

THE JUNCTION

SHELTER – RECOVERY – MINISTRY | SPRING 2026

Life is too short for us not to spend it **loving our neighbors**

Look at all that we have - look at everything you and I have been blessed with. It's easy to take it all for granted.

Our car could run better; it's not as new as the one across the street. Our house is too small; can we afford the mortgage for that five-bedroom down the road? Our jobs aren't fulfilling; why do we have to get up for a job that doesn't make a real difference?

Maybe the car is just fine; after all, we have a car to drive us anywhere we want to go. Maybe the house is more than what we need; we sleep under warm blankets in an air-conditioned home with internet access, bathrooms, laundry rooms, and full kitchens. Maybe the J.O.B. isn't our dream job; yet the bills are paid, we're proving services for other people – and didn't we hear it said that we could spark passion in what we do, especially if we know why we do it?

How can we so easily lose sight of how much of an impact each of us can have, and how much that impact is multiplied when we all work together?

How can we not share what we have been blessed with?

If you believe in the work we do at Fairhaven - which means feeding the homeless and hurting (men, women, and kids), sheltering homeless men and getting them off the cold streets, and transforming lives in our New Life Program, where men get jobs, receive counseling, receive education, find permanent housing – if you believe that we are changing lives through the love of Jesus every day – then we need your help to spread the word about what we do. We need support. We need people who love God and love people. We need to make Northern Kentucky know that we are here and we are working hard to **CHANGE LIVES.**

Be a part of this. Spread the word. Be a shining light and truly love others.

Life is too short not to do this.



Volunteer hugging Mission guest



Shawn's life has **changed**

Shawn has been homeless multiple times during his life since early childhood. He entered into our program last year quiet, reserved, unsure, and desperate. He was also humble and willing to learn, grow, and surrender himself.

"I didn't know what direction to go," Shawn said early on. "I needed more purpose in my life, to get off the streets and get rehabilitated. [I had to] take a negative and turn it into a positive."

He has participated in multiple courses as a resident in the NLP, covering such topics as: emotional intelligence, delayed gratification, "Homeless to Hopeful", and financial literacy and wellness. He participated in work therapy at the Mission, where he helped facilitate multiple tasks like donation processing, dinner service, cleaning the Mission, and working at the Thrift Store. He also volunteered for several months at a local Christian food pantry.

Shawn gained full-time employment and continues to prosper at his job, AND he continues to excel beyond the normal requirement of saving at least 60% of his income in a high interest-earning savings account!



His faith and biblical knowledge are vastly improved, as is his fellowship and social interactions with his peers, staff, and volunteers. According to Program Manager Bryon Harvey, "His transformation in such a short time is as if he has been in a preparatory academy for a decade."

Shawn is a new person. There is light in his eyes. What were once one-word answers are now full conversations full of gratitude and positivity. And now he is looking to find permanent housing.

Laying the Foundation for Permanent Transformation: Refining the New Life Program

For years, our New Life Program (NLP) has served as a vital bridge for men moving from the crisis of homelessness toward stability. We have seen men reclaim their IDs, reconnect with healthcare, and gain valuable job training through our wonderful partners like the Life Learning Center. But as we look at the complex challenges our residents face, we realize we want to offer them more than just a bridge—we want to offer them a foundation for permanent transformation.



Program resident Jacob serving a Mission guest

This month, we are thrilled to introduce an enhanced vision for the New Life Program, led by our Program Manager, Bryon Harvey. These changes aren't just logistical; they are designed to prioritize the heart and soul of recovery.

The most significant shift is our move toward intensive, in-house counseling. While we will always value our community partners, we find that our residents need a more consistent, internal support system to address the root causes of their struggles. Under Bryon's leadership, every resident's Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) will now be designed and managed entirely by our internal staff. This allows us to have a "full picture" of each man's journey, providing deep, Biblical counseling that goes beyond surface-level needs to reach the heart of the problem.

In the past, our educational classes often competed with the daily demands of shelter operations. We've changed that. We are now treating our curriculum with the dignity it deserves by moving classes to the mornings. By creating a distinct separation between "work therapy" and "classroom time," we are ensuring our residents have the mental space and quietude needed to truly absorb the material and reflect on their growth.

Finally, **we are refining the focus of the NLP to specifically address addiction recovery.** We know that homelessness and addiction are often deeply intertwined. By centering our program on those who have reached a point of total surrender and are ready to admit they need help, we are seeing a beautiful shift in the culture of our house.

We are moving away from a "service-provider" model and toward a true community. We are seeing less entitlement and more ownership; fewer "clients" and more brothers in Christ. This new focus ensures that the men entering our doors are not just looking for a place to rest, but are committed to the hard, sincere work of transformational change.

We are so grateful for your continued support as we sharpen our mission to better serve the "least of these" in Northern Kentucky.

Blessings,

Chris Rutledge, Executive Director



Program resident Aaron meeting with Program Manager Bryon Harvey

Be a Shining Light for Those Who Need You Most

- 1/ Pray for the Mission,** and ask the Lord to lead your giving to best serve Him and His people
- 2/ Give online at** fairhavenmission.org
- 3/ Give by mail** by sending your gift & reply form in the provided envelope
- 4/ Scan the QR code** with your phone to give

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