



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

## The Holy Spirit



St Paul tells us in *1 Corinthians 6:19* that our body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which has been given to us by God. St Paul also tells us in the *Acts of the Apostles (20:22-23)* that the Holy Spirit was compelling him to go to Jerusalem and warning him that imprisonment and hardships were awaiting him. Have you ever felt the Holy Spirit compelling you or warning you? How can we really know whether the Holy Spirit is within us or not? St Cyril of Alexandria tells us that the Spirit changes those whom He comes to dwell in and alters the whole pattern of their lives. With the Spirit within them it is quite natural for people who had been absorbed by the things of this world to become spiritual in outlook.

St Vincent Ferrer said that we should strive to cultivate in ourselves certain sentiments or dispositions towards our neighbor. By a compassionate generosity we come to sympathize with our neighbor in his afflictions and misfortunes as if they were our own. We calmly bear with his defects and suffer patiently whatever is

disagreeable in him. We act with sweetness and are courteous towards all. We wish well to them, and show by our words and actions the sincerity of our desire. We actually prefer others to ourselves and have a humble and sincere regard for them. We are willing to lay down our lives for the salvation of others, laboring day and night, by prayer and good works to make Jesus loved by them and to see them as worthy of being loved by Him.

To truly love our neighbor as God asks us is not easy. It is only possible through the outpouring gifts of the Holy Spirit which truly alters our whole way of thinking, the whole pattern of our lives. Perhaps one of the ways we can know and feel His presence is in our love and concern for the poor. Please pray that we may be filled with the Holy Spirit and become more loving and caring for our Dear Neighbors we see daily coming to us at the Center of Hope. We pray also that you may be filled with the Holy Spirit and obtain a spiritual outlook on things. I truly believe that through self-denial, silence/contemplation and prayer we will be blessed with His many gifts and graces. We may even, like St Paul, come to feel and recognize His presence within us. Will we have the courage to follow his call???

May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing that you may abound in hope, and in the power of the Holy Spirit. (*Romans 15:13*)

*Your friend in Christ,  
George*

## Sr. Deborah Schovanec, ASC...your service has been appreciated!

We are very sad to announce that Sr. Deborah has decided to retire. She has worked as the Center of Hope Volunteer Coordinator among many other duties and has been such a blessing to us for the past four years. Her genuine concern for the families we serve will be irreplaceable. Her laughter and the fun she instilled in the volunteers will be always remembered.



She truly has been a special beacon of joy for our little ministry. Her artistic talents have brought a special zest to our Annual Dinner and the many cards and thank you notes she has prepared over the years. It is with great sorrow that we see her go, but with a glimmer of hope as perhaps sometime in the not too distant future she will be returning to our little ministry as a volunteer.

#### 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. Becky Balthazor, ASC  
Jane Hermann  
Adriana Palma  
Sr. Deborah Schovanec, ASC

#### Volunteers: ASC Associates

Maralene Balthazor  
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Victoria Denton  
Jerry Dooley  
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Rebecca Elpers  
Jerry Ewald  
Martha Flaherty  
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[www.centerofhopeinc.org](http://www.centerofhopeinc.org)

## Center of Hope Annual Dinner a Success

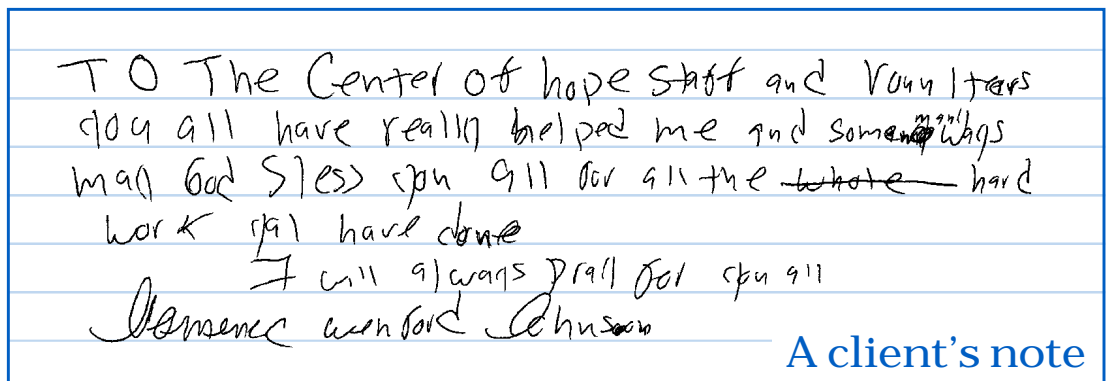
We would like to thank all those who came out to support our Annual Dinner this year and all the sponsors that made the event such a huge success. The theme for the evening was "The Thrill of Hope...is Love." Over 300 people attended the dinner, which raised close to \$100,000 for the Center of Hope.

One of the highlights of the evening was a very moving talk by Jennifer Glover, who is one of Sr. Becky's case management clients.

We are thankful to her for sharing her story with us. We would like to especially thank Darren Dedo for being our MC this year and Charlie Moon for conducting the live auction.

In addition, we would like to recognize our corporate sponsor, Fahnstock Plumbing, HVAC & Electric, and our dinner underwriters: Sisters the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, Frankenberry & Johnson DDS, House of Schwan, Learjet Employees Care Fund, Newman University, Skyward Credit Union, and Spirit Aerosystems.

If you were unable to attend this year, we invite you to attend next year's dinner, which will be at Newman University on the weekend of April 29, 2018.



A client's note

*The loss of a job or unexpected medical issues have sent our clients into a financial tailspin. Here you get a profile of some clients who have recently been helped by Center of Hope through your generosity. Some will be able to return to work in the future, but they had immediate problems which brought them to us. They are always grateful when told that we'll pray for them.*

## Please Pray for Our Clients

- Please pray for B & P, a married couple who were both 40 and needed help with their rent. B was recently diagnosed with a heart condition and not able to work. P had a double mastectomy recently and was not able to work but will be able to return to her job soon.
- Please pray for B, a 33-year-old mom who lives with her three young children. B has been off work recovering from health problems resulting from a domestic violence incident. She has just returned to her job and should be able to pay her bills in the future.
- Please pray for T, a 58-year-old lady who lives by herself. Her husband passed away recently and she currently lives alone and has no income. She was behind on her rent and all of her utilities were in danger of being turned off. She is currently looking for a job.
- Please pray for K, a 42-year-old mom with four young children who has been off work due to medical issues. She is scheduled for surgery and hopes to be able to return to work soon.
- Please pray for S, a 20-year-old mom with a six-week-old son. She stood in front of our door with her infant son from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. just to receive help to get into a group home. S had recently gone through a residential drug addiction program and needed to exit the program the week she came to us. She had no place to go and needed the extra support a group home could provide.
- Please pray for S, a 24-year-old mom with three young children. S lost her job at a fast food restaurant due to the stress of her brother dying and her dad having a heart attack. She was just able to return to her old job at the restaurant and should be able to make it, but with the low income from her job it will be a continual struggle.



# SPOTLIGHT ON CASE MANAGEMENT SUCSESSES

Holly graduated from the case management program and secured gainful employment as a Corporate Wellness Director with the Y. Holly is very excited and passionate about this career opportunity.

Several of our women in case management are furthering their education:

Kristen is working as an assistant manager at Dollar General, is a single mom and is currently completing her high school diploma.

Goldi is in her first semester at Pratt Community College. She plans to major in business.

Akeena completed her second semester at Cowley County Community College. She is taking a required psychology class this summer and plans to volunteer at Center of Hope to fulfill the service requirement of the class.

Victoria has completed three semesters at WATC with straight A's. She plans to transfer to WSU in the fall and eventually become a pharmacist.



New Volunteer Maricar Harris and her daughter, Becca, designed this eye-catching "Happy Father's Day" bulletin board. Thank you, ladies, for using your creative talents to brighten our reception area.

## Oktoberfest *Run for the Poor* just a couple of months away!



October may seem like a long time away, but now might be the time to start getting conditioned to participate in the Oktoberfest Run for the Poor sponsored by Blessed Sacrament Parish in Wichita. The run will include a 5k and a 1 mile fun run in the beautiful historic College Hill neighborhood and ends with a free brat and drink at the Blessed Sacrament Oktoberfest celebration. Runners receive a dry fit tee shirt, water bottle, chap-stick, and other goodies. The Center of Hope will be one of the recipients of the funds raised. The run will be held on Saturday, October 7, 2017 and information concerning the run can be obtained at:

[blessedsacramentwichita.com/oktoberfest](http://blessedsacramentwichita.com/oktoberfest)

### CENTER OF HOPE RECOGNITION GIFTS

#### *In Memory of*

Mitchel Butler	Stella Meyer
Deloris Crum	Bill Simon
Msgr. John Gilsenan	Glenn South
Cindy Gross	Jerry Squires
Elizabeth Illidge	Charles Stark
Ray Letourneau	Christopher Swank
Mary McEnulty	Bill Uhler

#### *In Honor of*

Ella Mae McGuire  
Fr. Ken Van Haverbeke

# Center of Hope, Inc.

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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 34 years of service to  
the Wichita community

# Because You Cared

For the past 10 months, the Center of Hope prevented 3,350 families from having to experience homelessness. Included in those families were 8,790 persons. \$1,239,886 was dispersed for rent, utilities and emergency needs. Utility assistance for Project Deserve of \$416,013 was provided for 2,593 households.

In addition to the financial assistance paid to landlords and utility companies, families were given food, bicycles and other personal care products from our storeroom, provided budgeting assistance, and counseled

for special needs. Many thanks go out to all the parishes, business, and individuals who brought blankets, canned and boxed food, paper products and personal and home cleaning products. Most recently an Anonymous Donor, Mario Cervantes, Judy Dusek, John & Betty Didier, Jim & Lois Daniels, Jim Dugan, Kyle Jacobs, Knights of Columbus Council #3114, and St. Cecilia Parish blessed us with 902 bags of food and supplies this past three months.

*Editor, George Dinkel*  
*Coordinator, Mary Jobe-Waddill*

