



IS IT NOT TO SHARE YOUR FOOD WITH THE HUNGRY AND TO PROVIDE THE POOR WANDERER WITH SHELTER ISAIAH 58:7

*On Our Hearts...Message from Ron Calandra*

**MAKE IT A CODE BLUE EVERY DAY:** Donna from our office was describing the other day how she acquired frozen toes from running around doing errands in boots that seemed to be a bit worn, and water was getting into them; she knew, however, once she got home those frozen toes would get warmed by a dry pair of socks and slippers. This made her think about Hearts' street clients who don't have the ability to keep their socks dry even if they had another pair to step into. And, that is every day, no matter if it's winter, spring, summer, or fall. But, you say, you don't get frozen toes in the summer. Yes, but, inclement weather and incredible conditions like hot tar on the road, wet grass, rough terrain, even sleeping on hard sidewalks are likely factors. If Donna's boots were slightly worn; chances are the homeless' shoes and clothes have lots of wear, tears, and holes.

In the winter time, a Code Blue is called any time temperatures reach 15 degrees or below, the Buffalo City Mission and St. Luke's Mission of Mercy open their doors for people in search of a warm place to stay with a cot to sleep on and a hot meal. The warming centers are open 8 pm to 8 am every night during the Code Blue. A team of outreach workers go out in a van to pick up and transport the homeless to these locations.

The Code Blue is a necessary program and service to the homeless during the winter. But today, I would like to challenge all of you, to team up with Hearts and other organizations to make it a Code Blue every day for the Homeless. The homeless continually ask for supplies even when we've handed them out the night before. We don't know what happens to these supplies. But, one could only imagine they've been lost, stolen, broken, or have gotten wet or dirty.

The Freezing temperatures are an easy reminder for us to cater a bit more to the Homeless; but in reality, they need us all year around, 365 days. If each one of us would do our part, we could make a great impact.

**IN 2013, YOU HELPED US REACH 12,502 HOMELESS AND POOR PEOPLE**

	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>TOTAL SERVED</b>	1031	1071	1053	1123	1243	987	985	1019	941	1139	1041	869
<b>MALE</b>	830	877	824	837	937	752	760	772	742	930	850	727
<b>FEMALE</b>	177	182	218	261	281	216	201	223	178	189	178	131
<b>CHILDREN</b>	24	12	11	25	25	19	24	24	21	20	13	14
<b>HOMELESS</b>	365	355	386	452	481	366	336	514	377	420	485	414



**WHAT OR WHERE DO YOU CALL HOME?**

A rundown building or empty lot? A street corner with a warming manhole? A graveyard?

It's their reality...Help Hearts reach even more in 2014!

Hearts is very grateful to all of you (and there are so many) that continually give beyond our expectation and to our amazement. If there is someone out there whose heart is being stirred to become involved, we'd be happy to partner with you in 2014 to reach the disadvantaged in Buffalo.