



GOOD WORKS



A Community of HOPE since 1981



Celebrating 35 years!



Greetings!

My name is Keith Wasserman. In January 1981, I started Good Works in order to provide shelter for people without homes in the basement of my own home. I had become a Christian a few years earlier, and as my worldview changed, my strong desire was to help people who were displaced and disconnected. My wife Darlene and I operated this shelter out of our house for almost four years before moving it to its current location on Central Avenue in Athens, Ohio.

More than three decades later, Good Works shines as a testimony of what a community can do when we work together to help one another and love our neighbors. Almost entirely donor-based, our ministry is sustained by the generosity of people who believe in our integrity and our mission. As you read through this brochure, would you consider joining us as we bring hope to people who often feel excluded?

Love is a verb,

Keith Wasserman
Founder and Executive Director

*I made the widow's heart sing;
I was a father to the
fatherless;
I took up the case of the
stranger.
- Job 29:12-17*

Our Context

My name is Andrea Horsch, and my family has lived in Southeast Ohio for many generations. The people and land here are beautiful, and while both have endured much hardship, I believe God is continuing to do something beautiful among us.

Appalachia is defined by its geography and by widespread generational poverty. The trades that sustained previous generations are not as viable today. Our area experiences not only a poverty of money, but of opportunities. Those of us who call this area home and have deep roots here can sometimes feel trapped.



So many young people face the choice between staying in the place they love with the family they love or leaving to pursue greater work opportunities. I believe there is a world of opportunity when we choose to stay and invest in this area.

*The Spirit of the
Sovereign Lord is
upon me because
the Lord has
anointed me to
bring good news
to the poor.
- Luke 4:18*

After ten years with Good Works, I am still overwhelmed by the goodness of the people who join us in this work. Whether they come for an evening, a week, or join the full-time staff for years, they bring encouragement. They are a reminder that God is infinitely redemptive and that his work in this area is not finished or forgotten. Together, through acts of hope, we can breathe this message into our community.

The Timothy House

Since 1981, we have operated the only home for people without homes in eight Southeastern Ohio counties. Staff members work together with an average of 60 volunteers to open this home to 150 to 200 men, women and children each year. Motivated by the love of God, our objective is to provide a safe, clean, stable, temporary, but homelike place for people to be while they work on the issues in their lives.



Throughout their stay, each resident is connected with a staff member who works with them one-on-one in order to offer support, accountability and connections to resources. We call these supportive people

Care-givers

Homelike

The atmosphere of the Timothy House is very much like a family: with dinner cooked by the residents, holiday celebrations, and of course, chores!

Also, our weekly computer class, Training for Life, equips residents to succeed in an increasingly technological world.

"I think it is easy to fall into a stereotype of homelessness. After talking with [residents] in a one on one situation you realize they're just like you, they have just had different experiences in their lives."

- Rachel Wagner (former Timothy House volunteer)

Friday Night Life



A table full of healthy food, friends connecting, kids laughing and playing, people with means eating with people in need, birthday celebrations, times to pray together, groceries to take home... these are a few snapshots of our weekly community meal.

Begun in 1993 as a way to stay in touch with residents who had moved out of the Timothy House, Friday Night Life has grown into a long-term community of people who have built networks of trust, in which friendships are cultivated between people of all ages.



Through the help of generous donations, Good Works provides an estimated 21,000 meals each year.

One hundred to a hundred fifty people participate on any given Friday night, and a different church or community group sponsors the meal each week. Contact us at 740-594-3339 for more information about how to sponsor!

Work Retreats



For over 20 years, Good Works has welcomed groups who desire to serve others in rural Appalachia. Participants have the opportunity to engage in meaningful acts of service with and for their neighbors in need while building relationships with our staff, each other, and those they are serving. We host about 45 groups a year for weekend or weeklong experiences and especially enjoy intergenerational groups and families! We provide opportunities for participants to reflect, apply what they are learning, and gain an increased understanding of God's heart for people in poverty. See our website for more information on planning a Work Retreat!

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

We “make the widow’s heart sing” (Job 29:12) by sending teams of volunteers to do labor-intensive service at the homes of senior citizens who are widowed or experiencing a disability.

We place a high value on building relationships characterized by dignity while completing projects with excellence. We sustain long-term relationships with about 60 different families each year and also facilitate ongoing friendships in which volunteers visit seniors in their homes.



Transformation Station



The Transformation Station (TS) enables people to get resources they need by doing volunteer work with us. TS volunteers give of their time and skills to serve others, and in exchange, receive points, which are used to obtain a thank-you gift such as a food box, bicycle, appliance, or vehicle. Thus, TS volunteers are able to help others, experience dignity, and meet their own needs simultaneously.

How can I help?

By donating items in good, working condition to Good Works, you can give families in need a "hand up!"

Vehicles
Refrigerators
Freezers
Stoves/Ovens
Washing Machines
Dryers
Air Conditioners
Bicycles
Small Appliances

In a rural area, transportation is a lifeline to work, food, community and social services. Our ability to share working vehicles is very significant.

Every vehicle someone earns becomes a resource not just to that one person, but to their whole network.

Our Vision

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

The vision of Good Works is to create and sustain a Community of HOPE with and for people who are struggling with poverty and homelessness in rural Appalachia. We believe that what we do emerges from who we are: broken yet beloved children of God, reconciled to our Father and each other through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. We want to respond to God's love for us by living a life of love—for God, each other, and our neighbors.



We are particularly concerned about people who are without homes, those who are widowed or experiencing a disability, and children who are vulnerable.

As a Christian community, we offer diverse contexts in which people in need can experience biblical hospitality, access practical assistance, and share their gifts and abilities with others. In doing so, we facilitate avenues for people from all walks of life to partner with us and build relationships of love and service with their neighbors.

A Few of the Values that Shape Us

Mutuality

Serving as a connecting point between people with needs and people who believe they have something to give, we discover that we are all needy and that we all have something to give.



Worship

Turning a heart of gratitude to God in the midst of whatever we are doing, whether we are singing a song of praise or serving our neighbor by raking leaves.



The Ethic of Inefficiency

Valuing people, relationships, and building trust over the pure efficiency of just completing tasks quickly.

Hospitality

Welcoming people not only into a place but also into our lives and our networks of relationships.

To learn more about our vision and philosophy, you are encouraged to read *Vision of Hope: Good Works Philosophy of Ministry* located on our website.

Good Works Gardens



Food security, sustainable agriculture, empowerment, friendships... these are a few of the values of Good Works Gardens. This initiative connects volunteers who want to serve their neighbors in a holistic way with Athens County residents who want the joy, health, and dignity of growing their own food. Serving those who are more vulnerable such as widows, we help plant and maintain about 17 gardens at people's homes. We also care for two community gardens and offer an annual Teen Agricultural Internship.

SERVICE LIVING



Good Works has many connecting points for both American and International Students to engage with people outside of their own social sphere, including people experiencing poverty or disabilities. Service Living is one example: Begun in 2010, our campus initiative at Ohio University provides a way for students to encounter the people, beauty, history, culture, values, and needs of rural Appalachia through relational service, education, excursions, and leadership opportunities. Our hope is that these relationships are transforming both the students and those they serve.

The Luhrig Road Property

Purchased in 1994, these 35 wooded acres have become our main property.

Hannah House

is home to staff, interns, volunteers, and guests. The vision of this household also includes Life in Transition in which former Timothy House residents participate in a transitional living opportunity.



Carter Cabin

offers a quiet place for rest and solitude available to the community at no cost. Located in a wooded section of the property, several miles of hiking trails are also accessible.

Country Bed & Breakfast

provides private, hotel-like accommodations ideal for a visit to Athens. As a small business, it also creates a source of revenue for Good Works. To make a reservation, call us at 740.594.3336.



Summer Service



Summer Service allows us to fulfill our mission to not only care for our neighbors, but to invite others to do so as well. Each summer, we welcome weeklong Work Retreat groups to serve in the community.

Our special summer initiatives include Summer Kids' Discovery Club for children ages 5 to 12, an every day Summer Lunch, and two internships for local teens.

We also accelerate Week of Service, which is our opportunity for individuals to stay in the Hannah House and serve alongside our Summer Interns.



Internships



Summer Service

9 weeks each summer: For young adults seeking a Christian discipleship experience. Join us for this paid internship focused on leadership development! Interns live in community and receive a stipend.

Appalachian Immersion

3 to 12 months: Build a foundation of Christian service into your life through this paid internship. Excellent for a gap-year, interns live in community and receive a stipend.

Week of Service

A weeklong immersion: Spend a whole week living and serving with the community of Good Works. You can be 16 or 60!

Academic

Design a unique opportunity that meets your educational goals!

Teen Internships

7 weeks in the summer: Local youth gain experience, develop character, and earn a stipend! For teens ages 14 to 17.



CONNECT

With the Community of HOPE

Volunteer

Good Works offers more than 30 different ways for individuals, families, and groups to serve and build relationships with their neighbors in need. Opportunities include one-time and on-going experiences. See our website for descriptions.

Come for a Visit

We would be delighted to visit with you and give you a tour of either of our properties. Guest rooms are available in the Hannah House for an overnight stay.

Arrange a Presentation

We are happy to speak with community groups and churches about our ministry and how others can participate!

Learn More: www.good-works.net

Check out our website for: Videos, Current Newsletters, Updates, Staff Bio's, and How to Make a Referral to the Timothy House. Connect with us on Facebook for regular updates!





Make a Financial Donation

- Good Works is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
- Mail a gift to Good Works, Inc. PO Box 4, Athens OH 45701.
Checks can be made payable to "Good Works, Inc."
- Make a secure online donation via our website.
- Contact us to set up automated giving via your bank account.
- Give a gift to Good Works in honor or memory of a friend or relative, and we will send that person a special acknowledgement.

Give a Material Donation

For a list of our current needs such as food, household items, and tools contact us or visit our website.

Contact Us

Website	www.good-works.net
Email	goodworks@good-works.net
Administrative Office	740.594.3339
Hannah House	740.594.3336
Timothy House	740.594.3333
Founder & Executive Director	Keith Wasserman 740.541.0816
Mailing Address	P. O. Box 4 Athens, OH 45701

*Good Works
is funded
almost
entirely by
donations. All
material and
financial
contributions
are tax
deductible.*



Come, walk with us!

The Good Works WALK is a yearly educational and fundraising event to support the Good Works Timothy House, the only shelter for people without homes in eight Southeastern Ohio counties.

Our goal for this event is to engage walkers on the issues of poverty and homelessness in Southeastern Ohio, and say to people struggling with poverty, "You are not alone!"

Walkers ask people to sponsor them in order to meet our financial goal of raising 1/3 of the operating cost of the Timothy House.

Saturday
February 18, 2017
8:30am to 1:00pm

Begins and ends at
First United Methodist Church
2 South College St.,
Athens, Ohio

www.goodworkswalk.net