

From: Lisa Cameron <LisaC@bridgeofhopeinc.org>

Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 8:10 AM

Subject: The Hands of Jesus

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Observing social distancing while dropping off the Strangers to Neighbors® training guides to Neighboring Volunteer, David Ostrow. We will be training by Zoom with the Gateway Church Neighboring Volunteers so that they can immediately begin walking with a family facing homelessness in the Coatesville area.

The Hands of Jesus

One of the grounding principles that guides the work of Bridge of Hope is the creation of an intentional network of support. Research shows that for most who are facing homelessness, the reasons are not what we may typically think. One of the underlying conditions that keeps people homeless is the lack of a support system. In this time of COVID-19, many of us are blessed to continue working from home, not feeling the financial strain that others are facing on a daily basis. Many of us have families that are relatively healthy; our children do not have underlying health issues that make them immune-compromised and more susceptible

to illness than others. And, many of us have a social network – a group or groups of people we trust, feel connected to, and can reach out to when we need something: our faith-based families, extended family and close friends to name a few.

The families that are currently being served in Bridge of Hope are not only facing homelessness. They are struggling with stable and gainful employment; mental health issues that have gone untreated; children whose health have been compromised by medical issues they were born with, or developed. God calls God's people to be the hands and feet of Jesus, and there are so many ways to help families find a renewed sense of hope – through prayer, financially giving to Bridge of Hope Chester County, and maybe being a Neighboring church for a family who is facing homelessness in your community. The opportunities to be hands and feet to a family are tangible, needed, and reciprocal.

SHOUT OUTS

We are so excited about our new families and Neighboring churches: Calvary Chapel in Chadds Ford has answered the call to neighboring and are walking with a mom and her three young children in West Chester, and Gateway Church in Parkesburg has a Volunteer Neighboring group that will be matched with a family of four in Coatesville.

Thank you to Cub Scout Troup 76, Frazer, who donated cleaning supplies just before COVID-19 struck – what a timely and much needed gift for families in Bridge of Hope!



HOW YOU CAN NEIGHBOR RIGHT NOW -

- Pray for us, for the families and staff of Bridge of Hope, and for new families seeking help.
- We are seeking landlords who are interested in partnering with Bridge of Hope. Specifically, we need to find a 2BR apartment in the East Goshen/West Chester area. Contact me to explore how we can work together.
- Laptops and devices are needed for families as many job and school opportunities are online these days. Please let us know if you have something you can donate!
- Looking for a vehicle donation for a family of 4. Transportation is vital in more rural areas of the county to get groceries and to work.
- Walmart gift cards for groceries for a family who is out of work during the pandemic.

You can reach me by email at LisaC@bridgeofhopeinc.org, send gift cards to P.O. Box 304, Exton PA 19341 or make a donation below to support families facing homelessness today.

DONATE NOW

A huge thank you to the new **Bridge of Hope Chester County Community Board** – we were able to meet before social distancing, and we are thrilled by this fantastic group of advisors and friends!

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