



Good Works, Inc. — A Community of Hope

Celebrating 41 Years!

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Keith Wasserman, Founder/Executive Director

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

For 17 years we sponsored The Good Works WALK which brought the community together to better understand homelessness, and raise funds for the Timothy House. When we ended the WALK in 2019, it was with a new vision for a yearly public event called Day in the Life, but the public health challenges for the past few years made it difficult to sponsor a public event. However, on Saturday December 3, we are planning an OPEN HOUSE at the Good Works Timothy House (on Central Avenue) from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm with 10-minute presentations at the start of each hour. Staff will be talking about the different ways Good Works serves people who experience homelessness. A schedule for the day will be posted on the Good Works website (www.good-works.net) under "News and Updates". Please come for one of the hours and visit! Tours of Sign of HOPE (to be completed in early 2023) will also take place on that day.

THANKSGIVING 2022

Greetings with gratitude from all of us in the Good Works Community of HOPE!

"It is always right, at all times and in every way to give thanks"! From our hearts to your home, we offer gratitude:

- For the vehicles (and appliances) we have received and have been able to provide for those who earn points through the Transformation Station; and the blessing of knowing each person and being invited into their lives; and for vehicles we have the privilege of being stewards of as we travel all around Athens County serving our neighbors at *their* homes with labor-intensive service. We know that these vehicles are a trust and we give thanks!
- For each group of volunteers who sponsor the meal for Friday Night Life each week. As we finish up year #30 of FNL, we estimate that there have been over 1000 groups who have provided the meal since we started in the spring of 1993!
- To every individual, family, family foundation, church, business or organization who contributed to Good Works this year, and for those who support our vision for DAY IN THE LIFE.
- For everyone who donates food to Good Works. We provide around 21,000 meals each year because of the kindness of those who provide food.
- For each volunteer Work Retreat group who has come to serve alongside us this year. Wow.... What a gift it has been to meet and form so many new friendships!
- For all our scheduled volunteers who serve at The Timothy House, with Friday Night Life, through the Transformation Station, and through Neighbors Helping Neighbors!

IN THE NEWS

- We are now inviting groups to schedule a weekend or week-long service trip with Good Works next spring and/or summer 2023. Join us as we reach out to our neighbors at their homes through Neighbors Helping Neighbors! We also welcome families to visit and serve! Come for a “family work retreat”. Individuals can do a “week of service” (or partial week). Contact us for more information.
- Good Works DAY IN THE LIFE (goodworksdayerinthelife.net) is our effort to raise funds toward the costs of The Good Works Timothy House for as many days as possible in 2023. DAY IN THE LIFE goes through December 31. Please mark your gift DITL.
- A receipt of your gifts to Good Works will be sent in January 2023. If you need one before that time, please contact us.
- Here is a list of our current needs: Canned food (vegetables, fruit, chicken, tuna, etc.), ground beef, chicken, turkeys, cleaning/disinfectant spray --- maybe you know of a group willing to do a food-drive for Good Works?

I have shared my reflection before on the three ways we often engage with people in need: do-for, do-with and be-with. Of these, most people gravitate towards “do for” and not always for the right reasons. Doing things for others often makes *us* feel better. While that may be true, it is not always the best way to show love even though it is often the way we feel most comfortable serving others. But, we must find ways to move towards “do with” so that we can share our time from our hearts. It is this kind of sharing and listening that often includes some vulnerability, and this is where a deep connection is made. Of course, there are times when we must accept and cherish simply “being with”. In these times, it is not what we do or say, but simply our presence that conveys love. And communicating love is what is always most important, for love is the pathway towards healing for all of us.

IN CLOSING this month, I want to acknowledge that I feel like I am not keeping up with the pace and with some of my responsibilities. You might not see this, but I see it and feel like I am “treading water” and often have that ‘sinking feeling’. I feel weary again in doing good (see Galatians 6:9-10). Indeed, I need to admit that I have lost some perspective. COVID was hard for all of us and now we are in another season which feels hard too. I so much appreciate your prayers, words of encouragement, time to talk and love. Thanks for listening!

Love is a verb,



Keith Wasserman