

HOPE FOR TODAY



DECEMBER 2024

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- > **Code Blue**
- > **LightHouse Update**
- > **A Very Special Volunteer Spotlight**
- > **Patriot 5K Recap**



HOPE
Rescue Mission

Mission Code Blue

Now that the temperatures are dropping, we have entered our Code Blue Winter Program and anticipate sheltering up to 250 men per night at The Mission Men's Center. We anticipate 350-450 different individuals coming through our front doors at their lowest moments in life over the next five months. Through your partnership and support, we will show and share the love and hope of Jesus with every one of them. We are honored to provide them with a warm bed, three meals daily, clothes and personal care items, as well as case management and supportive services. Together with our Life Coaching Team of chaplains and community partners, we will offer daily spiritual mentoring and nightly chapels, along with opportunities to find employment and healthy and productive paths in life. By supporting our ministry, you will rescue and restore lives like Ariel C. and Craig B. who will soon be moving into their own apartments, and young men like Patrick W. who walked from New York to Reading with nothing and is now gainfully employed in our HopeWorks Program!

Most needed items: Coats, gloves, hats, scarves, thermal underwear

"Come to me, all who are
WEARY and
BURDENED,
and I will give you **REST.**"
Matthew 11:28



Ariel (left) and Patrick (right)

Patriot Run 5K Recap – Thank you all!

We had beautiful running weather for our 4th Annual Patriot Run 5k held on Saturday, November 9th. This special event celebrates the service and sacrifice of veterans and first responders. 242 individuals met at Gring's Mill to run and walk a beautiful 5k course. We are very thankful to our participants and sponsors for helping to raise funds to support crucial services provided to veterans staying at Hope Rescue Mission. A special thank you to Perry Heliger who made and served the most amazing pulled pork sandwiches with coleslaw, BBQ sauce and pickles! Save the date for next year's race on Saturday, November 8, 2025.



Volunteer Spotlight: Karlene & Faith

Karlene Ryan and Faith Drago are a dynamic Grandmother/Granddaughter duo who serve together at LightHouse sorting clothing donations. Karlene and Faith have been instrumental in helping set up our clothing boutique. They come every Tuesday to keep our LightHouse boutique organized and stocked with beautiful clothing and accessories. The boutique is another way we restore dignity to women and children by giving them a similar shopping experience they would have in a store. The biggest difference is that the clothing is free! We are grateful to Karlene and Faith for their dedication to helping our LightHouse guests have the opportunity to leave the boutique with new outfits to help build their self-image and self-esteem.



From LightHouse

As we wrap up our first year at LightHouse Women and Children's Center, we are excited to share some of our remarkable achievements and updates with you all. This year has been one of growth, community, and profound impact, made possible by the unwavering support of our donors, volunteers, and staff. Since opening our doors, we have had the honor of serving over 300 women and children, providing a safe haven, vital resources, and a path toward brighter futures. Every life we touch is a testament to the power of faith, compassion, and community.

As we look forward to 2025, we remain steadfast in our mission to provide a safe haven and supportive community for women and children in need in Berks County. We are excited to be raising funds to build an all-abilities playground for the children of LightHouse. An inclusive playground is a safe space carefully designed to promote play among children of differing ages and abilities. We hope to be fully funded soon and break ground on this project in 2025. Your generosity has been a true blessing, and we are profoundly grateful for your continued prayers and support. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful Christmas season and a New Year filled with God's grace and abundant blessings!





WELCOME 2025 home *Party*

Thursday, May 8th | 5-8pm
Redner's Event Center



We are excited to announce the 3rd annual Welcome Home Party on May 8! This event, hosted at the new Redners event Center at the R-Phils Stadium, supports our work to make a difference in the lives of women and children in our area. All proceeds support our mission to provide physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of those experiencing homelessness. Enjoy fun, food, and a fabulous selection of auction items and experiences.

TICKETS ARE \$175

<https://www.HopeForReading.org/events>

Want to do more? Individuals and Business sponsorship offers many level of recognition for your support. Sponsorship packages start at \$500 and can be purchased at:

<https://onecau.se/home2025>

Want to talk about additional Sponsorship opportunities and benefits? Contact Kate Alley:

(610) 484-4495 | KAlley@HopeForReading.org



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For more information and caring ways for you to support the Hope Rescue Mission, plus a list of most-needed items, visit our website:

www.HopeForReading.org



www.HopeForReading.org/donations

