

Haven of Rest Ministries

Founded in 1943 as a small storefront rescue mission, Haven of Rest Ministries began as just a "calling" in the hearts of Rev. and Mrs. Charles C. Thomas. Over the years it has blossomed into the largest private social service agency in the Summit-Portage-Medina-Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne-Holmes counties area.

The couple's burden for the poor, homeless and spiritually destitute moved them to establish a rescue mission. They began by allowing the homeless to spend the night at their home, and as financial support increased they moved into a hotel. It was there that they ministered to the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of people on the streets and saw many lives changed.

Today the ministry, located on East Market Street, feeds, clothes, teaches, provides work for, and houses thousands annually. Their doors are opened 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to anyone; regardless of race, color, creed or social standing, and everything is free of charge.

They offer Christ centered residential programs to help men and women overcome problems, such as drug and alcohol addictions, that have left them homeless and jobless, and teach and train them so that they can survive on their own.

The men stay at the Rescue Mission home and women and children stay at the Harvest Home. They have regular work assignments, daily life application Bible studies, and living skills classes. Each participant also goes through career development, which helps them acquire proper job seeking skills so that they can find, and hold a job.

Client services such as laundry, showers, mail pick up and counseling are also offered. There are rooms for those who are pregnant or ill to rest, and a play area for children.

The ministries six core values include: Christ Centered, Integrity, Client Centered, Excellence, Compassion, and Stewardship.

Opportunities to Help!

- Become a prayer partner. They ask that you would set aside time each day to pray for them.
- Become a volunteer. They are always in need of people who will donate their skills and energy to help with a variety of different tasks.
- Offer financial support. It is your support that allows the Haven to keep on giving!
- Donate items such as clothing, toiletries, baby items and food.



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