

# **Project Hope Happenings**

Fall Edition, 2015

Volume 2015, Issue 1 October - December

## A Pumpkin Spiced Hello!

While Omaha creeps its way into the season of blustery winds, hay wagon rides, and enchanting scenery, we at Project Hope have quite a few "changing leaves" of our own.



We are approaching the one year mark of residence here on 60th street ("A Tree Ring of Growth"), in August we welcomed Lutheran Volunteer Corps Member Amanda Zasada to the Project Hope staff ("From the Bright Lights to the Big City"), our physical and online spaces received a sprucing up ("Recent Updates"), and soon we will be heading into the busy holiday season ("Sharing the Holiday Harvest").

Project Hope would not have this assortment of "changing leaves" without your support, and so we extend to you, with all the sweetness of an apple pie, our heartfelt gratitude. Thank you for helping us ensure everyone enjoys the holiday season with food on the table and hearts filled with love.

- The Project Hope Family



# From the Bright Lights to the Big City

Amanda Zasada, a native of Platteville, Wisconsin, joined the Project Hope office on August 17 to complete a year of service made possible by the Lutheran Volunteer Corps. She will primarily serve as Volunteer Coordinator, in addition to working in various capacities within the intake and marketing departments.

Amanda recently earned a bachelor's degree in vocal music from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. UW-Platteville is located in a primarily agricultural area of Wisconsin, with all of Grant County boasting a population of just over 50,000. Amanda is greatly enjoying the new experience of living in Omaha.

During her time as a student, Amanda served as a music librarian for the UW-Platteville Performing and Visual Arts Department, taught private voice lessons, and worked as a performer and soloist throughout the Dubuque Tri-State Area.

## Project Hope, Inc.

6201 N. 60th St. Omaha, NE 68104

Phone: (402) 453-7649

#### Website:

www.projecthopeomaha.org

#### Email:

projecthope.lori@gmail.com

#### Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9am - 4pm Tues: Call for hours Thurs: 9am - 3pm

#### **Pantry Hours & Locations**

#### Main Location:

Mon, Wed & Fri 11am - 2:45pm 3rd Tues of the Month 5pm - 7pm

#### **Satellite Pantries:**

## **Holy Cross Lutheran**

4117 Terrace Dr. 3rd Thurs of the Month 5pm - 7pm

### St. Matthew's Lutheran

1725 S. 60th St. 3rd Sat of the month 10am - 12pm

## **Project Hope Staff**

Lori Lindberg **Executive Director** 

Amanda Zasada Volunteer Coordinator



We extend our warmest thanks to the following who have given in-kind donations such as food, clothing, and personal care items thus far in the 2015 calendar year. It is through the generosity and thoughtfulness of our many donors that we are able to serve as many people as we do.

Amy Ghegan Angela Thomas Anita Larson Andres

Arlene Lee
Ballard Fleming
Barry Arnold
Betty Neben
Bobby Lucas
Bonita Trompke
Brad Abbott

Bruce & Jayne Dean Calvary Lutheran Church

Cathy Urwin
Charlie Allen
Cheryl Matthews
Dana Engel
Darcy Cottone
Deb Becker
Diane Burt
Don Kusek

Erin & Greg Salton

Gina Pierce

Gloria Washington

Grace Parys Gretna Neighbors Helen Oldenkamp Immanuel Lutheran Church Jeremy & Marni Frandson

John Marty

Jolene Wells-Pudron Kathleen Rummel Kathy Nelson Keith Rummel Ken Fortney Koontz Memorial LaDonna Middendorf

Leon Komar Luther Memorial

Lutheran Church of the Master

Marcy Lillethorup Mark Bandemer

Mark Sall Marla Serflaten Melinda Classen

Modern Woodmen of America Mount Olive Lutheran Church Mt Calvary Lutheran Church Nikki & Ryan Spurgeon

Nola Mills

Pacific Hills Lutheran

Pat Meisel Phillip Becher Rebecca Hurt

Rejoice! Lutheran Church
Resurrection Lutheran Church

Rick Iske

Rob & Linda Johns Ruth Johnson Sandy Leimer Sarah Marty

Sharon & Nelson Newman

Shawn Lorenzen
Sherry Hansen
Sienna Francis house
St Michael Lutheran Church

St Thomas Lutheran Church St. Johns Lutheran Church St. Mark Lutheran Church

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Millard St. Paul Lutheran Church, Omaha St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

Susan Dabney Sven Jasinski

Trinity Lutheran Church

Vicki Littler Woody Peet Zena Alexander Zion Lutheran Church

## **Recent Updates**

- Expanded website to better inform clients and donors
- Updated bulletin boards for visual appeal
- Clothing sorted by size for easier browsing

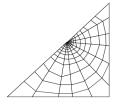
Be sure to drop by to see all the exciting changes in person!

# Help Us Spin the Spider's Web

Project Hope is always looking for volunteers! If you would like to lend a helping hand, feel free to contact us about when and where we can best utilize your time and talents.

### **Example Volunteer Duties**

- Greeting clients and verifying identification information
- Inputting client information into our database (specialized training would be provided)
- Guiding clients through the choice pantry
- · Loading groceries into clients' vehicles
- Unloading the food truck
- Stocking Shelves
- · Sorting through and organizing clothing





## A Tree Ring of Growth

Last October we moved to the basement of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church on 60th Street and Sorenson Parkway. We have been in our new location for about a year now, and although we are up and running, we seem to be constantly changing our set-up and continuing to organize our food.

We are getting into a groove with our daily routines, but it seems we always have room for improvement. We are in need of volunteers from the community. Our opportunities are varied and can be completed in whatever hours work best for your schedule. We welcome volunteers on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (for more information, see the article on the previous page).

We are looking forward to Jonathan Helmberger working on his Eagle Scout project. He will be building an outside storage unit for Project Hope. It will be weather tight, allowing us to store our extra inventory in an out-of-the-way space. Most importantly, it will help Jonathan achieve his Eagle Scout rank, the highest attainable in Boy Scouts of America.

If you haven't made it out to our new location, I invite you to visit. You can come to chat, come to donate, or even come and volunteer. I would love to give you a tour and say "Hi!"

Blessings! Lori

## **Sharing the Holiday Harvest**

The November/December holiday season is always a busy time at Project Hope. Last year we served nearly 1,300 households, and we expect increased numbers this year. During this time, we give out specialized holiday food baskets with the following items\*:



Stuffing (\$2)\*\*

Onion Topping (\$2.50)

Sweet Potatoes (\$2.50)

Cake Mix (\$1)

2 Cans Green Beans (\$2)

2 Gravy Packets (\$3)

Mushroom Soup (\$1)

Large Jello (\$0.70)

Approx. Total: \$22

	Extra donations of these items or monetary gifts would lead to another successful holiday season. Let us know how you would like to participate in Project Hope's cornucopia of blessings by filling out and returning the form below.			
Name:	: Phone Number:			
√lailin,	g Address:			
	all that apply: vill personally buy holiday food basket items to donate.	Send completed form and check (if applicable) to:		
	vill organize a food drive for holiday food basket items.	check (ii applicable) to.		
lw	vill cover the cost of <b>1</b> holiday food basket <b>(\$22)</b> vill cover the cost of <b>10</b> holiday food baskets <b>(\$220)</b> vill cover the cost of holiday food baskets <b>(\$22 per basket)</b>	Project Hope 6201 N. 60th St. Omaha, NE 68104		

<sup>\*</sup>Meat choices are not included in this list. If you would like to help cover the cost of meat, please contact us.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Listed prices are approximate.

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## Pantry Services in 2014 and 2015

MONTH	2014 HOUSEHOLDS	2014 INDIVIDUALS	2015 HOUSEHOLDS	2015 INDIVIDUALS
Jan	644	1,553	487	1,095
Feb	442	884	364	717
Mar	605	1,310	437	971
April	648	1,519	429	917
May	511	1,150	346	744
June	609	1,557	397	899
July	649	1,639	423	963
Aug	681	1,617	353	713
Sept	622	1,512	~350	~850
Oct	530	1,168	-	-
Nov	814	1,909	-	-
Dec	475	1,099	-	-
Totals	7,230	16,917	-	-

Numbers are lower this year because of our move in October 2014. We anticipate an increase in our numbers in 2016 as word gets out that we are here and available to help those in need.



Find us on Facebook Like us on Facebook to get up to the minute updates from our pantry.