



THE LIGHT

Christians Helping in Crisis™

Christian Clearing House

The light shines in the darkness ... (John 1:5a)

Summer 2018

Volume 5, Issue 2

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Power of Prayer

Prayer is powerful! God is always listening and helps heal the broken. At Christian Clearing House (CCH) there is a prayer board hanging on the wall. This is an easy way for those facing difficult or emergency crisis to ask for prayer. Staff, volunteers, churches and other read the board to extend prayer for the requests. Volunteers interviewing with clients often hear the heart wrenching stories (sometimes very difficult to listen to). They too add prayers to the board for those with extreme needs.

Those entering the CCH office come from all backgrounds and have many different needs. Some are homeless, some are single parents working in low paying job, some are facing a serious medical condition and are unable to work, whatever the situation, the client is treated with kindness and respect. Often those working, struggle because they have just enough money to make ends meet. When something happens (such as a car repair or a child being ill — causing them to miss work) it can send them into a downward financial spiral, making their world seem as if it is caving in.

The prayer board shows the depth of those facing crisis especially medical diagnoses. Here are just a few of the stories that the prayer board revealed:

Margaret was recently diagnosed with a cancerous growth on her optic nerve. Her doctor was located Columbus. Time was of the essence (in order to save her sight). CCH was able to

provide a gas voucher to get Margaret to the appointment.

Shelly's daughter, Hatley (age 2) was having difficulty breathing over the warm Memorial Day weekend. Hatley was recently diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis. CCH was able to provide the funds to purchase a small air conditioner to help Hatley breathe easier.

Robert was facing disconnection of his AEP electric service. His wife was on a breathing machine due to lung condition. The utility company had already offered all the assistance that was available. CCH was able to make a payment to help keep the power on.

CCH would like to thank everyone that keeps our the agency and those struggling in our community in your prayers. We could not do God's work without the love and support you provide. **We are truly blessed.**



**Christian
Clearing House**
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The Caring Cupboard at Work

Caring Cupboard Items Needed

- Baby wipes
- Body wash
- Diapers
- Dish detergent
- Deodorant
- Feminine products
- Hair conditioner
- Hand/bar soap
- Laundry detergent
- Paper towels
- Shampoo
- Shaving cream
- Tissues
- Toilet tissue
- Tooth brushes
- Tooth paste
- Travel size items
- Crockpots

***Laundry soap, toilet tissue and size 4&5 diapers are in high demand.**

Imagine what it would be like to have just changed your baby and using the very last diaper, or having no toilet tissue and stealing from a public facility.....not very pleasant thoughts. Many of the clients Christian Clearing House (CCH) help face these dilemmas daily. We see clients that have not bathed in days or children elated to receive a toothbrush because they have to share with a sibling. As unfortunate as it sounds, it is the reality that comes to life daily within the CCH office.

The cupboard donations started a few years back when a Boy Scout needing a project decided to solicit his church congregation for donations to make hygiene kits for individuals/families needing such items. In 2017, the cupboard had grown to an estimated dollar value on the items received and distributed of more than \$21,000. The cupboard often works in mysterious ways. Often the staff will look at the shelves and comment on how bare they have become, then someone will knock on the door or call stating that they have a donation of taxable items they would like to drop off.

CCH has a budget fund to purchase items when the shelves are empty, which typically is used to replenish laundry soap and toilet tissue. Many church congregations and business set up donation boxes during the holiday season to collect items for CCH. All donations are greatly appreciated and distributed directly to those with needs here in our community.

Summer is the time of the year the CCH office is the busiest. We believe the reason for the increase in assistance comes this time of the year because school is out, children are now eating additional meals at home and working parents need to pay for child care. Also, other assistance programs for utilities are inactive. At CCH, we see the families that are living on the edge that fall behind for many different reasons.

If you would like to help provide items for families with needs, please see the list. All donations (including monetary) are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.



Please drop off donations at:

**The Family Center
1800 N. Blanchard St. Suite 107
Findlay, Ohio 45840
419-422-2222**

Stuff the Bus/ Project Happy Feet

Stuff the Bus will take place on July 19—21 at McDonald's on Tiffin Ave. This community collaboration with Christian Clearing House, WFIN/WKXA, The Fox, The Findlay Publishing Company, McDonalds, The Family Center, and Stonebridge Church, distributed over 900 backpacks filled with school supplies to area children in 2017. The needs are always greater. However the supplies/cash donations that are collected at the bus is just the start —if your church or business would like to set up a collection box for supplies to help, donations can be dropped off at Stone Bridge Church on or before August 1st. Backpacks are always the largest need. The backpacks filled with supplies will be distributed prior to the start of school. Any remaining supplies are taken directly to the schools. We are requesting all donations be new.

If your interested in helping please contact the CCH office at 419-422-2222 for volunteer opportunities.

If you know of a family in need of receiving school supplies and shoes, registration is required. Applications to register will be available beginning **July 16, 2018** at The Family Center.

Not only does CCH work to coordinate the school supply distribution, we also work to raise enough funds for a program called Project Happy Feet. Through a voucher program, local children are able to receive a new pair of back to schools shoes. Without this program area children would not have suitable shoes to start the school year. For the past three years, over 1,500 children have received a voucher to go to the shoe store for a new pair of shoes.



The voucher is valued at \$50 and good for one pair of shoes. Any unused dollars come back to CCH to help provide shoes for additional children. 100% of dollars raised for Project Happy Feet go directly to help area children. Additional dollars are needed to continue the program.

In past years, funding for Project Happy Feet has been raised through community donations and grants from The Marathon LPGA, Rotary and The Findlay-Hancock Community Foundation Handbags that Help. If you would like to donate, please make checks payable to Christian Clearing House or donate via PayPal at www.cchsupport.org. Add Project Happy

Feet in the memo section.

At CCH we are.....

“Filling Shoes with Hopeful Futures.”

Why I Volunteer.....

I truly enjoy working with clients who are trying to better their lives and are in need of emergency help. The guidelines set by Christian Clearing House have made it easy to know how to help.



Carolyn Bryant
6 year volunteer



Christian Clearing House

1800 North Blanchard Street
Suite 107
Findlay, Ohio 45840
www.cchsupport.org

Our Vision:

Christian Clearing House represents Christ to the community through helping people become self-sustaining.

Our Mission:

To provide **emergency** assistance for our neighbor's facing financial, emotional, or spiritual needs in Hancock County.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID PERMIT #544
FINDLAY, OHIO

Wish List:

Caring Cupboard items (see page 2)
Office volunteers call 419-422-2222
Great Scot store receipts
Sign up for Kroger rewards at www.kroger.com

In Memory of:

Marilyn Miller
Doris Moore
John Andrews
Pauline Andrews

In Honor of:

Mark Miller
Brenda Steed

Please mark your calendars and join us for the following upcoming events, supporting Christian Clearing House and The Family Center. Please refer to the CCH website at www.cchsupport.org for more details on events.

- **July 16**.....Registration starts for Stuff the Bus/Project Happy Feet
- **July 19-21**.....Stuff the Bus at McDonald's (Tiffin Ave)
- **August 8**.....Annual Spaghetti Dinner at First Presbyterian Church
- **September 14**.....Annual Golf Outing at Sycamore Springs
- **September 27**.....Feasel's Garden Center Wine Tasting



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