

VOICE of COMPASSION



“All this,” David said, “I have in writing as a result of the Lord’s hand on me, and he enabled me to understand all the details of the plan.” 1 Chronicles 28:19

**...FOCUS IN THIS EDITION
HUNGRY FOR A PLAN
AND SUCCESS!**

"MAY HE GRANT YOUR HEART'S DESIRES AND MAKE ALL YOUR PLANS SUCCEED." PSALM 20:4 (NLT)



ANN EBBERT

President

What is success? It's really very different for us all.

- For some it's the "American dream" complete with a picket fence and new car
- For some it's a vibrant life of faith and a community of healthy relationships
- For still others it's beating the health care diagnosis odds and coming through the illness different but intact
- For still others it's having a safe and predictable environment where they can begin to address a lifetime of trauma
- And for others it's finishing an educational program to be able to enter into a meaningful living wage career.

Some of these bullet points have been true for me at different stages of my life. I've had dreams and desires that have created my next goals. Those goals set in motion plans to take certain steps and access specific opportunities to achieve success. I've been blessed all along that path to be surrounded by a sea of people who have lifted me up when needed, granted me access to their networks of people and have encouraged me all along the way.

This is how Cherry Street, through your investment of volunteer time, financial support, and prayers of encouragement, provides a pathway for individuals to get "Ready for Life" and to fulfill God's plan for us all. We all are hungry for some kind of success. Guests at Cherry Street get the opportunity to sit with an advocate, develop goals and set up plans to achieve those goals. The goals of guests are as varied as yours have been throughout your life. Under the one roof of Cherry Street, people have the tools they need to keep moving forward toward a life that works.

In this newsletter you will get the opportunity to read about many of the people that share that hunger for success with you. I'm excited for you to see!

Hungry for success with you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Ebbert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Ebbert



HUNGRY FOR A PLAN AND SUCCESS

In partnership, Robert and Cherry Street Mission Ministries crafted together a personal development plan for success in Robert's life. Robert has been successfully moving forward in that personal development plan because he knows what success looks like and is hungry for success again and to fulfill God's Plan.

He came to Cherry Street without any other place to go. After a few meals and a few nights at Cherry Street he enrolled in the call center/customer service Work Force Development classes. Soon after graduation, Robert secured himself a job in a local call center. After less than 6 months, Robert has been awarded the Employee Of The Week award out of nearly 65 other employees. "My next step is housing," says Robert.

Each step that Robert has taken towards his success have been celebrated and encouraged by the staff at Cherry Street. Sometimes when Robert comes in from a long day at work staff line up to give him high-fives in a gauntlet. This praise is deserved because Robert works very hard, often being gone 13 hours a day. He picks up extra shifts whatever he can and works as many days as he can.

Robert has been applying nearly every dime he has been earning to clear up debts from his past so he can move forward in the clear and without barriers. He still has a few problems to clean up from his past. In the meantime, he continues to stay at Cherry Street. This will allow him time to pay down debt and save for his security deposit and first month's rent.

**"FOR I KNOW THE
PLANS I HAVE FOR
YOU," DECLARES THE
LORD, "PLANS TO
PROSPER YOU AND
NOT TO HARM YOU,
PLANS TO GIVE YOU
HOPE AND A FUTURE."
JEREMIAH 29:11**

Mostly preferring to hang out by himself, Robert has a few quality friends over a large quantity of friends. He has made friends at work and has made a few connections with people at Cherry Street. "Cherry Street has helped me out," stated Robert. Maintaining relationships is difficult because Robert is keeping is keeping his goals in sight and stays busy working towards those goals.

"Just being down at Cherry Street has been an eye opening experience for me. I'm from out in the country and this has been humbling for me. This is not where I thought I would end up in life. You can either let it keep you down or you can go through it. You can choose to get up. I took this opportunity to teach myself how to look at life in a different light," said Robert.

His faith is an important part of his life and has been fortified while at Cherry Street. "The majority of my tattoos are religious based," Robert said. Robert would like people to slow down to see people for what they truly are. Cherry Street joins Robert in that sentiment: to see beyond someone's past, beyond their appearances, instead seeing the potential into their transformation.

Robert said, "I wouldn't have the job that I have now if it wasn't for Cherry Street's program". But it was Robert who did the hard work. It is the support of the community; and people like you; who are making it possible to address the needs of those who are hungry for success.

PILLAR OF HOPE



As a retired Springfield Schools teacher, our anonymous donor is a private and humble man. He and his wife are faithful donors to Cherry Street and are considered Pillar of Hope donors. Each month they send in a donation to Cherry Street which allows Cherry Street to accurately budget and accurately make plans for future programming with our guests.

The vast need in the family setting today is what inspires this donor.

Living on a fixed income our donor says, "I set my budget on a weekly basis." Each week he and his wife set money aside for items such as groceries and gasoline. They ensure that Cherry Street is also a part of that money set aside.

When asked why he chooses Cherry Street he shared how they are flooded with requests every day. At one time he counted nearly 50 different nonprofits mailing requests. We choose to support the community that we live in. My dad taught me people are in need and it's important to share our blessings. It's just part of our routine. I live in this area and we certainly have need here. You need it, you do great things for my community- so we give it to you," said the donor.

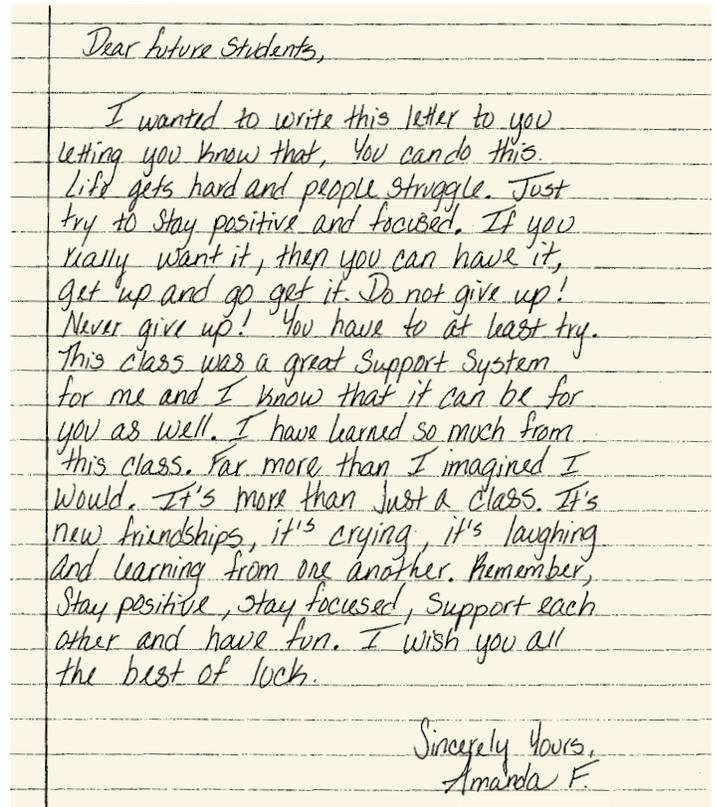
He and his wife value future generations as well. They have lived all their life in this community. They want to see next generations prosper in the way he and his family have by supporting his community. He also wants to see his small donation being put to the most use and with an organization that is wisely stewarding his gifts.

As a monthly Pillar of Hope donor, donors agree in providing opportunities for success. Pillars of Hope are the vital foundation of our ability to better budget and plan how we will serve our community. You make success possible by **investing** in the men and women that come to Cherry Street. Investment from donors makes it possible for trust and consistency to be built in the lives of those hungry for change.

For more information about how you can become a Pillar of Hope, contact Andrea Casteel at 419.214.3312 or acasteel@cherrystreetmission.org.

DEAR FUTURE STUDENT:

Students of the recently graduated Call Center/ Customer Service cohort wrote letters to anyone who is considering continuing their education through Cherry Street. Anyone interested in Workforce Development can contact Cherry Street at 419.214.6776 for details.



THANK YOU KROGER - ZERO HUNGER/ZERO WASTE



The Mac Street Café has been a means for Cherry Street to leverage meals into meaningful conversations. Those conversations lead to true change, hope and redemption for thousands of people.

No one should spend the biggest food centered holiday in America alone or without a traditional Thanksgiving meal. A recent gift from Kroger provided a portion of the food served around Thanksgiving.

When you "round up" at Kroger at the time of check-out, your donation goes into the Zero Hunger, Zero Waste Foundation. The foundation then provides a portion of your gift to Cherry Street and other local charities.

BE THE BRIDGE EVENT WRAP UP

A team of supporters of Cherry Street collaborated with community leaders and other professionals to create an event to benefit Cherry Street. The Be The Bridge event was held under the Martin Luther King, Jr bridge on a glorious, autumn day.

Guests of the event commented on the unique venue and the perfect backdrop to the concept. The Be The Bridge concept was developed to highlight the possibility to take a human out from under a bridge of oppression and instead provide resources to create a bridge up and over to the side of independence and stability.

The lavish meal was provided by the partnering restaurants of The Beirut, Byblos, Poco Piatti, Balance, Chop House, Mancy's Steakhouse, Premier Catering, Rachel Michael's Gourmet Popcorn, Registry Bistro, The Blarney, and Cafe Donuts.

The Be The Bridge committee was Carter Bayer, Mike Bell, Andrea Casteel, Ann Ebbert, Margaux Ford, and John Jones. The chairs of the committee were Labib and Karyn Hajjar, and Bob and Barrie Howell.



DOING MORE TOGETHER



As a part of the “Under-One-Roof, Holistic Approach” Cherry Street believes a component to the success of others is to remove common barriers. As a part of this philosophy, A Renewed Mind (ARM) has offices in the Life Revitalization Center for two years now. ARM is a behavioral health provider.

In this short time they have now grown from a part time office to staffing two full-time counselors and three case managers operating out of the offices on the second floor of the Life Revitalization Center.

As a centrally located office this works well for many clients ARM supports. “When clients move out of Cherry Street; if they are close in the area; it is convenient for them to continue working with myself or my colleagues who have offices here. We have quite a few clients from this area who don’t stay at Cherry Street Mission Ministries but used to,” says Mona Kaufman, a counselor at ARM. This is another way for our collaborating partnership between

ARM and Cherry Street to continue to offer support and build towards stability in a person’s life.

“People getting released straight from the hospital to Cherry Street might be referred to other treatment facilities. If transportation is an obstacle then the patient does not follow through with the aftercare they need. That just means they are never going to follow up with outpatient services. And then they’re going to be right back where they started from. It’s a vicious cycle,” said Mona. “With us here we are readily available to all.”

With a patient’s permission; which is often the case; Cherry Street and [A Renewed Mind] can share information back and forth as it is appropriate. That allows Cherry Street advocates to use that knowledge to open conversations. It’s a tactic to not allow someone to feel hopeless or that they are spinning out of control.

“Every time we have somebody here for an assessment, we asked them to sign a release of information for the Cherry Street, for housing and for Job and Family services, among other service providers. Often that means that the paperwork is filed with all the agencies all in that same day. We prioritize their needs,” explained Mona.

Some community members and guest at Cherry Street still hold the stigma of mental health and behavioral health counseling in their minds. Mona continued, “A lot of times we make connections with clients because I have talked to them

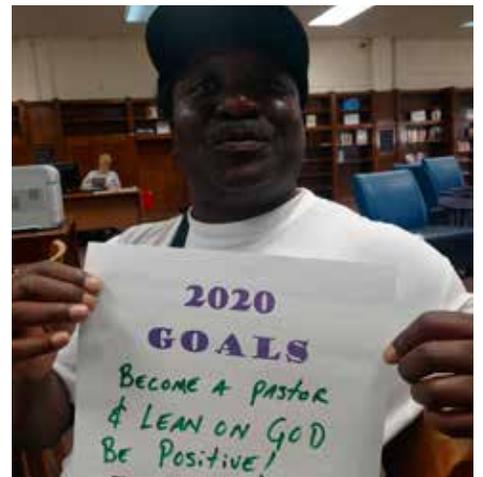
in the Mac Street Cafe before they even became a client. We are not just here for our clients, we are here to provide support for anyone who needs it. I had one woman tell me she would never talk to a counselor- that she disliked counselors. I looked at her and I jokingly said ‘hi I’m Mona. I’m a counselor.’ She started laughing. She had been talking to me about once or twice a week for over a month. We finished our conversation with her filling out the paperwork and I see her next week. It’s just about getting somebody comfortable about talking about what’s going on in their lives.”

By using the internal software system Cherry Street utilizes; counselors and case managers at ARM can enter reminders into a client’s account. This means if a client is eating breakfast at the Mac Street Cafe an advocate can remind the client of their appointment later that day.

“We have been jokingly accused of prowling the parking lot and trolling the Café I’m not afraid to have a counseling session on the guardrail in the parking lot while someone is smoking a cigarette. If that’s what makes them more comfortable then that’s where we are going to have our talk. And we will hunt them down if they have missed their appointment,” said Mona.

Overall Mona says the partnership between Cherry Street and A Renewed Mind helps both agencies to engage people that otherwise might fall through the cracks.

2020 GOALS



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



"Giving back, serving dinner, or donating our time is such a small thing. But we as a country can do so much more, by coming together, and not turning our faces away from the less fortunate in our communities. Just seeing the smiles on their faces warms my heart, and that's thanks enough. Let's come together in our community and make a difference. Big or small, it all adds up."

-Alisa Garza, Department of Developmental Disabilities

"We decided to volunteer at Cherry St., Mission because our desire was to be able to help someone with not just a meal but to offer a smile and a simple hello. After all, that may be their only meal or conversation of hope and they got it from you. I can find no better way for a business to serve the community than to serve a meal FOR them!"

-Scott Goodwin, SSOE



"E.S. Wagner Company serves breakfast at the Life Revitalization Center on a regular basis and I would encourage any local business to take the opportunity to volunteer at Cherry Street Mission Ministries. Not only will your volunteerism provide a much needed service for one of the most important and impactful organizations in this region, but I promise that the shared experience of providing a meal and a kind word to someone in need will deeply affect those who serve."

-John C Wagner, E.S. Wagner Co.

"In Rotary we believe in Service Above Self. Our commitment to Cherry Street has given us the opportunity to fulfill our duty to serve others in our community. We find tremendous value in the Mission and work being done by Cherry Street and come away with gratitude each and every time we work to serve the needs of the residents."

-Jennifer Kiernan, Board for The Rotary Club of Maumee



"We really want to do more than just donate or send money. We want to volunteer our time to get more of a personal connection out of it. I am so happy that we can make a small difference in the lives of the people who live in the Toledo community."

-Bridget Schoen, Penske

COST OF A DAY



\$33.02
DAILY COST

Suzy Guest just comes for meals
(Meals)

\$36.41
DAILY COST

Joe Guest has a bed, eats at the cafe, and receives advocacy
(Residential + Meals + Advocacy)

\$62.10
DAILY COST

Bob Guest is a community member in Call Center training
(Work Force)

\$98.51
DAILY COST

Mary Guest receives all our services
(Residential + Meals + Advocacy + Work Force Dev)

Give now at cherrystreetmission.org/give

Voice of Compassion is a publication of:

CHERRY ST. MISSION MINISTRIES

1501 Monroe St. • Toledo, OH 43604



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Donate Food

Your donations of food enable us to provide homeless and near-homeless men, women, and families with over 600-800 meals each day, in the form of hot meals. Food donations must have been prepared in ServSafe® method or donated as a whole, uncooked food.

Please bring your donations to:

Cherry Street's Life Revitalization Center Building
1501 Monroe Street (former Macomber School)
Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Donate Non-Food Items

Your donations of non-food items provide dignity to our guests 365 days a year. We accept donations of toiletries, winter gear, socks, scrubs and underclothing for both men and women.

Please bring your donations to:

Cherry Street's Life Revitalization Center Building
1501 Monroe Street (former Macomber School)
Weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Call **419-214-3007** for more information.

Donate Assets

Cherry Street accepts stocks, bonds, trusts, jewelry, real estate, boats, RVs, and other vehicles. If you would like additional information on ways to donate, contact Cherry Street at csmm@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3007.

CONGRATS TO THE NEW GRADUATES!



Congratulations to the recent graduating class of 23 people. The class received their certificates from Owens Community College or Northwest State Community College.

For more information about Cherry Street or the *Voice of Compassion*, contact Nikki Morey at nmorey@cherrystreetmission.org or 419-214-3410.