



H.E.L.P. House Community Outreach

122 East Center Street, London, OH 43140

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www.helphouse.info; Friend us on <http://www.facebook.com/Helphouse>

Agency of the United Way of Clark, Champaign and Madison Counties – Agency of the Mid-Ohio Food Bank

6,000 Are Hungry

Where? In Columbus?

No, Here in Madison County.

The most recent research from **Feeding America** tells us that 13.9% of the population of Madison County is food-insecure. That's over 6,000 people in just our county, let alone the counties around us.

On September 18, the Ohio Association of Foodbanks released national data from the Food Research and Action Center indicating that **“more than one in four households (26.1%) with children in Ohio reported an inability to afford enough food.”**

As the website of the Mid-Ohio Food Bank graphically portrays:

“Hunger isn't something you see.

It's not something you hear about in everyday conversation.

But it exists. Right here in our own community.”

At the H.E.L.P. House, we do see hunger. Children, our senior citizens and our disabled registrants are the most vulnerable.

For example, an older woman steered a stroller with a toddler into the H.E.L.P. House early one Saturday morning. As she registered for the first time, she shared her story with one of our volunteers. “Susie” and her husband had just moved into an apartment the day before, having just been granted custody of their four grandchildren, all under the age of 5. The couple had spent the day before cleaning the apartment, to be sure that the apartment would be ready for an inspection by a local agency in a few days. She and her husband had spent all of their savings to pay for a rental deposit as well as one month's rent, and had no money left over to purchase food, diapers or formula for their grandchildren. We were able to provide the couple with food and baby formula, plus diapers, personal hygiene items, a gently-used changing table and several outfits for the children.

God answers our prayers through you. And we were able to answer some of “Susie's” prayers through your donations. Thank you for all the ways that you support our outreach to those in need.

In Loving Kindness,

Dee

Delores Heilman, Director

Next Outreaches

Coat Drive: 10/19

- Need new and gently-used coats, scarves, boots; new gloves or mittens

Thanksgiving Outreach, 11/23

- Need monetary assistance for purchasing turkeys or hams
- Quantities of canned corn, green beans, instant potatoes, gravy packets, canned yams or sweet potatoes, dessert mixes or pie crusts and fillings.
- Need volunteers!

Christmas Party for Children, 12/8

- Need snacks and juice boxes
- Need hats & gloves
- Need volunteers

Christmas Shopping for Parents/Guardians, 12/14

- Need new / gently-used gifts and toys
- New / gently-used clothes
- New socks and underwear
- Need Volunteers for **Elf Nights and Elf Days** to wash & repair toys. Watch area newspapers for dates!
- We will plan an **Elf Night or Elf Day** just for you and your group!

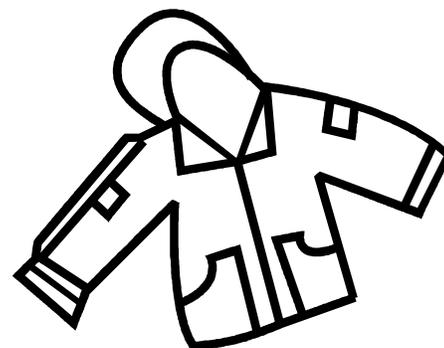
Winter Coat Drive: October 19

Brrrrr... the cold months are coming.

And there are literally hundreds of children, families and individuals in London and Madison County who are not ready.

**Have you cleaned your closets?
Anything to donate?**

Coats, scarves, gloves, mittens, hats, boots, etc.



Distribution Date: October 19

Please donate by: October 16

However, we'll welcome coats and winter-wear throughout the next few months.

Volunteer: Wednesday, October 16 (6-8 pm) or Saturday, October 19 (8 am – Noon)

Questions? Contact BJ Bryant, Outreach Coordinator, bbryant@addohio.org; 740.500.8986 (call or text)

Planning Ahead!

Christmas Party for Children – December 8th

(Donations due December 7th)

We need 100+ little gift bags, snacks, juice boxes, mittens

Christmas Shopping Day for Parents and Guardians

– December 14th

(Donations due by December 11th)

Volunteer!! Dec.11 (Noon-3pm and 6-8 pm);

Dec.12 (6-8 pm) and Dec. 14 (8 am–1 pm)

Parents select new & gently-used gifts to give to their children on Christmas morning.

We need toys, games, books, and gifts with a focus on ages 0 through middle school.

If we have enough to extend gifts to high school kids, we certainly will.



Watch www.helphouse.info and area newspapers for Elf Nights and Elf Days when we need your help cleaning and repairing gently-used gifts!

Or we can plan an Elf Night or Elf Day just for YOU and your group!

Food-of-the-Month Drive

October	Stuffing (for Thanksgiving) Canned Vegetables; Canned Fruit	We always need Baby Formula
November	Instant potatoes; gravy packets	
December	Canned Soup and Stews	

Thanksgiving Outreach: Saturday, November 23, 9 – Noon (Volunteers 8 – Noon)

Our annual Thanksgiving Outreach at the H.E.L.P. House is different from what you might imagine.

Consistent with our “choice” food pantry, on our Thanksgiving Dinner Outreach day, our clients have pre-registered to shop for items to make their own complete Thanksgiving Dinner, and they are able to select the foods that they want to prepare.

We have a goal of a complete Thanksgiving dinner that the clients would select to prepare on Thanksgiving Day.

1. Focusing on the Main Dish. We want to be sure that each family/individual will receive a significant frozen meat item (turkey, ham, etc.) on Saturday, November 23 to fix on Thanksgiving Day.
2. We will offer our clients other meal items (canned vegetables, instant potatoes, gravy packets, dessert mixes, etc.) from whatever amounts we have available from donations.

Our goal is enough food for **300+ families (1,000+ individuals)** so they can prepare their own special Thanksgiving Dinner.

**Can you be a Partner in creating a Thanksgiving “supermarket” at the H.E.L.P. House?
We appreciate your support!**

<i>Donations Suggested Menu</i>	<i>Volunteers We need you!</i>		
<i>Items we need by Nov. 20th at Noon</i>			
<p>Monetary donations are always appreciated – we will apply donations toward this year’s focus on the meat items:</p> <p>Turkey breasts, turkeys, hams</p> <p>Canned Corn or Canned Green Beans</p> <p>Instant potatoes Gravy packets (not canned or bottled)</p> <p>Stuffing Mix (boxed)</p> <p>Canned yams or sweet potatoes</p> <p>Dessert mixes or pie crusts & canned filling</p>	Wed. Nov. 20	Noon – 3 pm	Set-up of food stations Move tables Hang signs Clear out regular pantry
	Wed. Nov. 20	6 – 8 pm	Organize food stations
	Thurs. Nov. 21	6 – 8 pm	Organize food stations <i>(optional time, could be cancelled depending on work completed on Wednesday)</i>
	Sat. Nov. 23	8:00 – 1:00	<u>Thanksgiving Outreach:</u> Arrival at 8 am Training at 8:15 am Manage food stations Restock every hour Carry food to vehicles Clean up food stations (Noon – 1)
<i>Contacts for Donations and Volunteer Registration:</i>	BJ Bryant, Community Outreach Coordinator bbryant@addohio.org; 740-500-8986, or Chandra Kelly, Volunteer Coordinator chandrakelly@columbus.rr.com or 614-202-1741		

***As you enjoy your Thanksgiving Dinner,
you will know that others are having the same experience of gratitude.***

Our Mission

throughout the year and throughout our 14 years:

Mission Statement

*The H.E.L.P. House exists to serve children, families and individuals in poverty by providing food, clothing, emergency assistance, shelter, and God's love.
We focus on recognizing their struggles within a loving environment along with dignity and respect.*

Our Mission through the Holidays

During the holiday season, the H.E.L.P. House has more specific objectives:

- ♥ Focus on the children – how will they experience holidays? Similar to more fortunate kids, or differently?
- ♥ Focus on food – our desire that families will be able to sit down at a Thanksgiving table with a turkey or ham and the trimmings to let them know that there are many things for which to be thankful in spite of their challenges.
- ♥ Focus on God's love – God's love through trying to make sure that a kid in poverty wakes up on Christmas Day to find that he or she was not forgotten by "Santa Claus."
- ♥ Focus on the idea that the gifts being given to children are from their parents or guardians, not from a charity, helping the parents maintain dignity with their children.

We invite you to become engaged in helping the children, families and individuals in our community who will not automatically experience happy holidays due to their financial challenges.



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