



 Helping Hand Rescue Mission

 @HelpingHandLI

 (631) 351-6996

 225 Broadway St., Huntington Sta. NY 11746

 www.helpinghandsrescuemission.org

Open Tues.-Fri. 10AM-4PM and Sat. 10AM - 1PM.

Donation days are Wed., Fri., and Sat. during hours.

Upcoming Events

March 17th – Baby Blessings 10AM – 1 PM

April 4th – Spring into Easter Celebration! Egg Hunt, Brunch/Lunch-Chapel & Basket Distribution, and family Easter with 3 separate sessions. Call for info.

April 10th-12th – MISSION CLOSED

April 21st – Baby Blessings 10AM – 1PM

May 2nd – Mother's Day Brunch for Happy Day Kids' Moms 11am-1pm-register at HHRM

May 6th-8th – Mother's Day Boutique Fundraiser! Volunteers & Boutique items are needed. Thank you!

Springing into Spring!

Thankful for a wonderful boutique!

We're so grateful for everyone who came to our Valentine's Day boutique! Thanks for helping us help others. We hope you're enjoying your new purchases, and that they remind you of all the people in our wonderful community!

Who isn't ready for the weather to warm up? Here at Helping Hand Rescue Mission, we're not just excited for a warmer temperate climate—we're gearing up to celebrate at our annual Spring Into Easter event, April 4th and our other upcoming spring things like more spring clothing in the coming months. We'll be gathering donations of and assembling the balance of approximately 500 Easter baskets to distribute to kids ages 2-12 in our community – and we'll be hiding around 4000 filled, plastic Easter eggs around the Mission property! If you would like to volunteer or donate, now is a great time! Volunteer opportunities can be found by going to our website and following the volunteer links. We hope to see many of you in the coming weeks!

Over 3000 cans of soup were yielded this year by our SOUPER BOWL soup drive. Schools, churches, clubs and kind neighbors pulled together to make it happen and we are so grateful! Our food pantry has been busy for this time of year and we are grateful for all the donations. B & T Electric brought a very generous donation to us as well as the Ecumenical Lay Council of Northport-East Northport that sent a donation of \$500 worth of needed pantry items by Peapod! That was a very exciting day!

Baby Blessings each month requires about 30 volunteers on the actual event day and about 10 for the set up the day prior. I've been so happy with the wonderful, kind, hardworking and loving volunteers that have come our way to help.

Our Other Outreaches and Services

- Community Closet
- Food Pantry Tues-Fri
- Happy Day Express Kids
- Kids Who Care! (new!!)
- Weekly Community Lunches
- Prayer and Encouragement
- Food Drives & Clothing Outreaches
- Public Speaking Engagements

Monthly Mission Partners

Please consider making a monthly donation to our mission as a Monthly Mission Partner!

The work and ministry we do takes finances to accomplish. We are grateful to everyone who gives to make this mission possible. We have much work to do and appreciate all the help we receive from donors like you.

Please enclose your donation made out to Helping Hand Rescue Mission in the provided envelope or go to our website (www.helpinghandrescuemission.org) to donate or set up a recurring gift. Thank you!

We are posting pictures regularly in our website gallery. Please visit there and see all the wonderful things that are happening here!

Our daily operations take 5-10 people in the building at any given time helping to serve the people, cooking, cleaning, fundraising, organizing and sorting, packing food parcels, planning events and following up to make sure things are ready, replying to emails, doing maintenance, making phone calls, replying to texts and social media posts etc. We usually have 5 or 6 but we work together to make it work. We are having some very productive days and we are grateful for them. We love our volunteers and staff at HHRM!

Summer plans are underway for our annual VBS the week of August 4th with Trinity OPC Church and there's another SET FOR SUMMER FAMILY DAY in the works for the end of June. It's like an end of year barbecue and celebration with summer clothes, snow cones and together time. Our families and we love this day!

Back to School 2020 is already being organized with a goal of 500 new backpacks and supplies this year. Allison Von Vange and her mother June Von Vange will be heading up the collection and packing efforts again this year. We will provide new "first day" outfits for every child again this year. Those were a big hit last year and only 2 came back for exchanges. We'd also like to include a new pair of sneakers this year, at least for our Happy Day kids. We've done that a couple of times in the past and they are so greatly appreciated.

We are now spending approximately \$600/month on diapers and wipes for Baby Blessings to supplement what is donated. \$200 for food and \$100 for the packing bags and additional supplies like table cloths, disposable plates, cups and silverware etc. Your donations help us to have this event each month.

This month we launch our new "Giving Card" which is a bar-coded card designed by Gary Fortmeyer, one of our volunteers. This card will enable us to serve those who come more quickly and to maintain even more accurate records of our different services and how they are utilized by the community so that we can run more efficiently and analyze our needs and operations more specifically.

While we are growing in the number of families that we are serving and the outreaches that we are providing we are conscious of the fact that we must not grow too quickly. We are working to manage our growth, to be cognizant of our needs and to make the most of the resources that we have available to us. We pray all the time for God to bring together all that is necessary to accomplish all that we need to do. That has been the prayer of HHRM since 1965 and we have never been disappointed with God's faithfulness as we serve.

We are so happy to keep doing things that bring people through our doors so that we may help to meet their needs. We are excited about the coming spring and know that it means that a lot of happy times are ahead at HHRM!

A month to remember... and so much to look forward to!

Dear Family, Friends & Mission Partners,

I'm a little late getting this newsletter out to you because to be honest, sometimes March is a tough month for me to write about. Try as I might not do it, I'm in the middle of remembering the 2 weeks 3 years ago that my mom's unknown and undetected cancer became known to us and Mom's lifelong hope of heaven became her reality, heaven's gain and our earthly loss at home here at HHRM. It's still sad but it's ok. The first year I think I was kind of on autopilot and found it difficult to accept her death. She and I had so many plans and dreams that I felt died with her and that was discouraging. The second year I came into a place of acceptance and allowed myself to grieve even though it was difficult.

This third year has actually been a really good one though it's hard to believe it's 3 years on March 7, 2017 at 4:30pm. I am grateful for all that she was in my life and I treasure every memory of my parents, our founders. This month I have designated as a month to really move forward in our mission here in Huntington Station. Last year some of you sent memorial donations to honor her. That was very special and helped us in our mission. Thank you so much.

One family of 4 that we have been serving has seen very troubled financial and personal times here recently. The mom comes in almost daily for prayer and encouragement and weekly for food. She said, "I wouldn't make it without you. This place is a blessing in our lives." We have referred them for needed outside counsel etc. Keep them in your prayers please.

We will begin Helping Hands' Kids Who Care on March 21st at 11am which is our new kids' volunteer program crafted for students K-12. It will connect them to our mission and community with a monthly Saturday "family friendly" meeting at Huntington Assembly (yes, they've opened their doors to us again-cue smiles & applause). It will involve some of our Happy Day kids who want to give back too. The point we are emphasizing is that everyone has something to give and to share and we all need to know more about the needs of our community. Kids Who Care will do a wonderful job helping!

Our February Baby Blessings outreach was our largest every serving 95 moms and 125 babies! Thank you for helping us to share with them and to have wonderful things to bring to them. Community lunches on Thursdays have been 70+. Thirty-seven new families came to us this month in search of help with food & clothing.

Our mission wouldn't be possible without our partners and friends who support and encourage us in many ways. Thank you for all that you're doing to help us to grow and do more. We are blessed to serve.

Sharing Help & Hope Together,



Rev. Rose Marie Gaines- Mother Gaines will always be remembered with love and admiration. She was everyone's mom and loved without reserve.

We miss you and love you and we are carrying on. Nov 9, 1936-March 7 2017



HHRM Newsletter

March 2020

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Thank You for Caring!

We believe that commitment to our faith and our community really matters. We're so grateful you're supporting our mission, whether it's by praying, volunteering, donating, coming to our events, or even just reading our newsletter!



Helping Hand Rescue Mission, Inc.
P.O. Box 325
225 Broadway St.
Huntington Station NY, 11746

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Welcoming some extra help!



The Mission clientele and services expand according to the demands of the community, and we have needed a larger permanent staff than just Rev. Kim Gambino for a long time. We're welcoming Administrative Assistant Marianna Cava to our team with relief, excitement, and anticipation. Marianna is a recent graduate of Messiah College and a frequent HHRM volunteer with a passion for the people who walk through our doors. She loves to listen. Her focus is supporting HHRM vision and strategy and creating relational connections to clients day to day.

On staff, Marianna will be able to ease the pressure of daily operations. HHRM leadership will have the space it needs to grow in the areas of vision, planning, and organization to keep pace with ever-evolving needs and help effectively. Marianna still volunteers some hours at the Mission, but our goal is to have full funding for an Administrative Assistant so the position is sustainable in the future. Your help is critical and deeply appreciated.