you can't ever just go home and relax. Now I live in someone else's house and follow their rules. I no longer have a say-so about things. I spend a lot of time alone. People don't look at you the same, and you don't have many friends – nobody to pal around with.

Guy's story ends with a new beginning. Guy had training as an electrician and the Hope Center's Employment Program was able to connect him with an employer. He is now working full time and has moved out of the Hope Center into his own apartment.

You made it possible for this story to have a happy ending because of your support of the Hope Center and its clients. On behalf of Guy, thank you 🙏

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Lexington, Ky. 40588

**STREET ADDRESS:**

360 W. Loudon Avenue  
Lexington, KY 40508

**FACILITIES/PROGRAMS**

Emergency Shelter  
Ball-Quantrell Jones Center  
for Women  
George Privett Recovery Center  
for Men  
Fayette County Detention  
Center Recovery Program  
HopeMobile

**PHONE:**

(859) 252-7881

**WEBSITE:**

www.hopectr.org

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Cecil Dunn

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The Hope Center's mission is to care for homeless and at-risk persons by providing life-sustaining and life-rebuilding services that are comprehensive and address underlying causes.

W O R D S O F  
**H O P E**

www.hopectr.org | WORDS OF HOPE | JANUARY 2009

# Hard Times and Hope

What current conditions mean for those who need our help

Naturally enough, a lot of friends have been asking me recently how the economic crisis has affected the Hope Center and its clients. The short answer is negatively. But I'm an optimistic sort, and I like to take a little longer look.



Cecil Dunn

People generally want to know how many people are seeking shelter. There are a couple of different ways of looking at that, at least for the men. The Ball-Quantrell Jones Center for Women doesn't change much because it is a recovery center and does not provide a general purpose emergency shelter. Basically that facility stays full at around sixty with a waiting list.

On the men's side, the unduplicated numbers have been creeping up. By unduplicated, I mean the total number of different individual men who go through the intake process in a calendar year. In 2006, that number was 1,706. In 2007 it was 1,771. In 2008, it was 1,923.

Another way of looking at the numbers is how many stay with us on an average night. That number has been rising even faster. Last year at this time, we typically had 230 to 250 men sleeping in the Hope Center Emergency Shelter each night. In

May, the men's recovery program moved out of the shelter into the George Privett Recovery Center just down the street. This provided a great deal of relief at the emergency shelter – at first.

While the Privett Center has filled up at just under 100 each night, the Emergency Shelter has gradually made its way back up toward numbers similar to last year. Between them, the two facilities typically now house 320 to 340 each night. The Emergency Shelter on one night recently took in 281 men and used both of our overflow churches, Grace Baptist and Arlington Christian. Another night we used the Lexington Convention Center. So our total nightly numbers for men are way up, even more than the unduplicated numbers.

The simple conclusion: We have more men, and the men we have stay more nights.

The other common question has to do with our financial support. Our accustomed grants, government and private, have been steady, and we added two new ones from the federal govern-

ment last year, one for veterans and one for those at risk of HIV infection.

Then there are our regular private donations, the ones that come from people like those of you reading this newsletter. Private money accounts for about a fourth of our budget. Some of our donors have had to cut back. A few have been able to reach a little deeper. Half-way through our fiscal year, we are a little behind, about three

percent, but frankly I find that encouraging in the current climate. The important thing is, our donors are still with us, joining with us in helping those who need all of us. I am confident we will manage our way

through these times. Besides, the year's not over yet.

So, our numbers of men are up, but I'm glad the Privett Center opened before they got so high. Our dollar numbers haven't grown this year, but they are still there. I'm grateful that our loyal donors have been able to support us at the level they have.

We have fought through tough times before, and we're not about to stop now. With your help, we never will. 

*I'm grateful that our loyal donors have been able to support us at the level they have.*

# No Matter the Size Every Gift Counts



There's no denying it – these are challenging times! You may be tempted to think twice before making a donation to the Hope Center. But, just think, what if everyone in Fayette County – all 270,000+ of us – made a donation to the Hope Center? Even if it was a small donation, if we put it all together the outcome could be substantial.

Here are a few suggestions for how we all could join the battle to end homelessness:

- **Come visit one or more of the Hope Center locations, take a tour or volunteer.** Come see who we are, meet our clients and see exactly how your donation will be used. After meeting our clients, you will likely become quite an advocate for the Hope Center.

- **Think creatively!** To honor a friend or loved one on their birthday, Mother's Day or other holidays, give a gift in their honor to the Hope Center. For example, what better way to show love on Valentine's that to honor your special someone with a gift to the Hope Center.

- **Businesses could partner with the Hope Center in a number of ways.** Perhaps you could donate a portion of each sale of a particular item to the Hope Center, or designate an event held by your company to benefit the Hope Center. A study by Cone, a Boston-based marketing firm found that price being similar, 81 percent of consumers will choose companies they know to be socially responsible.

Thank you so much for your support of the Hope Center. Thanks to you, each day people receive life-sustaining tools such as shelter, food and clothing. This is followed up with life-rebuilding tools such as recovery programs, mental health programs, employment assistance programs, transitional housing and more. Thank you for caring enough to change a life! 🌈

There are so many creative ways to support the Hope Center. Meredith Lepley and her children surprised her husband, John, on Father's Day with a very unique gift. Read her story to the right.

## Focus on Mobile Outreach

Sometimes the people who need the Hope Center the most are not at the Hope Center. The Mobile Outreach Team works from the streets of Lexington to help homeless people wherever they may be.

The Mobile Outreach Team includes a nurse and two case managers. It operates from a custom motor home we affectionately call the HopeMobile that is parked at a different downtown church location each weekday. Here, homeless men, women and children are able to find the help and hope they need to get back on their feet. In December 2008, 438 people requested assistance from the HopeMobile.

This aggressive outreach program meets homeless people where they are and

assists them with basic needs including food, clothing and healthcare. It also provides referrals for shelter, counseling and job training at the Hope Center and other agencies.

**How you can help:** the HopeMobile is currently in great need of food. If you can provide soup, sandwiches, bread, snack-sized items, or would like to make a financial donation for the HopeMobile, please contact Amy Fossett at [afossett@hopectr.org](mailto:afossett@hopectr.org) or 859.252.7881, ext. 3006 🌈



My husband, John, and I first heard about the Hope Center in 2002 when I was the coordinator of Christ Church's Community Cupboard which gives household cleaning and personal hygiene supplies to families in need of some assistance.

John and I know Dr. and Mrs. Privett through their daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Matt Winslow. Matt and I were psychology professors at Eastern Kentucky University

simultaneously for several years and became good friends. John and I attended the recent KCCJ banquet in which Dr. Privett was honored for his work with the Hope Center. We were so touched by his commitment to the Hope Center and his significant donations of both time and money to the new rehabilitation facility.

After the KCCJ banquet, John and I decided to make a significant donation to the

### FOR THE RECORD / Services provided for September - December (at the Emergency Shelter unless otherwise noted)

<b>Meals Served</b> (including Privett Center) . . . . . 88,723	<b>Volunteer Hours</b> . . . . . 3,081
<b>Nights Lodging</b> (including Privett Center) . . . . . 36,378	<b>Health clinic Visits</b> . . . . . 1,580
<b>Clothing Issued</b> . . . . . 12,915	<b>Mental health Services</b> . . . . . 6,517
<b>Mobile Outreach</b> . . . . . 2,787	<b>Men's Recovery Admissions</b> . . . . . 82
	<b>Housing &amp; Employment</b> . . . . . 549

<b>Hispanic Program</b> . . . . . 751
<b>Women's Recovery Admissions</b> . . . . . 29

### INCOME

<b>Individuals</b> . . . . .	\$411,522
<b>Grants</b> . . . . .	\$874,300
<b>Churches</b> . . . . .	\$19,557
<b>Businesses</b> . . . . .	\$94,789
<b>TOTAL</b> . . . . .	\$1,400,168

# We are So Thankful for You!

Through your donations you have fed the hungry, provided safe shelter and programs and services to help people rebuild their lives. Thousands of individuals and businesses made financial and in-kind donations to the Hope Center in 2008.

For example, you made it possible for the Hope Center to provide a Christmas meal and presents to more than 300 people. The Hope Center extends special thanks to the following:

- Ashland, Christ the King Church, Target, Old Paris Road Church, Whitaker Bank, U.K. Federal Credit Union and the Newman Center provided hundreds of presents for men, women and children.
- Alfalfa Restaurant provided chili, and Second Presbyterian Church provided cookies and drinks.

- Quest Community Church donated hundreds of coats to be distributed during the party and beyond.
- The Space Center donated storage room to hold all the gifts.

During the holidays, several families or groups provided and served a meal for the men at our Emergency Shelter. Our sincere thanks go out to Jo Robertson, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, Daybreak Community Church, Dudley's Restaurant, First Presbyterian Church, Christ Church Cathedral, Hill-n-Dale Christian Church, Beaumont Presbyterian Church, Southern Heights Baptist Church and Faith Lutheran Church. 



The **Hope Center** provides services to the homeless in Lexington, Kentucky, including the immediate needs of food, shelter and clothing and the longer-term needs of detox and substance abuse recovery, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness, health clinic services, employment counseling, life skills, housing support and transitional housing.

To learn more about giving opportunities, please contact Kim Livesay at 859-252-7881, ext. 3008, or [klivesay@hopectr.org](mailto:klivesay@hopectr.org).

Hope Center. However, when I heard about the opportunity to have a room in the new rehab facility named for someone, I thought it would make a nice Father's Day gift to my husband to have a room named in his honor. My donation was a little larger than I had originally planned, but my husband taught me about the value of giving my time to those less fortunate than myself, so I wanted

to honor him by making a special contribution. Plus, my husband rarely wants anything for himself, so I thought on Father's Day it would be nice to give something to some other fathers and men who may need a little help. Heather Mitchell at the Hope Center was so helpful. She had the plaque made and loaned it to me so I could wrap it up and present it to my husband on Father's Day. John was initially

shocked and didn't feel he deserved to have his name up on the wall, but he was really thrilled with the donation. He was even more pleased when we returned the plaque to the Hope Center, and he got to see the beautiful new building and learn about the work that goes on there. It's really impressive! We'll definitely be giving more of our money and time to the Hope Center in the future! 

*...I wanted to honor him by making a special contribution*



- long underwear
- hats
- scarves
- white socks
- towels
- notebook paper
- shaving cream
- small soaps
- toothbrushes
- toothpaste
- combs
- deodorant
- shower shoes
- sheets
- lotion
- shampoo
- Motrin
- Pepto Bismol
- Tylenol
- Milk of Magnesia
- Robitussin PM (alcohol free)
- ChlorTabs
- Aleve
- disposable razors
- t-shirts
- underwear (new)
- feminine hygiene products
- unused panties and bras
- stamps
- greeting cards

DONATE ONLINE [www.hopectr.org](http://www.hopectr.org)

**PLEASE JOIN US IN SAVING LIVES SUPPORTING THE HOPE CENTER IS EASY!**

Our online donation page mirrors the giving envelope many of you are used to. Simply go to [www.hopectr.org](http://www.hopectr.org) and click on the donation button.

You can do all of the following:

- ▶ make a one-time donation
- ▶ set up a recurring gift
- ▶ make a gift in honor or memory of someone
- ▶ have the gift taken from your checking account or charged to your credit card
- ▶ and much more!

Thank you for caring enough to change a life!