

"We, who acknowledge God's providence and fidelity to his people, especially those in poverty, do dedicate our efforts toward the support of those who are homeless. Our goal is to deliver to the homeless those basic human needs, care and compassion that is not usually received from other organizations."



NEWS

"Taking care and compassion to the homeless."

2015 Board of Directors

Matthew Beal
Jim Burton
Jo Bustamante
Jim Carson
Angela Cunningham
Kathy Dean
Andre Logan
Trinidad Molina
Heather Rowe
Dan Schipfer, Chairman
Jennifer Schmidt
Jim Schmidt
Samantha Shannon
Pat Thomson
Margo Yerik

2015 Officers

Kathy Dean, President
Samantha Shannon, VP Administration
Jennifer Schmidt, VP Internal Operations
Jim Schmidt, VP Outreach Operations
Andre Logan, Treasurer
Margo Yerik, Recording Secretary

A letter from our President



Dear Volunteers and Donors,
As we come to the end of 2014 I am at a loss for words to express the gratitude that I feel for every one of you.

We have had more groups working in the warehouse this year than ever before. Thank you to all the schools, churches, hospitals, and businesses that sent workers to give so much of their time making it easier for us to get out each night to help the homeless.

The greatest lesson I learned this year is how much our service means to the homeless. I am blessed when they tell me about something that we did for them. Something that I see as the smallest act of kindness, to them it means the world. I continue to be moved by the compassion of our volunteers. One very cold night in November I witnessed one volunteer on my truck take off his shoes and give them to a homeless girl because she was only wearing socks.

The hardest thing this year, and every year, is knowing that even though we give food, clothes, compassion and a lot of love to our

friends, they continue to struggle just to survive.

It has been a very successful year. We are thankful for a few homeless people that have made it off the streets this year! We have jumped every hurdle placed in front of us, and have come out stronger. I don't know what 2015 has in store for us, but I have no doubt that with God leading us, and with each of you walking beside us, we will continue taking care and compassion to our homeless friends on the streets of Kansas City.

"Even if it's a little thing, do something for those who have need of a man's help, something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it. For, remember, you don't live in a world all your own. Your brothers are here too."
-Albert Schweitzer

God Bless You and Happy New Year!
Kathy Dean

Urgent Needs

- As we move forward toward Spring, we will need t-shirts, bug spray, deodorant, canned meat and canned fruit.
- Cooks are needed to prepare meals for approximately 30 to 60 people. Call Margo Yerik at (816) 516-1304 for more information or go to our website at www.uplift.org.



Search for
Uplift Organization Inc.
page to stay current with
Uplift happenings!

Testimonial

I greatly valued the time we were able to spend serving with Operation Uplift. Being able to go to the people was an incredible blessing! Having done much work with food pantries and serving food to the poor in the past has always been enjoyable, but I have never actually gone to where the people are and live in the streets. Meeting people where they are at is what we are called to do, and Operation Uplift exemplifies that very teaching of the Gospels. This experience is one of a kind and I hope that it may blossom into other areas in the country as well. It's one thing to have food and clothing drives for various charities, but it's a completely different and humbling experience to go and be with the people and see how they live. I will not forget seeing the people come to us from about any place imaginable to receive their first warm meal in at least three days. Their gratitude and the service of those who work with Operation Uplift is a great encouragement for us to see that there is still plenty of good in the world. As long as they keep spreading joy and warmth to each other, there will not be a shortage of hope for the rest of us, who seeing this witness cannot wait to have the chance to serve others again in a similar fashion. Keep up the good work, and if anyone gets the chance to volunteer at Uplift, I highly recommend it! God bless.

Michael Wilms
Seminarian, Conception Abbey

Special Thanks

Ryan & Dana Van Sickle
Triumph Construction Supply
Morning Day Café
The Global Project
Management Group, LTD.
Donald Buckholz
Brent & Jennifer Wilson



Giving Back

Miranda Barchers owns an unusual café in Liberty, MO. The Morning Day Café, located at 6 E. Franklin St., hires only people willing to give back to those in need. She doesn't have a staff - she has a family. Each month they choose an organization to give all their tips to. We were thrilled that Uplift was chosen to receive the tips from the months of November and December.

Morning Day Café held an open house Tuesday, December 30th from 8:30 - 10:30 p.m. that featured hand crafted cigar box guitars by Lin Morrison and live music by Shaun Stewart. The Café served organic coffee beverages, great appetizers and wine. A good time was had by all!

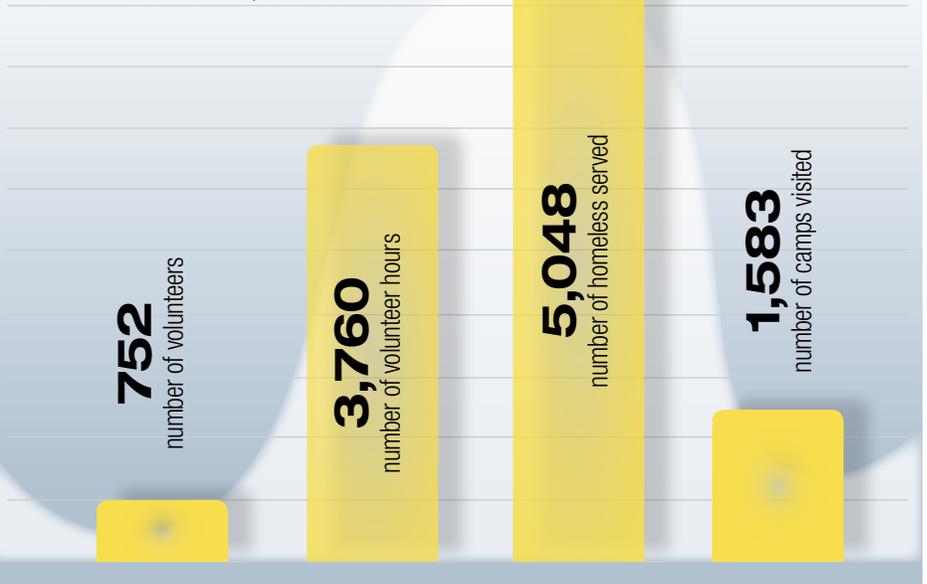
Lin Morrison donated one of her fine cigar box guitars for a silent auction to benefit Up-

lift. The auction was won by musician, Shaun Stewart.

I was excited to be allowed to tell about what we do at Uplift. I explained our mission of helping those who have nothing. You can imagine how thrilled and shocked I was when Miranda presented me with a check for \$2,573.62. I know how hard she and every one on her staff worked for that money. When I saw them standing there it was obvious that they were as happy to give the money to Uplift as I was to receive it. You could feel so much love in the room. It was a great evening and we are deeply thankful to everyone involved!

Thank you Miranda and the Morning Day Café family for your generosity!

2014 Fourth Quarter Stats





Left: Group of Bishop Miega students in front of Uplift van. Above: Bishop Miega students packaging medical supplies for the homeless.

Bishop Miega Sophomores Tour Uplift Warehouse

In September and October, the sophomore class of Bishop Miega High School, accompanied by their teachers, traveled to the Uplift warehouse to learn about how Uplift ministers to the homeless of Kansas City. The classes watched a short video about the work that Uplift does. They toured the warehouse and saw where the donations are sorted and stored until they are ready to go out on the vans. They also took a tour through one of the Uplift vans. Each group helped package aspirin, Ibuprofen,

Tums, cough drops and other medical supplies. They also packaged cat and dog food and laundry soap.

After working for a couple of hours, the group ate lunch at the warehouse. While eating, Kathy Dean, president of Uplift, talked to the kids about the plight of the homeless. She also asked them what they thought of when someone mentioned the homeless. Some of the responses were.....dirty, cold, smelly and poor. Kathy explained that when you meet the home-

less and get to know them you see that they are human beings just like us who for many different reasons became homeless. Sometimes just one bad decision when they were young put them on the path to homelessness. Kathy also told a few of her favorite stories about her homeless friends.

Kathy also told the students how they could become involved with Uplift by coming to the sort day at the warehouse on the second Saturday of each month or they could sign up to go out on one of the vans to feed the homeless. Or, they could sponsor a food, toilet paper, hand warmer, deodorant, blanket or clothing drive at their school.



Allan Degenhardt and daughter with 4,000 handwarmers.

The Man Up organization

The Man-Up organization has partnered with Uplift to bring care and compassion to the homeless of Kansas City. Man-Up is a relaxed-open and non-judgmental Christian men's group which meets once a month where men can share a meal and have open discussions on an issue or questions related to the bible. They sponsored **Hand Warmers for the Homeless** and collected 4,000 hand warmers. The Man-Up team along with generous donations from many individuals, a church group and several businesses were able to collect a small mountain of coats, hats, gloves, blankets. Our heartfelt thanks to Man Up for their generosity and caring!



Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage PAID
Mail Works

PO Box 270175
1516 Prospect
Kansas City, Missouri 64127-0175
www.uplift.org

Important Upcoming Dates

Tuesday,	January 20, 2015
7:00 p.m	Board Meeting
Saturday,	February 14
9:00 a.m.....	Warehouse Sort Day
Saturday,	March 14
9:00 a.m	Warehouse Sort Day
Saturday,	April 11
9:00 a.m	Warehouse Sort Day

Stay Connected...

Uplift Volunteers & Donors can now:

- Visit our website at www.uplift.org
- Sign up to receive our newsletter and blog updates via email – go to our website and click on Blog to subscribe
- We hope you enjoy the new look of our newsletter. If you have articles or comments, please send them to the editor:
Pat Thomson, pthomson43@gmail.com.
- Changes of address should be sent to Jennie Wheeling at jen3x9@gmail.com

Volunteer Opportunities

Outreach

Help deliver meals to the homeless. Uplift trucks “roll out” at 6 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. 5pm Saturdays. The average route takes 2-3 hours. Please call in advance to schedule your participation. Contact: Jo Bustamante at (816) 524-0024

Prepare Meals

As cold weather approaches our numbers dramatically increase. Cooks are needed to prepare meals for approximately 30 to 60 people. Call Margo Yerk at (816) 516-1304 for more information or go to our website at www.uplift.org.

Warehouse Sort Day

9:00-12:00 pm. The second Saturday of every month we sort donations, stock our shelves, fold clothes, and have a good old time doing it. If you are planning on bringing a large group please contact us first. (816) 241-0060 or Email: uplift.org@att.net