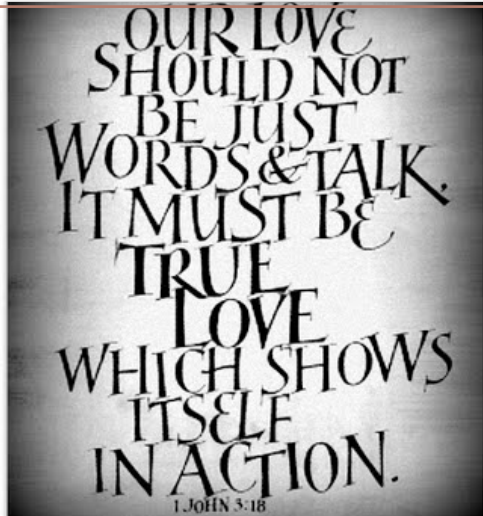


# THE CENTER

FEBRUARY 2014

## OUR MISSION.....

The Center is a group of ministries seeking Christ centered actions to alleviate the pain of the oppressed and marginalized.



TO BOOK AN EVENT AT THE CENTER PLEASE OR TO VOLUNTEER IN ONE OF THE MANY MINISTRIES

HELPS US HELP OTHERS.

563-323-5295

## LOVE REVOLUTION

As Christians, we are called to show others love. Jesus told His disciples, "By this shall all [men] know that you are My disciples, if you love one another if you keep on showing love among yourselves" (John 13:35).

Many people see love as 'just a feeling,' but it's so much more than that. True love shows itself through **action**.

And this action doesn't have to be impossible and overwhelming. One of the best ways to show the love of Jesus is through simple, everyday action,

\*Like striking up a conversation with a downcast person who needs a friend

\*Or giving from your abundance-clothing, food, money....

*Showing love can even be as simple as smiling and saying hello to a person you pass on the street, in the hall, or at the store.*

There are many ways to demonstrate the love of Christ. When you show His love to someone else, it can soften that person's heart, and before you know it, they'll be finding ways to reach out and show love to others, and so on and so on. So

celebrate God's love and let Him lead you. Is He putting a ministry on your heart right now you want to be involved in?

Our prayer at The Center is that our love for Jesus will be reflected in the way we show love for others, even those who may be difficult to love. If we can soften one hard heart with the love of God, maybe that person will soften another's heart with love, then that one will reach out to others, and so on and so on...

**And soon we'll have a love revolution!**

**A LOVE REVOLUTION.**



OPEN MIC IN THE CAFE FOR LUNCH. PART OF OUR HOMELESS EMPOWERMENT MOVEMENT



SOME OF THE HOLIDAY BOXES WE PASSED OUT TO NEIGHBORS

## SKATE CHURCH ON A SATURDAY NIGHT



# LOVE IN ACTION

THE LORD HAS BLESSED US WITH MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE. THIS IS A GLIMPSE OF WHAT HAPPENED AT THE CENTER FOR 2013

## Grants:

- Friendly Thrift Center
- Community and Institutional Ministries
- Noon Optimist Clubs
- St. Johns Foundation
- Davenport Community Schools
- Youth Service Fund
- Mathew 25 Grant

## Neighborhood Connection:

- Hosted 2 mission teams
- Gave 250 Thanksgiving baskets WITH Turkeys
- Helped 25 families at Christmas
- Helped 50 Children at Christmas
- Helped 42 families with rent t

## Safer foundation:

- Enrolled 68 students
- GED's attained:49
- Community service hours: 1,918
- Jobs started: 34
- Enrolled in higher education: 6
- Enrolled in vocational training: 8

## Skate Church

- Raised \$20,000 for The Center
- Hosted three mission trips with a total of 62 students in four different states
- Preached The Gospel to more than 5,103 students 264 times

## Street Team Homeless Outreach:

- Met with an average of 13 homeless people a week to meet basic needs
- Assisted in finding housing for 16 families
- Strengthened our support by working with Kings Harvest emergency shelter and Family and Children's shelter, Catholic Worker House, Humility of Mary shelter
- 753 showers for homeless, \$500 worth of laundry tokens, \$1000 bus tokens for job searches

## Fishers of Men

- Pastors in Kenya- 13
- Supported students:245
- Wells-7
- Churches:9
- Medical clinic support in Kimondo
- Started the first ever Skate church in the Kimondo Orphanage
- Supporting refuge families in the QCA

## Solid Rock Café

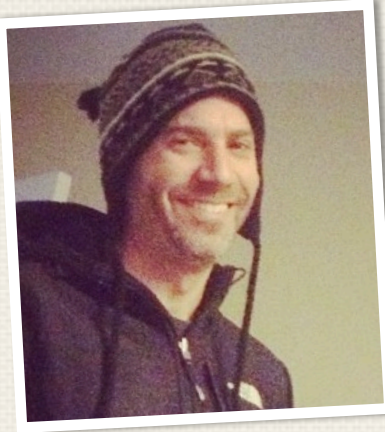
- Raised \$1000 for meals for needy neighbors
- Hosted 8 catering events
- Provided an economical lunch for our Center community
- Started giving away coffee for free instead of selling it AND still turning a profit

## Thrift Shop

- Given out 251 clothing vouchers
- Helped over 2,100 with free clothing
- Granted our more than \$11,000 to the community

## Food Pantry

- Visits to the pantry: 9,471
- Number of individuals served: 10,057
- Over 26 churches and agencies donating food and money



## SANDY

SANDY ONE OF MANY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS WE HAVE AT THE CENTER. HE HELPS AT SKATE CHURCH. HIS SMILE AND POSITIVE ATTITUDE ARE CONTAGIOUS. HE GIVES BACK TO HIS COMMUNITY WITH PASSION. THANK YOU SANDY FOR SERVING!



## JEFF

JEFF HAS A FEW HOURS FREE EVERY MORNING. HE VOLUNTEERS IN THE CAFE. HE MAKES SURE WE HAVE COFFEE AND BREAKFAST WHEN WE WALK IN THE DOOR. HIS COFFEE AND CONVERSATIONS ARE A BLESSING TO OUR COMMUNITY! THANK YOU JEFF FOR SERVING!



## MILES

MILES DOES WHAT EVERY IT TAKES TO HELP PEOPLE AT THE CENTER. EVEN WITH BEING A FULL TIME STUDENT, TWO JOBS, AND A PASSION FOR ACTION SPORTS HE FINDS TIME TO SERVE OTHERS. MILES REMINDS US, "You can impact and affect a lot of people with a little bit of time."