

# Good Works, Inc. – A Community of Hope

*Celebrating 33 Years!*



PO Box 4, Athens, OH 45701  
Phone: 740-594-3339  
Email: [goodworks@good-works.net](mailto:goodworks@good-works.net)  
[www.good-works.net](http://www.good-works.net)

Keith Wasserman, Founder/Executive Director

*“I made the WIDOW’S heart sing, I took up the case of Web:  
the STRANGER, I was a father to the FATHERLESS.”  
(Job 29:12-13)*

Good Works exists to connect people from all walks of life with people in poverty so that the kingdom of God can be experienced.



Dear friends,

Today we are brought together by a compelling vision. It is bigger than our individual efforts and greater than the sum of our collective energies. As we connect people from all walks of life with people in poverty, *something happens*. One plus one really does equal three!

This “something” has the taste of compassion, generosity and respect. It feels like healing, transformation and hope. Its essence is GOODNESS that is catalyzed and impacts all of us— rich and poor— as we enter into loving, reciprocal relationships with each other. Many people want to help the poor, and this is admirable. But through Good Works, you and I are helping people in need feel loved, understood, respected and valued. This happens through relationship.

Many of you know that this has been a difficult year for our community, in light of the fire and our decision not to receive state funding that would have caused us to violate our own principles and the civil rights of people without homes. *Thank you so much* to each of you who have been standing with us, supporting us through gifts, prayers and so many other creative ways!

## *Ellyn’s Story*

As an Ohio University senior, Ellyn served as an academic intern with us to promote our annual Good Works WALK. She says: “My friends and I were talking last night about how we were excited for a change after graduation, that it’s a chance for another clean start or next chapter. One of my friends said, “What major things have I really done in college but go to class and party?” We all laughed, but I got to thinking, I don’t feel that way. I feel the complete opposite. I did way more than just be a typical college student, I had the chance to intern for an amazing community.

**I took a risk in being a part of a movement of change, something much larger than I expected.**

I got to be with people my age group would not normally make eye contact with and understand their struggles instead of my own.”

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*Each year, Good Works offers internships to 15 to 20 teens and college-age young adults, and welcomes an estimated 1,100 different volunteers.*

Take the following two examples, though they do not begin to illustrate the remarkable kindness we have the privilege of stewarding: the young brothers who decided to share 10% of the proceeds of their summer lemonade stand with us, and the friend who picked berries around her urban neighborhood and sold them at the Farmers' Market to see how much she could earn on our behalf! We are humbled.

Despite the challenges and through your encouragement, we feel we have been faithful to our vision, and believe we are bearing lasting fruit. (No pun intended!) Not only are we caring for our neighbors experiencing homelessness and economic need, but people like Elyn and hundreds of others get to do this with us.

At times, we get the privilege of seeing how the impact of someone's experience with Good Works ripples out to affect the rest of their lives. The life-change goes both ways as some receive courage to overcome difficult circumstances, and others let go of apathy, fear and prejudice to build new friendships and share what they have. We come full circle when a former Timothy House resident returns as a volunteer to serve others!

This month, I want to give you the opportunity to join in and invest in this vision. By giving financially, you can become part of this movement towards HOPE!

Love is a verb,



*PS: For the first time almost 30 years, Good Works is almost entirely donor-based. If you have thought about contributing this year but haven't, would you consider investing in our mission?*

Keith Wasserman

**Give the gift of HOPE.** Beginning this month, we will be making it easier to honor your friends and relatives by making a donation to Good Works in the name of a loved one. This will be a feature on our website under the tab called "Give." Check back for more information!

Did you know that you can contribute to Good Works online via **Network for Good**? To do so, go to [www.good-works.net](http://www.good-works.net) and click on "Make a Donation." All online donations are secure and confidential.

Good Works is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization and all gifts are tax-deductible. Year-end receipts will be provided before January 31, 2015 unless otherwise requested. Questions? Contact us at our Administrative Office at 740.594.3339.

*Please tear off this section and return it to us via the reply envelope.*



***YES! I want to invest in Good Works' vision to create a ripple effect of compassionate relationships.***

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_

I want to support Good Works financially. Enclosed is my gift of \_\_\_\_\_.

I want to set up an automated donation to Good Works through my bank. Please contact me to provide further information. Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_