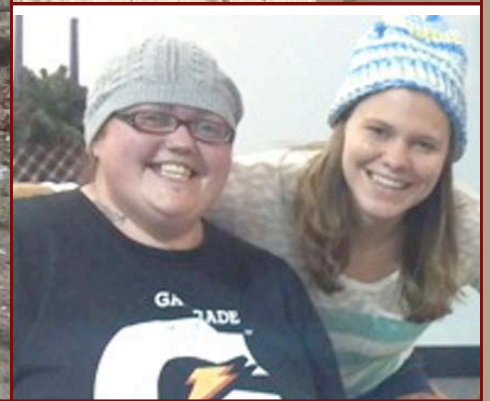




GOOD WORKS

Since 1981



A Community of Hope
Celebrating 32 years!

www.good-works.net
goodworks@good-works.net



My name is Keith Wasserman. In January 1981, I started Good Works to provide shelter for people who were homeless in the basement of my home; to take in those who had nowhere to sleep. I had become a Christian a few years earlier, and as my worldview changed, my strong desire was to help people who were displaced, hurting, hungry and falling between the cracks of social service and community networks. My wife Darlene and I operated this shelter out of our home as volunteers for almost 4 years. We both worked other jobs during the early years of Good Works and opened the shelter each night to welcome men, women and children off the streets. By the end of our fourth year (1984), we had formed a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and were able to move the shelter (now called the Timothy House) from our home to its current location on Central Avenue in Athens.

We are now in our 33rd year of learning how to love and serve our neighbors who are struggling with poverty in rural Southeast Ohio. The Timothy House provides shelter for people without homes in Athens, Vinton, Hocking, Meigs, Perry, Morgan, Washington, Gallia and Jackson counties. More than 500 different people call the Good Works Timothy House for shelter each year. We provide approximately 4 to 5,000 nights of shelter to between 150 to



225 men, women and children annually. In addition, through the help of community donations, Good Works now provides about 21,000 meals each year to people who are hungry.

In 1994, Good Works, Inc. purchased the Luhrig Road property, which now includes the Hannah House, the Transformation Station, our Administrative Offices (which includes our Good Gifts store and Bed & Breakfast), the Carter Cabin for solitude and retreats, and the Hope Center. This 35-acre property is where we host our Work Retreats, our weekly community meal called Friday Night Life (during the warmer months of the year) and where offices for Senior Friends, Summer Kids' Discovery Club, Neighbors Helping Neighbors and our Agricultural Initiatives are located.

Today, Good Works shines as a testimony of what a community can do when we work together to help one

another and love our neighbors. Good Works is sustained by what we call A COMMUNITY OF HOPE – staff, volunteers and supporters who provide the resources we need to carry out and sustain our vision. Last year, more than 1,100 different volunteers served with Good Works.

As you read through this brochure, would you consider joining us, working together with us, and sustaining us as we bring hope to people who often feel lonely, forgotten and excluded?

We are doing everything we know to provide food, shelter and care for the growing number of people struggling with poverty and homelessness in Southeast Ohio. We are working as hard as we can to find the dollars we need to sustain our staff, supplies and program. While about 12 percent of the funds we need to operate Good Works come from year-to-year grants, the majority of our funds come from individuals who believe in our integrity and our mission. Indeed, we rely upon the kindness and generosity of people like you to provide the resources we need to care for people who are vulnerable and needy.

Love is a verb,

Keith Wasserman
Founder and Executive Director

There are many ways you can participate in the Community of Hope. If you would like to visit either of the two Good Works locations, please contact us by email or telephone. We will gladly make time to visit with you, show you what we are doing and talk about the many different ways we are trying to love people who struggle with homelessness and poverty in rural Appalachia. We are also willing to come and speak to churches and community groups about how others can join us in this work of loving our neighbors. To arrange for a presentation, call Keith Wasserman at 740.594.9000. To learn more about our 30 plus volunteer opportunities and ways you can help bring HOPE and the experience of the love of God to our friends who struggle with poverty and homelessness, visit our website at www.good-works.net or call us at 740.594.3339.

A Unique Context

by Andrea Horsch

Appalachia is, by definition, poor. We are rich in beauty and natural resources, but experience a deep poverty of meaningful work and opportunities. Many in our region go hungry. At Good Works, we are right in the middle of the very poorest part of the state. In a place where injustice, extractive industry, and absentee landowners have created and perpetuated this poverty, we believe that love, investment, and seeking to equip are steps towards healing for both our people and the land of Appalachia.

This is a unique context—this place and people we are called to love. For some staff and volunteers, the Appalachian region of Ohio is home and the people we are coming alongside have been neighbors all our lives. But most people who connect with Good Works as a place of service come to this area as outsiders. In many ways, in order to carry out the ministry of hospitality in this area, they must first receive hospitality from the people who call this place home.

And it is a beautiful home indeed.

So very many of the people of this area are discouraged and have given up hope of better times. But as a community we can remind our neighbors that God is concerned with “ruined cities,” and “places long devastated” (Isaiah 61:4). We can declare in action and words that the work of the Lord is good, and that he is at work here, redeeming and rebuilding.

— Andrea serves as the Director of Caregiving for the Timothy House.

**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



The Vision of Good Works

We believe that what we do emerges from who we are. All of the initiatives described in this brochure are inextricably linked to our identity as a Christian community: a body of people seeking to follow Jesus. We desire to receive the love of Jesus so deeply into our lives that it propels us to love God fully and love our neighbors fully. We love God by personally growing in our obedience to Christ, and by being a faithful, worshipping community. We love others by caring for and instilling hope in people without

homes, children who are experiencing the risks of poverty, and older adults who need physical assistance and support. We see this as a contemporary expression of the biblical vision to love the stranger, care for the fatherless and defend the widow (see Deuteronomy 10:18, Psalm 68:5-6, Matthew 25:31-46 and James 1:26-27). As we extend ourselves in sacrificial love, we seek to provide avenues for the larger community to partner with us. Together, we can discover hope with people who feel lonely, excluded and helpless.



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

Our vision is to create a COMMUNITY OF HOPE with people who are struggling with poverty and homelessness in rural Appalachia. We desire for each person to experience God's love, identify their faith, and develop hope: the ability to see beyond their circumstances, crises and emotions with the moral strength to persevere into the future of possibilities. We are developing and sustaining diverse contexts in which people in need can experience welcome, connect with a caring community, access practical assistance, and find ways they can contribute their gifts to others.



Photo by John Halley

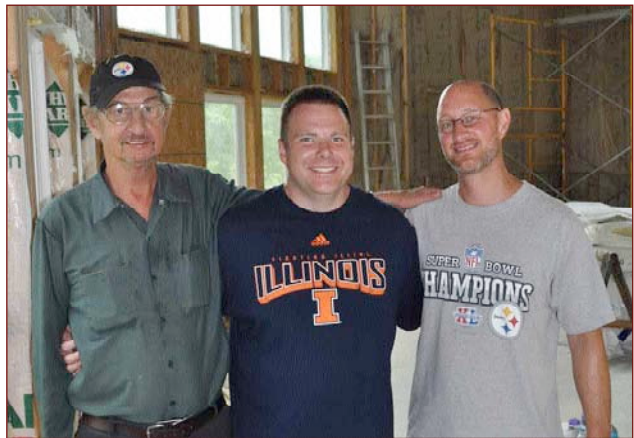
Hospitality

In each of our relationships and contexts of caring for people, we seek to practice the value of hospitality. For us, this means welcoming people not only into a place but into our lives. Nourishing physical environments form the basis for a deeper experience of welcome: a place and time in which people are attentive to each other and each person is valued regardless of their weaknesses. In the warmth of a community, individuals feel liberty to be themselves, discover their place, and become the person they were created to be.



*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



“People view hospitality as quaint and tame partly because they do not understand the power of recognition. When a person who is not valued by society is received by a socially respected person or group as a human being with dignity and worth, small transformations occur.”

—by Christine Pohl in *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition* (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Erdmans Publishing Co., 1999), page 62.

The Timothy House

My Story

—by a former resident
of the Timothy House

I came to Athens on a mission to help my daughter end her drug problems and heal while she was in rehab. I had no money, no car, no job... The only thing I had was faith and hope. When my bus arrived in Athens, I was armed with a tiny computer map showing me four places: the police station, the library, the Good Works Timothy House, and the Hannah House. I also had a large canvas knapsack, and two smaller bags. I remember I didn't get very far, and my bags weighed a ton.

But, after a few hours, I arrived at the Timothy House. Kari was my roommate and helped me to settle in. There were a lot of rules, but they actually comforted me. My life had been spiraling out of control for so long that the discipline felt good, like a warm

blanket when you are tired. We all had chores that changed weekly, and we all cooked at one time or another. We certainly didn't starve. We all had Caregivers that we met with weekly. They helped us set goals and get on track, and kept us focused. After some time, I moved into Life in Transition at the Hannah House. It was there that I dealt with so many old painful issues, laid some of them to rest, and began working through other things.

I can't explain all the blessings, healings and riches of understanding I received from the Timothy and Hannah House experiences or the deep respect and admiration for all the staff and volunteers of Good Works that I feel. These two years and nine months have been more restful than stressful. I feel so blessed to have gone through all these times, met so many people and heard their life stories.

The Timothy House is a community that offers shelter to people who are without homes in the nine rural counties surrounding Athens, Ohio. Motivated by the love of God, our objective is to provide a safe, clean, stable, temporary, homelike place for people to be while they work the underlying problems that led to their situation of homelessness. Full-time staff members work together with an average of 60 volunteers to open this home to between 150 and 225 people each year.

What sets the Timothy House apart is a commitment to love these neighbors we come alongside for a season. We are constantly asking one another, "What is the most loving thing we can do for this person at this time?"

On the day a resident arrives, a staff member sits down with them to hear their story and listen to their fears and hopes for the future. We then connect each resident with a specific staff person who meets with them regularly during their stay. These Caregivers seek to form trusting, respectful relationships with the residents, and offer them support, direction, and resources needed to make healthy decisions.

Compassion, tough love and accountability are important ingredients in this environment. We desire to help

(continued in next column)

"I kept wondering before I came here what situation these people came upon that caused them to be homeless. But after meeting the people here, I realize that it is not important what situation anyone came from. What really matters is who these people are. And I really want to learn about who they are."

***—Lela Zaranee
(a former volunteer)***



residents feel ownership for the areas of their lives they can take responsibility for as well as identify a starting place for change. We believe that even in the midst of suffering, people can experience profound personal growth and take the next step in their journey.

In all of this we desire to practice hospitality. When reflecting their stay, residents tell us again and again, "This place really feels like home," and that the household feels "like a family." To catch a glimpse... dinner is often a joyful occasion, with each person sharing something they are thankful for around the table. We intentionally create opportunities for residents to not just receive our help, but to do for themselves, and for each other. Giving them responsibility in cooking and keeping the house clean communicates trust, and many residents take a great deal of pride in this.

Many of the people we've entered into relationships with at the Timothy House have found stable housing and are doing well. Others struggle and some continue to remain stuck in homelessness. Even so, we encourage one another to remain hopeful that Christ can transform anyone's life and set people free from the injustices that hold them down in our corner of the state.

We have seen people liberated from addiction, abuse and loneliness. We have tried to be faithful to speak up for people who can't speak for themselves and celebrate when these ones find their own voice. Our joy is full when people we first met through the Timothy House remain in our community as volunteers, or best of all, dear friends.



Just Like You and Me

—Dan Weeden was a Summer Service Intern

Going into my position at the Timothy House, I was nervous that I would not know how to relate to people in homelessness. At first I hardly asked anything about their story. I was more comfortable avoiding the whole topic of what landed them there. But I learned what was appropriate and what I could ask without stepping outside the level of my friendship with the residents. I began to feel more comfortable and started to ask questions about what led up to life at the Timothy House.

This helped me get to know the residents better, to the point where I felt like they accepted me more. I began to hear of people's backgrounds, mistakes, misfortunes, failures and tragedies. I began to learn about homelessness—at least about homelessness in Southeast Ohio. I learned that most of the people at the Timothy House were not homeless their

whole lives. Rather, they have lives and families and friends, as well as life dreams and pursuits. They have a past and are aware of how the world works. Many of these people seem to view their experience with homelessness as a stage in their life that they are going to come out of. While at the Timothy House, they form plans and are looking for how to improve their lives.

The best thing I learned from the residents was that they are just like you and me. They were in the middle of relationships, work, pursuits or what have you, and then something happened or their situations degraded to the point where they needed a different place to stay. They lost their home or got kicked out of their house, for example. I have learned reasons for why some people are homeless, and they are understandable. The reasons are extremely unfortunate and often times beyond their control, though of course not always.

What makes them homeless and me not homeless is not that I am better or necessarily more responsible than them. It was beyond my control that I was born into a good home with a loving family, and that they were able to provide well for me and give me the chance to go to college. Many people are raised in a broken family and have little education. Just these two reasons can make someone more likely to experience homelessness. Learning these things has helped me view the residents at the Timothy House differently than I did at the beginning of the summer.

Training for Life Computer Class

Held at the Timothy House twice a week, this class offers residents and other community members training in basic computer skills. Our focus is to prepare participants to succeed in the increasingly technological world of employment and further education. Training for Life has enabled participants to update their resumes, apply for jobs, enroll in college, create

and use a budget, improve typing skills, access information online, and much more!

One participant says, "I enjoy Training for Life because of the one-on-one advantage you receive there. You can ask questions and get individualized help. The instructor will keep working with you no matter how long it takes."



Good Works Luhrig Road Property

Purchased in 1994, this has become the main property of Good Works. Set on 35 acres of quiet, wooded land, it is an active hub for the work, learning and relationships of the Good Works community. The following pages will give descriptive color to our passion for hospitality and community development.

The Hannah House is a large, red brick building on the Luhrig Road property. Its physical structure represents a dynamic group of people: staff members who work on the first floor and a residential community that lives upstairs. Together, we hope to create a hospitable place for people from all walks of life.

The residential household is formed of staff, summer and year-long interns, residents who are transitioning from homelessness, guests and volunteer groups. Those living in the Hannah House commit to the adventure of Christian community, and in time, reap the fruit of personal and spiritual growth. Through an opportunity called Life in Transition, the household invites people who have recently experienced homelessness to live with them. Our desire is to offer a stable and nurturing environment in which each person, in relationship with others, can journey toward greater wholeness.

We are delighted to host overnight stays for those who want to come and visit the Good Works community. To get connected, contact us at goodworks@good-works.net.



Hannah House

Agricultural Initiatives

Our Agricultural Initiatives provide a ripe context for building relationships with people in need through doing hard, life-sustaining work together. It is life-sustaining work indeed, because so many of our friends who struggle with poverty have very limited access to nutritious food. It is a sad reality that high rates of poverty contribute to high levels of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease in rural Appalachia.

Thus, we have decided to love our neighbors with fresh food, and the know-how to grow it themselves! Good Works has a functioning greenhouse and several active community gardens: one at the Luhrig Road property, a second near the Timothy House, and a third in partnership with the residents of a subsidized housing complex for seniors and people with disabilities. The fruit of our

labor? Organic and sustainably grown produce to share with the Timothy House and Friday Night Life communities, in particular.

In the process, our staff involves community members and nurtures a reciprocal learning environment. For example, each summer since 2009, we have been mentoring local teens ages 14 to 17 in service, agriculture, and character development through our paid Teen Agricultural Internship.

Many of our friends in the older generation own land and have a wealth of experience in growing food, but need assistance with manual labor in order to maintain a garden. Last year, with the help of volunteers from many Good Works initiatives including Service Living, the Transformation Station and Work Retreats, we maintained 17 gardens at the homes of our neighbors in Athens County.



Transformation Station



Through the Transformation Station, we hope to release the potential for generosity, friendship and healing in the life of our community. Here is how it works: we invite people in need of material resources to come and volunteer with us, giving of their time and skills in service to others. In exchange, they receive participation points, which are used to obtain a thank you gift in the form of a food box, bicycle, appliance or vehicle. Thus, we are able to meet felt needs in our community, while recognizing the inherent gifts and dignity of our neighbors.

Donations to the Transformation Station, a car for example, become a double blessing to our neighbors in Athens County. While volunteering with us, the participant may help with home repair for an older adult with economic and physical limitations and in doing so, receive access to reliable transportation. For information regarding items we are seeking for the Transformation Station, see page 17. The woman pictured below received the 100th vehicle Good Works has been able to provide since the program's inception in 2004!



Work Retreats (short-term Missions)

For over 15 years, Good Works has welcomed groups who desire to put their faith into action by serving others in rural Appalachia. We host groups of youth, adults, or families with children for a week or weekend of service experiences. The name “Work Retreat” describes the intermingling of several of our priorities: practical service, reflection and relationship-building. By inviting volunteers to engage in caring actions with our neighbors, we intend to foster a learning environment that inspires groups to create similar expressions of love in their own communities. Further, we take joy in how participants who share our faith can experience a deeper commitment to Jesus as they connect with and serve the people who Jesus loves.

Good Works places value on maintaining high levels of trust with the people we are seeking to help. Thus, a group’s short-term experience rests on the foundation of long-term relationships we have with people in

our community who are struggling. One context to form these relationships is Neighbors Helping Neighbors, in which groups serve older adults at their homes. Volunteers also assist us in developing and maintaining Good Works properties. We typically host about 40 groups a year.

How can we get involved?

If you are interested in planning a Work Retreat with us, visit our website at www.good-works.net and click on “Short-term Mission Teams.” You may also contact Paul Richard at 740.594.3336 or goodworks@good-works.net.



Summer Service

Each summer, Good Works invites 5 to 8 young adults to join the Good Works community through a 9-week paid internship focused on discipleship and leadership development. Living in the Hannah House, the interns host week-long Work Retreat groups, leading many aspects of their service and reflection. Work Retreat members do practical labor for older adults at their homes and spend time with residents staying at the Timothy House, our home for people without homes.

For about 15 years, the summer time has also been filled with the delight and labor of loving children in our community! In partnership with The Plains United Methodist



Church, we lead a Summer Kids’ Discovery Club for children ages 5 to 12, some of whom experience the struggles and risks of poverty. Good Works staff, interns, and volunteers plan and lead an array of fun,

educational and faith-building activities for the kids, Monday through Friday. For several years, we have been able to conclude each day with a nutritious, hot lunch that is free and open to the community.

The Ethic of Inefficiency

by Kara Stricker

Every once and awhile, someone comes along and really builds into your life in a way you were not expecting. Don is one of those people for me. First some background...

It all started one night after Friday Night Life. A fellow intern was out of town, so I was left to make sure things got cleaned up and put away after dinner. I had been running around all day and was totally whipped by the time clean up started. I tried to recruit some folks to help, and finally scrounged together a team of four to scrub down pots and pans.

One of those people was Chris, a Good Works staff member, who asked, "Kara, do you ever stop?" I wanted to say yes, as I didn't want to admit that I often try to do too much. I also wanted to say yes because I have tried to embrace the Good Works ethic of "inefficiency"—the practice of slowing down to value people over completing tasks. However, at that moment, I was exhausted, and knew the answer to Chris' question was "very rarely."

The next Monday I went out with a crew of volunteers to Don's trailer for the first time. Once we assessed what needed to be done and figured out jobs for everyone, I realized I did not assign myself

one. However, there was no one visiting with Don, so I sat down and we started chatting. Slowly but surely I was able to piece together bits of his life story. I spent the morning listening to tales of his work crews, family, and an assortment of other things. It was the first time in a while that I'd really had the chance to sit and relax. During the drive home I was able to explain the ethic of inefficiency more deeply to the team, and thanked them for the opportunity to connect with Don.

Having the opportunity to get to know this man on a personal level gave me a special awareness and compassion for him. When the home repair project exploded into a much larger one than anyone was expecting, I understood the spark that was still very much in his eyes. I saw how he was still fighting for normalcy in life although his health was failing. Connecting with Don at the very beginning definitely made him a human to love and respect, and not a project.

Although I was often very overwhelmed while working on Don's trailer, I also experienced my most clear moments with God during this time. The work was challenging, but the volunteers worked together beautifully and got a lot accomplished. Don's attitude was inspiring



Kara Stricker was a Summer Service Intern who stayed on to be part of the Good Works staff.

even when presented with one hold-up after another. Through his kind spirit, playful joking and unending patience I finally found a place to slow down. A sanctuary for peace and solitude as it blended with hard work and productivity.

I believe God used this experience to help bring conclusions to many lessons I learned this summer. One of the greatest being, although I rarely take the time to slow down myself, I gladly will. As I recognize this need more and more, I will happily accept the help of others, let go of things that are not important, and spend time in conversation instead trying to control the chaos of the cosmos!

To Don, I say thank you for living out your life as an example of faith and fortitude, and thank you for finally slowing down enough to ask for help.

Service Living



Service Living is a Good Works initiative designed to immerse first-year Ohio University students in the broader Athens community through service-based relationships. In the midst of this immersion, we hope each participant discovers something of the history, beauty, values, needs and

people of rural Appalachia. We hope to accompany students in the following progression: listening to the voice and culture of their local community, learning with and from the people here, and lastly, taking thoughtful action to make this region a healthier place. We are energized to see students discover

how their unique passions can inform their potential contribution to Athens County.

Participating students select a once-a-week service experience for the semester. These opportunities range from spending time with residents of the Timothy House to doing construction with an affordable housing program. The Service Living leaders also provide contexts for dialogue about the students' experiences and their connection to the history and culture of greater Athens County. Service Living is a collaborative effort between Good Works, The Ohio University Department of Residential Housing, Ohio University students and local organizations.

Senior Friends



Many people do not realize that reaching out to seniors was the first experiment of love taken on by Good Works. Now, over 30 years later, we are continuing to do so by facilitating friendships between older adults and volunteers, both of whom desire the joy of such a relationship. Through Senior Friends, we connect older adults with individual volunteers, who intentionally visit with them at their home.

Many of the seniors we have the privilege of knowing are widowed.

This grief, combined with the isolating experience of physical limitation and economic struggle, calls for the presence of a supportive community. We seek to extend and receive lasting friendship with these precious ones!

Hidden inside this investment of time is the opportunity to appreciate the wisdom and perspective found in the terrain of their life experiences. An older woman named Clair joined Senior Friends several years ago. She relates, "I've really enjoyed Becky

and Amanda coming to my home and us sharing things together. They were so friendly and helpful, especially after the passing of my husband. It helped me to know that they cared and they shared my feelings and their feelings together with me."

Mel, a volunteer, participated in Senior Friends as a student. She reflects, "I never imagined the impact it would imprint upon my Ohio University experience. I look forward to my weekly visits with Evelyn and her adorable Miss Kitty so much that I couldn't imagine my week without them." Tara, another participant and year-long intern with Good Works, describes her experience: "Senior Friends has given me chance to develop this newly-discovered gift: a connection to people, with a deep sense of caring and compassion. And I have a constant opportunity to use it! I am grateful for the wonderful women I have met—for their wisdom and their tea, Pepsi and stuffed animals. Most of all, I am grateful for their friendship, love and acceptance!"

The Hope Center is located on a hillside just behind the Administrative Offices. This facility, recently completed through the work of over a hundred volunteers, provides Good Works with a beautiful gathering space for large groups, as well as office space for several staff. Much community-building and education happens here, benefiting our staff, volunteers, visiting groups and Friday Night Life participants.



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Here in the Good Works community, we hope that people come away from Neighbors Helping Neighbors saying, “We could do this where we live!” We simply invite groups of volunteers to visit our neighbors in Athens County, spend time with them, and do labor-intensive projects at their homes.

We began helping our neighbors through practical service at their homes in the late 90’s. Since then, we have developed long-term relationships with many older adults, some of whom have physical disabilities. We are now connected with about 60 widows and families in this way. We count it a joy to serve these friends and invite others to do this same. The projects range from basic tasks such as yard work or cleaning to more extensive jobs in which plumbing, electrical, carpentry and roofing skills are needed. One of our friends who we

know through Neighbors Helping Neighbors shared these kind words with us:

“I wanted to again personally thank all those involved in seeing to it that I am safe with a new step ramp. Above all, I have to say thanks to those that are doing the work. They made me feel comfortable and safe to be with. Seeing the steps finished and using them has been a blessing. They are beautiful to see, safe to use, and a real joy in my heart. Words cannot express how I feel right now. It’s been a long time alone, and I am scared of leaving home, that I might fall again. But never have I seen people like this, that seem to really care about my well-being—people that do not know me, yet they offer friendship and grace. This is God’s work for sure, and I am so thankful.”



The Carter Cabin offers a quiet place for people to experience silence, rest, prayer and the beauty of nature. Located in a wooded section of the Good Works Luhrig Road property, guests can be still and listen to God’s voice. This respite is free of charge and open to anyone who wants a place of solitude.

Thanks to the work of dedicated volunteers, Good Works now has almost 3 miles of wooded hiking trails available to our guests as well.

To inquire further, contact us at goodworks@good-works.net or 740.594.3336.



Carter Cabin
for solitude and retreats



Administrative Offices

This facility is where many people first connect with Good Works. Staff members are available to talk with individuals, churches and other groups about potential volunteer opportunities and partnerships with our community. Much of the behind-the-scenes administrative work that keeps the organization running happens here as well!



Bed & Breakfast

The Country Bed and Breakfast offers private accommodations in a hotel-like room attached to our Administrative Offices. As a small business of Good Works, it provides job training experience and a supplemental income to participants in our transitional housing opportunity.

Located just two miles from Ohio University, our Bed and Breakfast is ideal for a visit to Athens! A stay includes an optional fresh breakfast, wireless internet, access to walking trails and a beautiful view. For additional information or to make a reservation, please call us at 740.594.3336.

Good Gifts

Our fair-trade gift shop, Good Gifts, is also located in the Administrative Offices. Operated through Ten Thousand Villages, this small business markets beautiful items made by artisans in Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. Purchasing fair trade items enables our global neighbors to earn a just and vital income to sustain their communities.



Amphitheater

Set against the green woods, our amphitheater is a conduit for nourishing the souls of our friends in need with beauty, song, and hope. As musicians volunteer their time and gifts, we are able to invite the Friday Night Life community to enjoy evenings of live music at no cost. The amphitheater also provides Good Works with a venue for other outdoor community events.



Friday Night Life

Friday Night Life is a community event designed to bring people from all walks of life together around food, friendship, and opportunities for personal growth. Every Friday from 4:30 to 7:30 pm, we gather with our friends. Some who participate are struggling to make ends meet, and others volunteer to prepare a nutritious, free meal for everyone. Beginning in 1993 as a way to stay in touch with residents who had moved out of the Timothy House, Friday Night Life has now grown into a long-term community of over 150 people who have built networks of trust in this context.

Our vision is to help people form life-giving relationships across the lines of class, and in doing so, to experience the kingdom of God. We desire for every person who comes to Friday Night Life to find place and purpose, experience healing and ultimately, to feel loved. We continue to promote the event in the Athens area as a free community meal that especially includes people in need.

During the warmer months, we hold Friday Night Life outside, picnic style, on the Good Works Luhrig Road property. Our partners at The Plains United Methodist Church graciously allow us to use their building the rest of the year. After dinner, our team of staff and volunteers lead a fun and educational club for both kids and teens, and adults are invited to participate in other community-building activities. These have included small groups for scripture study and prayer, gardening, health and nutrition education, musical concerts and more! At the end of the night, we provide take-home food to an average of 45 families each week.

Good Works invites groups of 7 to 14 people to “sponsor” Friday Night Life by preparing the meal and joining the community for the evening. For more information on this opportunity, please contact us at 740-594-3339 or goodworks@good-works.net.



Each year, Good Works provides an estimated 21,000 meals to people who are struggling with poverty and homelessness. This is all through the generous donations of our supporters. We are grateful!





Volunteer Opportunities

Our vision to create a community of hope is completely dependent on others who are willing to share with us the joy and responsibility of caring for people who are struggling with homelessness and poverty. Good Works offers more than 30 different opportunities for volunteers to love our neighbors in practical and relational ways.

To learn more, visit www.good-works.net and click on

“Volunteer Opportunities.” Then, contact one of our staff at 740.594.3339 or goodworks@good-works.net and they will guide you through the application process.

If you are interested in volunteering but are uncertain as to which opportunity to pick, feel free to call our Administrative Office at 740.594.3339 to talk with one of our staff. We would be happy to discuss current opportunities with you.



Internship Opportunities

- **Appalachian Immersion** is a 9 to 12 month paid internship in which participants live in the Hannah House and serve full-time in several Good Works contexts.
- **Summer Service** is a 9-week paid internship focused on discipleship and leadership development. Interns host week-long Work Retreat groups and lead them in service and reflection.
- **Week of Service** offers individuals 16 years and older a week of diverse service experiences within the Good Works community. There is no cost for this opportunity.

- **Academic Internships** allow students to design a unique educational opportunity with us. Students can gain experience in areas such as social work, counseling, family studies and church ministry.

To learn more about internships with Good Works, visit www.good-works.net and click on “Internships.” A full description of each internship opportunity is available. For further inquiry or to begin the application process, contact us at 740.594.9000 or goodworks@good-works.net.



Donations to Good Works

We depend on the support of an extended community to provide us with material resources such as food, supplies and equipment. These enable us to help people in our community who are carrying the burden of poverty.

We update a needs list monthly, which is available on request by contacting us at 740.594.3339 or goodworks@good-works.net. If you would like to donate an item that is not on our needs list, please call us at 740.594.3336.

DONATING VEHICLES

Reliable transportation is a significant need for people in our community who are struggling with poverty. With affordable housing primarily outside the city of Athens and limited public transportation available, maintaining employment is very difficult without access to a vehicle.

Since 2004, Good Works has been providing used vehicles to people who are struggling with poverty through the Transformation Station. Participants volunteer their time to serve others, and in exchange receive a resource they need, such as a car. Good Works depends on the generosity of the larger community to provide the vehicles. Please consider this opportunity to give! Not only are you pro-

viding a resource to someone in need, you are also providing a volunteer to someone else who is struggling with poverty.

For more information about donating a vehicle, contact Paul Richard at 740.594.3336. We are only able to accept vehicles in working condition at this time.

***Want to help with something practical?
Below is a list of some of our ongoing needs:***

FOR THE TRANSFORMATION STATION

Vehicles, refrigerators, washing machines, dryers, stoves/ovens, freezers, air-conditioners and bicycles.

FOOD

We accept all kinds of food donations, fresh or canned. We are not able to receive canned food that has passed its expiration date. We are especially concerned about the nutritional value of the food we are providing to our community.

We often need: fresh, frozen or canned fruits and vegetables, juice, milk, cheese, eggs, meats such as chicken, pork, beef, turkey, venison, fish, lunch meats and canned tuna and chicken, beans, soups, whole wheat flour, creamer, sugar and substitutes, vegetable oil and olive oil, whole wheat pasta, spaghetti sauce, drinks such as coffee, herbal tea, iced tea mix and hot chocolate.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Laundry detergent, dish soap (non-dish-washer only), liquid hand soap, household cleaners (floor, toilet and all-purpose) bleach, shampoo and conditioner (normal size), paper towels, toilet paper, zip-lock freezer bags, first aid supplies, Tylenol and multivitamins, postage stamps, phone calling cards, copy paper (all colors), compact-fluorescent light bulbs.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Lawn mowers (riding or push), washing machines and dryers, refrigerators, sound equipment for our amphitheater, bike locks with keys, chain saws, a high capacity color laser printer.

ON-GOING SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

We often need volunteers with painting, plumbing, electrical, mechanical and installation skills. If you are interested, please call us at 740.594.3336.

***All material
donations are
tax deductible!***

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO GOOD WORKS!

OUR SOURCES OF SUPPORT:



- Grants - 12%
- Private Donors - 73%
- Businesses - 4%
- Churches - 9%
- Others/misc - 2%

The Good Works annual budget is about \$600,000. 73% of our funds come from private donors like you. Thank you for supporting us as we provide a home and caring community for people experiencing homelessness and poverty.

Ways to give to Good Works:

1. Contribute online at www.good-works.net via the Network for Good. Click on "Make a donation." All online donations are secure and confidential.
2. Mail your gift to:
Good Works, Inc. PO Box 4, Athens, Ohio 45701
Please make your checks out to Good Works, Inc.

Homeless by Choice?

by Keith Wasserman

In 1989, the eighth year of Good Works, I started spending several days every few years living among people without homes in different cities in the United States. I go to the streets to expand my understanding of homelessness and people who are homeless. In this “classroom,” I can re-evaluate how the Good Works community is serving people who are homeless and explore what we may need to change.

As a Christian, I believe that Christ incarnated himself into our world in order to be a bridge for men and women to have a relationship with their Maker. As followers of Christ, we too must incarnate ourselves into the world of those whom we care about in order to understand how they think and how they feel, so that we can really love and help them.

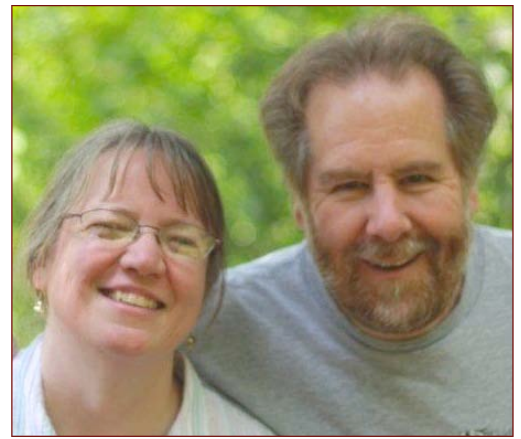
Here are a few of my experiences: In Lexington, Kentucky I learned about FEAR. I learned that spending the night with strangers in fear wears down the body’s natural defenses and makes one vulnerable to sickness and mental breakdown. I learned that fear often makes a person compromise their own moral and ethical standards to survive. I slept next to a man with a knife. I knew he had it because I watched him

threaten to stab another man earlier in the day. Fear changes one’s personality and life choices. Prolonged fear turns you into someone you don’t like and don’t want to be with.

In Charleston, West Virginia I learned that the system of sheltering people who are homeless caters to those in chronic, rather than crisis, situations. I felt people treated me as if I was an alcoholic or a drug addict. I did not have proper identification, and when I went to the Police Station to obtain the I.D. the shelter wanted, the police wouldn’t give me anything. I returned to the shelter and the staff implied that I was lying. I felt caught in the middle: misunderstood.

In Indianapolis, Indiana I learned that time is the enemy of people without homes. It seems like there is nothing to do and nowhere to go. Yes, you can work your tail off for eight hours at minimum wage, but you spend each day’s earned income to meet the needs of that day. I learned that it is very difficult to save money when you live on the streets. When you do earn money, you become a target for exploitation, theft or begging.

In Akron, Ohio I learned about the need for privacy. Privacy is a commodity purchased by those who



have money. The less money one has, the less privacy one can obtain. People need privacy to maintain mental health. I remember feeling like there was no place to go where I could be alone, to be by myself. We were always around others who could potentially take advantage of us. This low-level stress combines with physical sickness to make a person behave strangely. No wonder some people who are homeless appear mentally ill.

I continue to be acutely aware of how these experiences have helped me to more fully understand that homeless people are real human beings, people who in many ways are not much different from myself. I learned that in order to understand and help people who are suffering, one must leave the comfort of one’s own security and reach out, perhaps incurring some personal risk and pain. As a Christian, I now more fully understand what Christ Jesus has done for me. I am grateful, and I want to continue to turn my gratitude into a godly activism.



Neighboring 101

Who is my neighbor? What does it mean to be a good neighbor? Come join us as we explore these questions!

Neighboring 101 is a seasonal class focused on what it means to love and serve our neighbors who are in poverty. Facilitated and hosted by the Good Works community, we invite people from local congregations to dialogue, study and dream together. We typically meet over lunch at the Timothy House, gathering weekly for about two months in the fall or spring. Books we have studied include *Bridges out of Poverty* by Ruby Payne, *Churches that Make a Difference* by Ronald Sider and *When Helping Hurts* by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert.



Contact Us

Email address: goodworks@good-works.net
Mailing address: PO Box 4, Athens, OH 45701
Website: www.good-works.net

Administrative Offices: 740.594.3339

Volunteer Opportunities
Good Works WALK
Good Gifts
Friday Night Life
Senior Friends
Agricultural Initiatives
Questions about Donations

Timothy House: 740.594.3333

Refer someone in need of shelter
Volunteer Opportunities at
the Timothy House

Hannah House: 740.594.3336

Country Bed and Breakfast
Carter Cabin
Work Retreats
Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Transformation Station

Keith Wasserman: 740.594.9000

Arrange a Presentation
Internship Inquiries
Employment Inquiries

Service Living: 740.818.3868

12th Annual

THE WALK

**Saturday,
February 22, 2014
8:30 am to 1:00 pm**

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

Mission of the Good Works WALK:

1. Creatively inspire and inform participants of all ages about the problems people without homes face and issues of poverty in rural Appalachian Ohio; and say to people struggling with poverty, "You are not alone."
2. Raise one third of the annual support for the Good Works Timothy House, our shelter for people without homes in 9 counties in rural Southeast Ohio.

How will the money be used?

All funds raised by WALK participants help fund the Timothy House, which provides 4,000 to 5,000 nights of shelter to 150 to 225 people each year. Two-thirds of the funding needed to operate the Timothy House comes from private donations.

How can I get involved?

1. Do the WALK!
2. Find 10 people who will sponsor you for \$10 each to raise a minimum of \$100. Our goal is that 500 people will walk together and help us raise \$50,000.
3. Be a WALK CHEERLEADER!
Promote the WALK through your church or community organization. Invite your friends to do the WALK and find sponsors.

For more information:

- Go to www.goodworkswalk.net
- Email us at goodworks@good-works.net
- Call us at 740.594.3339

WALK packets for fundraising:

- Download one from www.goodworkswalk.net
- Pick one up at the Good Works Timothy House or the Good Works Luhrg Road property.

Good Works, Inc.
—A Community of Hope
P.O. Box 4
Athens, Ohio 45701
740.594.3339
www.good-works.net
www.goodworkswalk.net



Photo by James Robeless