



July 2022

MISSION *Messenger*

GIVING BACK

**TRAVIS REACHES OUT
TO HELP MEN
WHO ARE HURTING**



SUMMER OF HOPE

Being homeless in the summer is no vacation.

Muggy Indiana heat puts people at great risk for dehydration, heat stroke and even death. People without safe shelter are especially vulnerable as they are often already struggling with malnutrition, exhaustion and sickness.

But it's not just physical dangers. Loneliness, heartache and addiction are devastating so many people in our Grant County community right now.

Some people, like Travis (whose story is on the next page), find their way to the Grant County Rescue Mission and find hope. But for every

joyful story like Travis', there are many more neighbors still struggling in despair.

That's why I hope you'll help make these next few months a "Summer of Hope"!

Long-range weather forecasts are already predicting extreme hot weather this summer, even hotter than recent years.

When the heat turns dangerous, your giving makes it possible for the Grant County Rescue Mission to serve our community as a cooling center with air conditioning and



Rick Berberea
Executive Director

lemonade to keep people safe.

Welcoming people with this summertime hospitality is just one more way for us to learn people's names, listen to their painful stories, pray with them, build relationships, and walk beside them on their next steps toward a restored life.

Would you help us make the most of this summer to share God's love with people in crisis?

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rk RL'.

THREE WAYS TO HELP MAKE THIS A "SUMMER OF HOPE"

- **Pray for us each day** that as people enter our doors, they would sense God's love for them, experience compassion, and find courage to build a positive future.
- **Give extra financial support** to keep our services running strong during June, July and August when giving is low. **See the enclosed donation slip or visit mygcrm.org/donate.**
- **Volunteer your time** to help serve meals, sort donated items at our Thrift Stores, or help with miscellaneous projects around the Mission: **mygcrm.org/volunteer**

GIVING BACK

TRAVIS REACHES OUT TO HELP MEN WHO ARE HURTING

Travis wasn't the type of person anyone thought would become addicted to drugs. He'd grown up going to church and considered himself a strong Christian. In middle school and high school, he played drums in the church music team.

But Travis is proof that anyone can hit hard times.

Life struggles and some poor decisions led Travis toward drugs as an escape. He tried fighting it on his own for 12 years. But eventually, Travis ended up in jail and was given the choice to go to rehab.

Like most of our guests at the Grant County Rescue Mission, Travis didn't want to be a slave to his addiction. He didn't consider himself lazy, irresponsible or evil. He hated what drugs had done to his life. But he felt powerless to overcome his addiction. He needed help to untangle the physical, emotional and spiritual bonds that held him down.

In rehab, Travis eagerly soaked up all the help he could get. Afterward, he wanted structure and guidance to rebuild his life so that he didn't return to past relationships that dragged him down.

Thanks to generous support from our community, Travis found a safe haven at the Grant County Rescue Mission where he could have meals, shelter, showers, clothing – plus spiritual encouragement and practical guidance. With that provision, Travis had the stability he needed to pursue housing and employment.

Since he came to us last August, Travis has made tremendous changes – not just for himself, but for many of our other guests at the Mission.

He's started a recovery support group to help other men build trust and vulnerability. And he'll soon be working night shifts with our shelter program. "That's when we do a lot of intakes," says Travis. "It's my opportunity to talk one-on-one with guys about anything they're struggling with."

Travis knows that as bad as addiction can be, getting help can be scary.

It's hard to face the shame of the past. It's painful to heal from trauma. It's frightening to make progress and be concerned about relapse.

The good news, Travis tries to share, is that no one has to walk that journey alone at the Grant County Rescue Mission.

Travis is proof – there is HOPE!



FLY-IN / CRUISE-IN PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, September 3

7 AM to 12 PM

Marion Municipal Airport



- Adults (ages 12+): \$10.00
- Children (ages 3-11): \$5.00

Purchase tickets at mygcrm.org/fly-in or pay at the door



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