

# Mission Messenger - December 2011

## Shelter statistics through October 2011

**Total guests: ..... 320**

Men: ..... 168

Women: ..... 87

Children: ..... 65

**U.S. veterans: ..... 6%**

**Average length stay: ..... 31 days**

### Primary reason for homelessness

Mental health issue, addiction  
or dually diagnosed: ..... 72%

Lack of funds: ..... 21%

Parents are homeless:.. 20%

### Last permanent residence:

Mentor area: ..... 12%

Painesville area: ..... 37%

Willoughby area: ..... 11%

Other western Lake: .... 5%

Other central Lake: ..... 2%

Eastern Lake: ..... 3%

Out of county: ..... 30%

**Positive outcomes: .....53%**

Want to make a significant impact in the  
lives of our shelter guests and help us be  
able to help even more guests?

Consider a donation through our  
Christmas giving catalog, enclosed in this  
mailing and available on our Web site,  
[www.projecthopeonline.org](http://www.projecthopeonline.org)

## Upcoming events

### New Life Dinner and Auction:

6 p.m. April 28

St. Noel Banquet Center

For information: (440) 354-6417

[www.projecthopeonline.org](http://www.projecthopeonline.org)

## Planting seeds at PH

As we face the New Year, the tradition of resolutions and plans to start the year off on the right foot take place. Lose weight and make healthier choices, be more organized, punctual and giving, are among the top of the lists.

But the Bible warns those who wait.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 & 6 says "Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest." Further, "Plant your seed in the morning and keep busy all afternoon, for you don't know if profit will come from one activity or another—or maybe both."

**In other words, why wait for the ideal season or opportunity to help others?** God calls us to unselfishly serve every day. No matter who we are or what our employment, financial or physical status is, we are equipped to do something.

1 Peter 4:10 says "God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."

Notice how the Bible tells us to use our gifts "well" and not perfectly. What excuses are holding you back from service? Many great people of the Bible faced the same problems as us: Abraham was old, Jacob was insecure, Leah was unattractive, Joseph was abused, Moses stuttered, Gideon was poor, Samson was codependent, David had an affair and all kinds of family problems, Elijah was suicidal, Jeremiah was depressed, Jonah was reluctant, Peter was impulsive and hot-tempered, Martha worried a lot, Zacchaeus was unpopular, Thomas had doubts, Paul had poor health and Timothy was timid.

**Don't wait for the perfect situation or season, consider helping today.** At Project Hope for the Homeless, the need is growing. Every seed you plant, big or small, will not only be greatly appreciated, but will surely profit another.

From a former guest

Dear Project Hope -

Thank you for the many blessings you have given me and my daughters. I appreciate the thoughtfulness and love that I was shown in my time of need, and really looked forward to the evening Bible studies and teaching.

Thank you for being there to help me get back on my feet.

Project Hope, you gave me hope.

~L