



THE Waysider

Be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only. (James 1.22)

DIRECTOR'S CORNER: IN FROM THE COLD



Samaritan Patrol offers blankets and food to homeless individuals.

Louisville's recent near-record cold Christmas served as stark reminder of our community's homeless population. It also reminded us of our obligation to protect each other from the elements.

According to Louisville Homeless Statistics in 2021, 10,640 people were homeless with 55% in a shelter, 10% inside on extreme weather nights, and 35% on streets or elsewhere.

Wayside's Good Samaritan Patrol takes to the streets seeking homeless persons who are at risk of exposure, malnutrition, and who seek a place at our shelter. For those who do not wish to come to our shelter, we provide food, warm clothing, hot coffee, blankets, and Bibles.

Thanks to our Good Samaritan Patrol, (since 1988) deaths from exposure have dramatically dropped in Louisville. Our Samaritan Patrol drivers know where homeless people camp. It often takes repeated visits for our drivers to gain their trust. (Note: Volunteers are generally assigned one night a week to perform Patrol duty.) Ref. Luke 10:25-37.



The Shelter took in 80+ more people than usual over the Christmas weekend.

Your support helps keep our Good Samaritan Patrol on the streets. We need more volunteer drivers and donors who are willing to support this life-saving service. Will you please stand with us? **Text/Call 345-9030**

"If one of your country men becomes poor and is unable to support himself among you, help him..."
Leviticus 25:35

YOU CAN HELP!

- ✓ Pray
- ✓ Volunteer
- ✓ Donate

- Cash
- Used Autos
- In-Kind Gifts (food and supplies)
- Gifts of Appreciated Assets (stock, real estate, etc.)

For more information, call the Mission:
(502) 584-3711



Homeless clients enjoyed a hot Thanksgiving meal and entertainment from the *Down By The Wayside Choir*.

PEOPLE SHOWING THEIR LOVE THROUGH THEIR ACTIONS.



Homeless individuals lined up for freshly grilled burgers and more on Thanksgiving.



Families celebrated Christmas Eve by taking photos with Santa Claus and receiving a wide variety of gifts.



After a hearty breakfast, these kids were having a blast on Christmas morning at *Hotel Louisville*.



Veterans were honored with a special country dance sponsored by Barbara & Chet.



Warm Wayside donated hundreds of coats, toys, and many other gifts to our homeless clients.



Fleur's Dream contributed food, clothing, toiletries and much more.



The **Kiwanis Club** helped children and parents enjoy 'Breakfast with Santa' at **Hotel Louisville**.



Priory of the Holy Sepulchre donated 900 pounds of turkey and 1800 pounds of ham.



Hwang's Martial Arts brought nearly 12,000 canned goods (72,000 pounds) of food to the Mission.



ARDI'S BEARS donated many large bags of new stuffed animals for our homeless children.



SEE MORE PHOTOS & VIDEOS at www.waysidechristianmission.org/holiday-love

www.waysidechristianmission.org

WAYSIDE HELPS LIZ AVOID 'SPIRALING OUT OF CONTROL'



Liz is now an alumna of the *Sober Living Program* and staff member.

What led you from Houston to Louisville?

"I had been to a rehab facility in Houston last year and I had relapsed. I was trying to get back into that facility, but it became really hard. While in Houston, I had almost given up and was looking to see if I could travel back to my original home in Kenya. I was checking plane ticket prices and one of my family members sent me a text. It had the name Kris Gordon from Wayside Christian Mission in Louisville. And below that text she said to call this lady, she might be able to help. I decided to give it a chance. I called Kris. She said, 'Yeah, just come on over, give it a chance.' I asked her, 'What do I need?' She said, 'Just bring yourself.' So, I made the trip. And I'm glad I did."

Why did Wayside's *Sober Living Program* work for you?

"For me, Wayside's 12-step program is more realistic than the cognitive behavioral therapy I received in Houston. Those counselors tried to convince me all I needed to do was change my thinking."

"With Wayside, my understanding of alcoholism has changed. Now I know exactly why I can call myself an alcoholic and why I cannot drink. I didn't know that then. The Houston group never told me what was going to happen if I did take a drink. The Wayside program explained I'd spiral out of control. That's something that's just stuck in my head."

What are your plans for the future?

"I'm a nurse by training. And, in addition to pursuing my nursing career, I'm thinking of opening a rehab center back in Kenya. I have spoken to a lot of people and they tell me, 'Yeah, I was in rehab for three weeks. I just drink a little bit here.' But I now know that was not rehab. They were just in detox for three weeks. I would love more than anything to go back to my country and open up a true rehab center. I have a lot of research to do because there's a lot of red tape to go through and they make it difficult. But that is my ultimate goal, hopefully in the next two to three years."



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Call Kris today at 502-345-9030

BECOME A LIFESAVER IN 2023

The *Lifesavers Club* makes supporting Wayside Christian Mission easy by providing a monthly reminder of the pledge size which fits your budget. To join, simply complete the form below and mail in the enclosed envelope.

Yes, I would like to give monthly \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Did I send that
check to the
Mission this
month?



Member
Citygate
Network

Urgent Needs

TOWELS (new/used)
Meat & Vegetables
Pillows & Pillow Cases
Washers & Dryers
Bottled Water
Cars & Trucks
Toilet Paper
Twin-sized Sheets/Blankets
Laundry Detergent
Furniture
Bibles
Text/Call 345-9030