

John 21:15

Peter said to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus told him, "Feed my Lambs."

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Welcome to *BREAD*, the official newsletter of HotDogs & Hope!

After months of effort, HD&H is in the final steps of achieving 501c3 status. With that, we will graduate from a private team of charitable individuals to an official charity, with all the privileges and benefits thereof.

Like what, you may ask?

While our capacity to deliver Hope to the homeless of Ft. Worth has no bounds, our ability to deliver HotDogs (and orange juice, and socks, and blankets, etc.) is limited by funds. We strive to spend every penny toward the homeless, and what we now spend in sales tax will soon be spent on the 'dogs.

More important, however, is the increased scope of charitable donations. The 501c3 status will demonstrate that we're not here today and gone tomorrow but are here for the long haul, and being an accredited charity gives the individual donor confidence that we put resources to good use and opens the doors for businesses to contribute to our worthy cause.

We look forward to this new phase of our organization and to many years of serving the needy to come!

During our organizational meeting in July, we established some general areas of responsibility so that we can hit the ground running when the 501c3 comes through:

Communications/Promotions: Informing our members and increasing public awareness

Fundraising: Ongoing management of donation streams and creating opportunities

Special Events: Organizing the holiday functions and other public outreach events

Services: The backbone of the ministry; keeping the hot dogs (and the hope) flowing

Stewardship: Making sure that we're effectively using our resources and staying on course

As the need arises, other areas will be defined and filled, and assistance will always be needed in the existing areas, so don't worry, there's always somewhere that you can help!

On September 19, we will be having a pancake breakfast fundraiser at Johnny Carino's in Grand Prairie. (Go to www.carinos.com/location/ziplookup/75052 for maps and directions.) That's an all-you-can-eat breakfast with pancakes, sausage, and a drink. Tickets will be sold from August 15th to September 16th, and are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 7 and under.

Breakfast is served from 7:15am until 10am. If you're a HD&H member who'd like to help sell tickets, or if you'd like to buy tickets for yourself, contact Dennis or Ron Sr., or send email to hotdogsandhope@yahoo.com. Watch our blogs for updates for this and other events!

Just the Facts

What: Pancake Breakfast
Where: 2750 W I-20
Grand Prairie TX 75052
When: September 19, 7:15am to 10am

Resolve to be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant with the weak and the wrong. Sometime in your life you will have been all of these.

Bob Goddard

Departmentally speaking...

Communications/Promotions: As you can see, we have a newsletter! Also, we're looking for some small "memento" items that can be given away promotionally.

Fundraising: We're looking into selling Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory candy bars and operating some coin-op candy machines. And, let's not forget the Pancake Breakfast.

Special events: It's never too early to start thinking about the Christmas party at the shelter!

Services: We're checking with other vendors to find the best value we can. We currently spend about \$175/week on food items, and every little bit helps.

During our ministry to the homeless, we find many a veteran that needs help as well. The Presbyterian Night Shelter (PNS) operates the Patriot House, a transitional living facility for veterans. Patriot House offers semi-private rooms, laundry services, two kitchens and a computer lab. In order to help make the Patriot House feel like home to our vets, PNS is asking for donations of household items (toiletry needs, bedding, kitchen items, etc.) and volunteer efforts (transportation, cooking, housekeeping, social programs, etc.). If you can help, email us or visit www.pns-tc.org/patriot_house.html.

We will have chocolate bars from Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory on sale during the pancake breakfast on September 19 as well as during other events as they occur. All proceeds from these sales go to the ongoing operations of HD&H compassionate ministries. See our blogs for notices of upcoming events and other opportunities to purchase one of these delicious chocolate bars!

July 18, 2009:

This was day that the Lord had made for sure. The day started with 15 volunteers rolling hotdogs; four new people, 3 from PCW (Professional Christian Woman), and 2 visiting from the New Life Church. When we walked outside we knew that the day was special; the weather was perfect and peaceful. When we arrived at the first stop, we had a good prayer circle. Javier gave the word in English and Spanish; it was very special, I thought. We were also joined by more volunteers from Gateway Church; they brought Brats for the Vets and water for the street. The day got even better when we had the Prayer Circle; a woman wanted to lead out with songs, which was most gratifying. Javier followed the word with prayers to close.

Go to our blogs to read more first-hand reports of our experiences on the street!

Special events:

Art & Craft Fair: Grand Prairie Family Church, where we put together the hot dogs every Saturday, will host an art & craft fair on November 14th, and we're considering a booth to promote the ministry.

Christmas: Every year, we share some Christmas spirit at the Women's and Children's Shelter in Ft. Worth, and this year will be no exception. At any given time, there are dozens of children at the shelter, and during the Christmas season, most of them would not get a visit from Santa were it not for this particular ministry of ours.

Be sure to watch for event bulletins and visit the blogs for updates to these and other events.

web: www.hotdogsandhope.com

blog: hotdogsandhope.xanga.com

email: hotdogsandhope@yahoo.com

blog: hotdogsandhope.blogspot.com