

# The Kroc Center Report

Volume 12, Issue 25, Spring 2017

## Then and Now: Our Message is Hope

**W**hen the Dayton Corps of The Salvation Army first opened its doors on East Fifth Street in 1883, the road had never been paved. The city's police force had been organized for only 10 years

Histories of Dayton indicate that Salvationists became known for their passionate work in feeding and caring for the human and spiritual needs of the community's most impoverished and desperate people.

### Spreading a message of hope

Decades have passed, and much has changed in Dayton. Yet the need for The Salvation Army's services is more critical than ever. For example, we distribute more than 1,000 meals to our hungry neighbors every month. And every year since 2003, we've provided 4,600 Christmas meals, on average, to needy families.

In addition, more than 38,000 people facing utility disconnection have received \$967,000 in emergency assistance since 2006, thanks to our donors.



We also offer adult rehabilitation, job training, after-school tutoring, youth summer camp, fitness activities, recreation programs and spiritual care to thousands of families and individuals throughout the Dayton area.

### Marching forward

To secure our financial capacity to provide these services for many years into the future, we have launched the Hometown Endowment Fund with a goal of raising \$10 million. You can learn more by turning to page 8 of this report. We will also provide updates on our progress in future issues.

Meanwhile, we thank you for your past generous support of our efforts to shine a light of hope in the darkness.



## A Message From The Majors



*Majors Stanley and Gayle Senak*

Have you thought about the legacy you are leaving?

As parents, we often wonder, "What legacy will we leave our children?" Parents of very young children meet all their needs. As they grow, the children are less dependent on Mom and Dad, who become guides by the examples they set.

In his article, "This is How You Leave a Legacy," Jim Rohn writes about nine principles. The first is, "Life is best lived in service to others." For The Salvation Army, serving others is our guiding principle.

Our mission is to meet human need without discrimination. We must be mindful of those caught in hopeless situations and work to bring light into those dark places.

Famed Russian author Fyodor Dostoevsky said, "To live without hope is to cease to live." Hope speaks to lives hurting and alone and offers the faint glimmer of a brighter tomorrow.

The Kroc Center is a beacon of hope, shining in the darkest night, offering hope to young and old. It is a place for the lonely senior to engage with other seniors and make new friends. It is a place for children who are falling behind in school and discouraged to find support and encouragement. It is a place that reaches out to the hungry to remind them they are not alone, nor are they forgotten.

I recently read a poignant quote: "When the world says give up, hope whispers, 'Try one more time.'" We must remain strong in our resolve to share hope with anyone who needs it – hope that is practical and beneficial; hope that challenges the current circumstances and points to a better and brighter tomorrow. This is the legacy we want to leave.

Won't you join us?

## Offering Hope in Many Forms

Throughout our 134-year history in Dayton, The Salvation Army has been a refuge for people who have had nowhere else to turn. And while times have changed, human needs have not.

When the hungry come to us, we give them food. Since 2003, we've provided needy families more than 65,000 holiday meals. In just two years, we've distributed 13,000 meals through our Mobile Canteen program.

In 2016, the Gift of Power program, in partnership with DP&L, distributed \$155,000 to individuals and families facing utility disconnection. Among these, for example, was the bakery manager forced to quit her job when illness required her to take time off.

"So many things had gone wrong for her, you could see her relief when she learned we could help," said Dayton Salvation Army Scholarship Coordinator Barb Hartley. "We prayed



together that she would continue to have hope."

*Through the Gift of Power program, the Army provides emergency assistance to help people pay their utility bills.*

## In Memoriam

The Dayton Salvation Army lost a longtime friend with the recent passing of Advisory Board member J. Richard "Dick" Miles. He enjoyed a 25-year career with the NCR Corporation before retiring in 1993. He served on the Dayton Salvation Army Advisory Board for 40 years.

"The Salvation Army was an important part of his life," said his wife of 65 years, Joyce Miles. "The people he met through The Salvation Army were truly inspiring to him."

Known as a caring man with a heart of gold, Dick had a way of putting people at ease.



"When I started attending Advisory Board meetings, Dick was one of the first to welcome me with a warm handshake and a smile," said Tim Erlandson, Business Administrator. "We will miss him."

We extend heartfelt sympathy to Dick's family and friends.

*J. Richard "Dick" Miles*

# Future of Hope: Kroc Trains Young Leaders

One of the challenges facing Kroc summer camp organizers is programming to keep junior-high campers interested.

So, when 12-year-old camper Dustin Williams, Jr., asked Education Director Beth Zientko if he could be a counselor last year, she realized he wanted more responsibility. That sparked an idea for older campers: a “Leaders in Training” option with opportunities to assist staff with younger children.

“When they get to that age, they don’t want to be treated like little kids anymore,” Beth said.

Dustin agrees. A self-starter with his own lawn-mowing business, a red belt in karate, and a vision of attending college, the eighth grader is

ready to step up the challenge of camp.

“Sometimes other kids come and ask me for help,” he said. “I listen to what they’re having problems with and help them if I can.”

Beth believes the training can empower young people with leadership skills for the future.

“We’ll be giving them a chance to be role models and leaders,” said Beth. “It can be a great foundation for a lifetime of leadership.”

*(Left to right) Dustin Williams, Jr., with his sisters, Haven Williams and Allison Boggs.*



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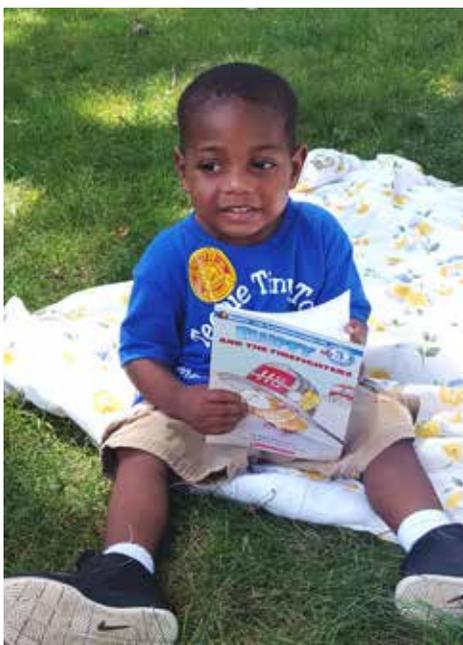
# Literacy: A Game Changer in Life

Research shows that 16 percent of children who are not reading proficiently by the end of third grade do not graduate from high school on time – a rate four times greater than that for proficient readers.

Findings like these fuel the Kroc Center’s commitment to help kids develop good reading skills. How are we doing this?

- Our literacy specialist goes into partner schools to help with struggling students.
- 22 University of Dayton students volunteers are tutoring kids in our after-school program.
- The summer Read and Feed program brings neighborhood families and celebrity readers to Stuart Patterson Park for stories, lunch and an age-appropriate book to keep.
- We’re piloting family reading events at Our Lady of the Rosary in which we model proven techniques for children and their parents or guardians to read together. Each child goes home with three new books.

“When we give kids the gift of literacy, we give them hope for a bright future,” said Education Director Beth Zientko. “This is greatest gift of all.”



## Inspired to Pursue Her Dreams

At the tender age of 16, she considered herself a realist. The daughter of a single mother and a drug-addicted father, Alexis Jordan was convinced the odds were against her succeeding in life.

But when the Kroc Center came to the neighborhood, she joined. On a whim, she applied for a job and was hired as an intern -- the turning point in her life.

Now, six years later, she loves her job as the Lead Membership Services Representative, where she keeps the front desk running smoothly. She's looking into enrolling in college to get a business administration degree.

"I never saw much potential for myself," Alexis said. "But the people here gave me so much hope and confidence. They've inspired me to pursue dreams I never would have dared to dream."



Alexis Jordan



## Board Members: Beacon of Hope Shines Bright

The Kroc Center's winged wall that rises to the sky is more than an interesting architectural feature, according to Advisory Board Member Tom Cronin, Jr., who co-chaired the Kroc Center Construction Committee.

"It was our architect's vision to symbolize The Salvation Army as a beacon of hope," he said.

Indeed, the Army shines the light of hope for many who are addicted, hungry, desperate or in need of a helping hand.

"It's just such a fulfilling feeling to be involved with the Army and see how it impacts people who really need help," said Dayton businessman and longtime Advisory Board Member Sam Lumby. "They really are 'doing the most good.'"

## Supporting a Community of Givers

Over the past two years, we've been proud to collaborate with a group of University of Dayton employees who have wanted to "adopt" families for Christmas and looked to The Army for referrals.

The first year, we suggested a single mother of five teenagers who had just survived a house fire. We also recommended single mom who had lost her job due to missing work for appointments for her two-year-old autistic son.

Last Christmas, we connected them with a grandmother who is battling cancer while raising her 10 grandchildren. She doesn't want the children to follow in the footsteps of their mothers, who are incarcerated.

Over the two years, the UD employees purchased more than 400 gifts, along with decorated Christmas trees, household items, clothing and gift cards to restaurants.

"The outpouring of generosity was inspiring," said Corinne Duperree, Kroc Center Business Manager for Worship and Arts. "It was especially moving that, amidst all the chaos and turmoil these families were facing, they could enjoy a Christmas with presents under the tree."



*UD employees "adopted" needy families, helping us shine the light of hope at Christmas. The Kroc Center's Lieutenant Lorissa Padilla (l) and Corinne Duperree (r) collected the hundreds of donated gifts and shared the families' stories.*

## **Dayton Salvation Army Advisory Board**

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Kevin Hurst, Secretary  
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John Stinson

Majors Stanley W. & Gayle Senak,  
Dayton Kroc Center Administrators

Tim Erlandson, Business Administrator



*Melanie Henness*

## Meet Our Advisory Board: **Melanie Henness**

**W**hen Melanie Henness joined the Dayton Salvation Army Advisory Board two years ago, she came in with her heart wide open and her sleeves rolled up. Before long she accepted

a leadership position in an important Army ministry – the Adult Rehabilitation Center – which offers hope to people whose lives have hit rock bottom.

As ARC Advisory Committee chair, she enjoys assisting with hiring and other administrative functions at the facility. She's also an advocate for the center's approach to rehabilitation.

"We bring them in and teach them skills. And then we give them jobs," said Melanie, the chief financial officer for Mullins Rubber Products of Dayton since 1980. "There's always someone to show them the next step. And when they're finished, they can be productive members of society."

The mother of four adopted children, Melanie inherited her work ethic from her mother, a single mom of three for many years. "She taught me I could accomplish anything if I work hard enough"

This work ethic hasn't gone unnoticed.

"Melanie has been active, giving to the work, sharing the story, encouraging others to support the Army," said Business Administrator Tim Erlandson. "She's been a wonderful addition to our Board."

Melanie has committed to the Dayton Salvation Army's future by pledging an investment in the Hometown Endowment Fund, which ensures services for the needy for generations to come.

"I see it as a legacy I can leave to continue The Salvation Army's work in Dayton for years after I'm gone," she said.



## Kroc Fitness Regular: Shedding Pounds, Gaining Confidence

“Success is 10 percent inspiration and 90 percent perspiration.” So says Thomas Edison.

But for Kroc Fitness Center regular, Sunny Herring, one more ingredient has made the difference in her weight-loss success story: motivation.

When she and her co-workers began their “Biggest Loser” fitness challenge in January 2016, Sunny weighed in at 302 pounds. After 12 months, she was 115 pounds lighter – and still losing.

A phlebotomist at Children’s Medical Center, Sunny combined better eating habits with regular workouts at the Kroc, where she met fitness trainers Quincy Tellis and Mike Jackson. They became her instructors and motivators – and her biggest cheerleaders.

“Quincy and Mike took me under their wing,” she said. “Even when I broke my foot, they had me working out while sitting on a chair. That’s when I knew I was hooked on staying in shape.”

Although she’s still shedding weight, Sunny is more focused on toning up these days and works out five or six days a week at the Kroc.

“I’m on my feet a lot, and in day-to-day life I can tell a big difference,” she said. “I don’t get winded. I’m not as tired at work. Everything is easier.”

*Sunny Herring has transformed her body and her attitude with the help of Kroc Center fitness trainers.*



## What’s New at the Fitness Center?

Looking for the latest trends in fitness? Look no further than the Kroc Center. We keep growing and expanding to bring today’s most popular activities to Dayton. Let’s take a look:

**Pickleball** – If you haven’t heard, pickleball is taking the sports world by storm. Part badminton, part tennis and part ping-pong, this easy-to-learn paddle sport is played by singles or doubles over a modified tennis net. We offered a clinic in March and provide open-gym pickleball every day but Sunday.

**Bubble Soccer** – Players wear a clear, inflatable bubble over the top half of their bodies and then try to score – with hilarious results. We recently purchased the equipment and are busy planning the first Kroc Bubble Soccer events.

**High School Futsal** – Like soccer, but modified for a smaller, indoor playing field, futsal is played with a smaller ball by teams of five. Popular in Latin America, futsal is where many Brazilian superstars developed their extraordinary skills. We’ve been holding open gyms for high schoolers at the Kroc.

**Spinning** – Hop on and take a bike ride through an outdoor visualization of the mountains or an ancient city. We began offering spinning classes in March – and they’ve become a big hit!



*Drop-in pickleball at the Kroc*



# THANK YOU

Thanks to your generosity, the Red Kettle Campaign generated \$1,080,308 in donations this Christmas Season. Your donations fund our Christmas assistance and programs throughout the year.



Volunteers visited 37 nursing homes, and distributed 3,365 gifts.

Some 3,400 families received Christmas food assistance.

98,063 meals were served in 2016 through our programs.

133,794 individuals participated in 3,757 character-building and recreational programs.

and much, more more...

## God Bless You



# Hometown Endowment Fund

## Help Us Shine the Light of Hope for Generations to Come

Every day for the past 134 years, Dayton's needy individuals and families have come to our doors seeking help. With support from generous donors like you, we have given them hope, filling their most urgent needs – from education, financial assistance and nutrition, to counseling, social interaction and spiritual care.

And we have been good stewards of your gifts. Locally, 88 cents of every dollar goes directly to supporting our programs and services.

Now we are looking to the future. With your support of our Hometown Endowment Fund, we can ensure that no person who comes to our door is ever turned away.

### Won't you please help?



"The Salvation Army is a place of hope. When every other light is extinguished, and every other star has gone down, this one gleam shines steadily and clearly out in the darkened sky: 'If I could only get to The Salvation Army, they will do something for me.'" – William Booth, Founder of The Salvation Army

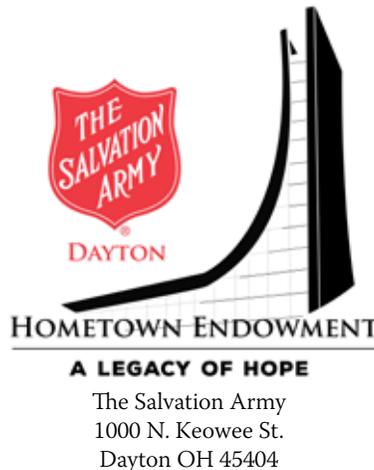
## You Can Leave a Legacy of Hope!

### Why an endowment?

When you create an endowment, you establish a permanent fund that supplies resources in perpetuity for what matters most to you. You may direct it to a specific need, make it unrestricted.

Virtually any asset can be used to start an endowment, including cash, real estate, stocks, mutual funds or IRAs, life insurance policies and many others.

We invite you or your financial advisor to call Tim Erlandson, Business Administrator, at 937-528-5000, or send in this form to learn more.



### Yes, I would like to learn more about the Hometown Endowment.

Please contact me by phone.  
My phone number is \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me by email.  
My email address is \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_