



The Center of Hope, Inc. is a homelessness prevention program and 100% of your contribution is used in direct service to the poor.

## Annual Benefit Dinner & Auction a Success!

The Center of Hope Annual Dinner was held on Sun., April 21, 2013, at Newman University's Dugan Library Conference Center. The theme of the event was "There is No place Like Home" and featured fanciful decorations which depicted the yellow brick road and stars over the rainbow.

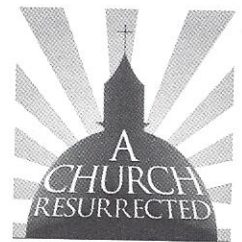
The evening festivities included a fabulous meal and an entertaining evening of camaraderie and fun led by the master of ceremonies, J.T. Klaus and our guest auctioneer Rev. Bernie Gorges. A special feature of this year's dinner included a margarita reception for those purchasing a table. It was well attended and the drinks quite refreshing.

A wide array of live and silent auction items was assembled by the Program Chair, Karen Clothier and her very capable committee members who did a magnificent job of coordinating and planning the event. In excess of \$78,000 was raised for the Center of Hope.

We are very grateful for all who worked so hard to make this event such a success and all you, our very generous and loyal donors, for your continued support and care for the poor we serve. Please plan now to attend next year's event.

## Sale of DVD Benefits COH

Center of Hope is the recipient of the profits from the sale of a DVD offered by KAKE-TV. The local television station



taped an informative 30-minute program, *A Church Resurrected: Restoration of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception*, narrated by Bishop Jackels. The DVD can be ordered by sending a check or money order in the amount of \$20 (which includes shipping and handling) made out to KAKE. Mail to:

A Church Resurrected DVD  
1500 N. West St., Wichita KS 67203

Young children are living in the homes of approximately 80% of the clients we serve on any given day.

*Children benefit from COH help.*



### COH Board of Directors:

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### CENTER OF HOPE, INC.

*sponsored by the  
Adorers of the Blood of Christ*

### Executive Director

George Dinkel

### Staff:

Sr. Jeannine Bahr, ASC  
Sr. Becky Balthazor, ASC  
Marsha Flora

### Volunteers: ASC Associates

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Carolyn Winn  
Mary Lou Wohler

[www.centerofhopeinc.org](http://www.centerofhopeinc.org)

# ORDINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

FROM  
GEORGE & LINDA DINKEL

We are very happy to announce that Brian Dinkel was ordained a priest on May 31, the Feast Day of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. Brian belongs to the religious order of the Institute of the Incarnate Word, a missionary order which was founded by Fr. Carlos Buela in 1984 in Argentina. The IVE is a young order that is growing rapidly and currently has missions in over 40 countries around the world.



# Special Occasion AND Memorial Tributes

## HONORARIUMS

Frances & Robert Brent	Msgr. John Gilseman
Gov. Sam Brownback	Maria Girrens
Catholic Family Credit	Sr. Patricia Hatcher, ASC
Union Staff & families	Mel & Joan Kahn
Rev. Ed Deimeke	Rev. Leon Kerschen
Fr. Brian Dinkel	Janet Miller
Wanda Farmer	Rev. Ken Van Haverbeke
	Marilyn & Randy Wells

## MEMORIALS

Charles & Teresa Beckett	Sr. Geraldine Hotze ASC
Daniel Calloway	Jane Means
Virginia Cox	Joan Otto
Robert Ewald	George Peter
Jerome Gerber	Sr. Stella Rosenhamer
Ginger Gilbert	

# Families Served in Recent Weeks



V, 54, is expecting a baby boy in July. She believes the child is a special gift from God as she lost her only son in an accident at a local lake two years ago. She and her husband are still grieving this loss. V and her husband have three daughters who live with them.

R, a 49-year-old mom, lives with her two children. R's husband passed away recently and she is now struggling to pay bills. She receives some Social Security benefits, but it is not sufficient to cover their expenses.

A, 36, has three children. Her husband died two months ago. A is disabled and unable to work. She currently is behind on her rent and owes \$1,500 on her Westar Bill and \$1,100 on her Kansas Gas Bill.

*Notice that several clients have huge utility bills because they were on a payment plan with the utility companies, missed one payment and now must pay the entire balance due. Please pray for these people who have so many challenges in their lives.*

L, a 34-year-old mom, lives with her 6 children. L was not able to make the payment to stay on her payment plan with Westar and now owes \$892 to get her electricity turned back on.

A, 26, a mother of three, lost her job two months ago and did not qualify for unemployment benefits. She really needs to find a job.

C, 24, has a 4-week-old daughter and is on maternity leave with no income. She owes over \$1,000 on her utility bills.

C, a 32-year-old mom lives with her 5 children. C was ill and hospitalized over the past several months, missing much work. Her most recent month's income was only \$164 and she owes approximately \$700 on her utility bills. She has a job and hopes to get back to full time soon.

# TRAFFIC FINE PROGRAM: Participants Journey through Life's Detours Together

by Sr. Becky Balthazor, ASC



hopping for groceries, going to medical appointments, taking children to school, going to church or visiting a relative are common activities in life. Most of us struggle to find the time, money and energy to accomplish these tasks. Have you ever thought about how difficult your life would be if you had to face these challenges without a driver's license?

Kerri, a young mother of three, struggles to accomplish ordinary daily tasks not only because of limited time constraints, money and energy but also because she has no valid driver's license. She, like many others, has unpaid traffic fines that prevent her from driving legally.

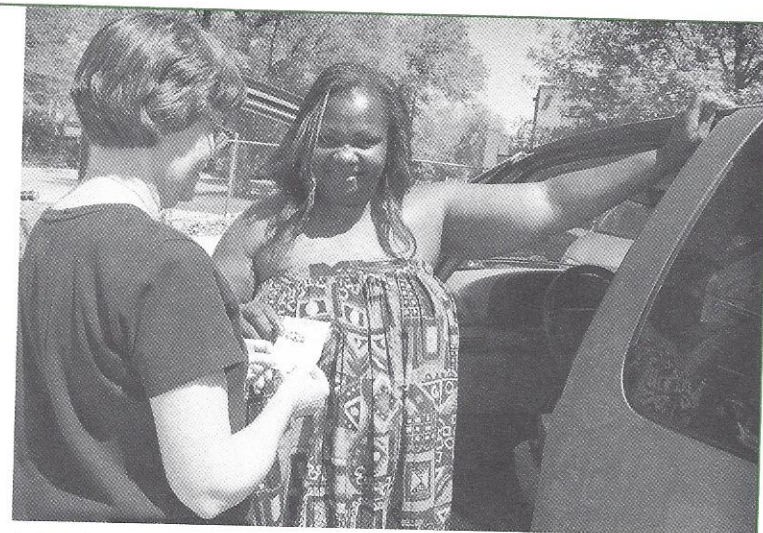
First, it was a speeding ticket she received several years ago when she was in high school. Kerri didn't take care of this ticket at the time and as time passed, she forgot about it.

Then one day she was on her way to the store and was pulled over for not signaling when she turned into the parking lot. At that time, she was also cited for not having insurance. She knew it wasn't right to not have insurance, but there didn't seem to be enough money to bother making a budget, let alone paying for insurance.

And now, the problem seems insurmountable: she has traffic fines and her license has been suspended. She spent a few months walking and getting rides to the grocery store and to her children's school, but the time and energy required to coordinate with others became too stressful, so she resorted to driving again keeping a vigilant watch.

Each time she pulls out of the driveway, she hopes she will not get pulled over by the police. The sight of a police car makes her heart race as she pleads with her young child to stay quiet and not distract her. She knows she cannot get pulled over again and risk going to jail.

*The transformation that begins in the traffic fine classes is remarkable. It becomes more than just the goal of getting one's driver's license back.*



A Traffic Fine Program participant gratefully shows her restored license to Sr. Becky.

## Incentive Program Helps

Little does this mother know that there is a solution. The Traffic Fine Incentive Program at the Center of Hope is not a quick fix and will not erase the hundreds of dollars she owes. But the program does provide solid support and guidance in getting suspended driver's licenses reinstated.

The class will first teach Kerri how to obtain court approval for doing community service and begin working off her traffic fines. Kerri will also learn about local resources and necessary life skills that might not be a natural part of her life.

The class size is small and the participants learn from and support one another. Attention is given to budgeting, counseling and education, case management as well as short and long-term goals.

The transformation that begins in the traffic fine classes is remarkable. It becomes more than just the goal of getting one's driver's license back. It is a time to consider the inevitable difficulties that will arise before and

after the traffic fines have been paid off.

The class instructor focuses on the actions that have resulted in the suspension as well as having each participant create a concrete plan to correct the situation. Small goals will be difficult to achieve and yet Kerri will gain the confidence that she needs to move forward and be successful. Because of this new found confidence, the support of other participants and the life skills she has learned, she is encouraged to continue her journey.



## Center of Hope, Inc.

400 North Emporia  
Wichita KS 67202-2514

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“Life is a gift that God gives to the universe and to humanity.” Acts of the Adorers’ 18th General Assembly

### CENTER OF HOPE, INC. MISSION STATEMENT

The Center of Hope listens to the cries of the poor with compassion and love, and without judgment, seeing all who present themselves as Children of God. A loving presence to those in need and advocates for the powerless, we offer hope to families, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion or gender, as they deal with life’s daily challenges. We help them with emergency financial support for rent and utilities, provide case management toward resolutions of on-going difficulties, and assure the dignity and self-respect of each individual.

### VISION STATEMENT

Offering hope for tomorrow through assistance today

### CENTER OF HOPE, INC.

Celebrating 30 years of service to the Wichita community

*Editor, George Dinkel*

*Coordinator, Mary Jobe-Waddill*

# Because You Cared

For the past nine months, the Center of Hope prevented 2,265 families from having to experience homelessness. Included in those families were 3,351 children. \$652,980 was dispersed for rent, utilities and emergency needs. An average of \$288 per family made a tremendous difference in the lives of these families.

In addition to the financial assistance paid to landlords and utility companies, families were given food and other personal care products from our storeroom, provided budgeting assistance, and counseled for special needs. Many thanks to all the parishes, business and individuals who brought blankets, canned and boxed food, paper products and personal and home cleaning products. Most recently Resurrection School, Marcia Morales, Kyle Jacobs, St Cecilia Parish, United Way, Mary Lou Schutz, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Magdalen Parish, Melissa Schneider, Lewis Bacher, St. Peter the Apostle Parish and School, Woodland Methodist Church, Nick Mohr, ASC Sisters, Greg Archer, Jim & Lois Daniels, and Partners for Wichita have blessed us with 597 bags of food and supplies.

