



**IN 2016, YOU HELPED US REACH 11,154+ HOMELESS AND POOR PEOPLE**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Total Served</b>	1000	734	990	1037	920	910	822	1005	998	962	876	900
<b>Male</b>	887	642	862	892	764	760	664	849	807	805	779	800
<b>Female</b>	109	81	123	132	141	135	145	135	170	146	93	89
<b>Children</b>	4	11	5	13	15	15	13	21	21	11	4	11
<b>Homeless</b>	403	342	504	508	401	380	369	450	474	454	418	488

**ON OUR HEARTS: Message from Ron Calandra**

December, 2016 marked our 26th year of feeding the poor and homeless. Except for the first few years when we were just starting out, we have seen the total number of clients served hovering around 12,000. We have never seen it drop below 11,000 annually and in previous years it has been as high as 16,000. That tells us the sad truth that there is a continual need for our service. And, each night that Hearts Mobile Soup Kitchen's RV pulls up alongside the curb at the Buffalo and Erie County Library downtown, there is a line of people waiting to eat.

Our focus has always been our feeding program. We go out at the dinner hour with the goal to make sure no one goes to bed hungry. Although we have created other entities like the thrift shop and recycling, all of these programs circle back to supporting the feeding program financially. And, in the process, if we can help other people through the thrift shop or our recycle program, all the better. And, we do!

We get to know some of our "regular" street clients pretty well. Hearts' Mobile Crew Teams have built a trust between themselves and our

clients. Not only do they trust that we will be there to feed them, they tell us what is going on in their lives.

We rejoice with them when they get off the streets, find a job, reunite with their families, or have other good news to share. We laugh with them and joke with them. We correct them when they get rambunctious and loud. We pray for them during the bad times, and encourage them to hang in there.

Last month, we were able to help two men that found jobs. They needed clean clothes—sneakers, pants, shirts and outerwear. It takes a few hit or misses to catch up with them after they make the request, but in the end, we are able to help them prepare for their next step in bettering themselves and their current situations. The smiles on their faces are priceless when they see that we remembered their need. It gives them that needed boost that someone cares that they get off the streets. It also preserves the trust we have with them should they need our help again.

Given the 26 years that we have been around feeding the homeless and poor, and the fact that the numbers of clients are not going down considerably, we commit to continuing our outreach for as long as there is a need. Without your support we couldn't do this, so thank you!



**SUPPORT HEARTS THRIFT SHOP**  
Come in and Shop at 890 Tonawanda St.  
Monday – Saturday • 10am – 5pm  
Profits help us to help the homeless!

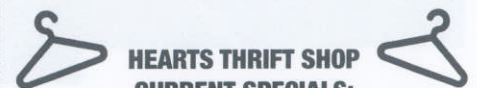
Although E-books and tablets have opened up another avenue to access the world of reading, at Hearts Thrift Shop we find that our customers still love holding and reading from the actual book. Many times a day, over at the bookshelf unit in our thrift shop you will find someone sitting on the floor by the shelf paging through a book; then next to them is a stack they have chosen to take home with them.

We get an abundance of books donated to Hearts and BOOKS ARE FREE to our customers. We have a variety of children and adult, fiction, non-fiction, Christian, cooking, decorating, history, and many titles and sizes in great condition.

You are welcome to come and stock up on some good reads anytime!

**REMEMBER OUR RECYCLING PROGRAM!**

As the warm weather breaks next month, we would like to encourage you to remember us during your spring cleaning. Our **Recycling Program** offers many ways for you to help and restore the lives of others by recycling your unwanted clothing—new, used, torn, or tattered. We are able to repurpose it all!



- Ladies Long Sleeve Casual Shirts – BOGO
- Ladies Sleeveless Shirts – 3/\$6.00
- Ladies Casual Pants – BOGO
- Men's Long Sleeve Shirts & Sweaters – Buy 1 Get 2
- Comforters & Blankets – BOGO
- Curling & Flat Irons & Hair Dryers – BOGO
- Adult DVDs – BOGO; Kids DVDs – 5/\$1





**HEARTS FOR THE HOMELESS OF WNY®, INC.**  
**MOBILE SOUP KITCHEN**  
 P.O. BOX 437  
 BUFFALO, NY 14223  
 716.877.3536

FIRST CLASS  
 US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 BUFFALO, NY  
 PERMIT #681

"CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED"

VISIT US ONLINE AT: [heartsforthehomeless.org](http://heartsforthehomeless.org)  
 ALL DONATIONS TO HEARTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

## Lives Touched Last Month

**FEBRUARY, 2017**

Total Clients Served: **851**  
 Homeless: **332**  
 Male: **740**  
 Female: **103**  
 Children: **8**  
 Total Volunteer Hours: **140**



*"Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter...?" ~Isaiah 58:7*

## WE NOW HAVE 350+ CONVENIENT DROP-OFF LOCATIONS!

Thank you all for placing a bin. Please use our Drop-Off Locations or Visit and Shop at...

### HEARTS THRIFT SHOP

890 Tonawanda St. in Riverside • Mon-Sat: 10am – 5pm  
 Please call our office at 877-3536 if you need a donation receipt.

Hearts for the Homeless would like to thank Rob Willard and The Benchmark Group for placing our clothing bins in your plazas. The amount of donations that comes through those bins is a huge blessing to our organization.



### Delaware-Hertel Plaza

2340 Delaware Ave.  
 Buffalo, NY 14216

### Stuyvesant Plaza

238-274 Elmwood Ave.  
 Buffalo, NY 14222

### Hamburg Plaza

5999 South Park Ave.  
 Hamburg, NY 14075

## TALK FROM THE STREET & HEART:

**2/1:** Served 59; clients loved the backpacks filled with gloves, socks, and toiletries from Ingram Micro. **2/2:** Served 42; thank you, Dan Clouser for filling in for Ron who was ill; a male client couldn't stop thanking us tonight! All clients got 2nd and 3rd helpings. **2/3:** Served 19. **2/4:** Served 24. **2/7:** Served 39; 5 prayed for salvation; asking for jackets & gloves. **2/8:** Served 40; a big thank you to Willis Tower Group for joining the team and bringing clothes, toiletries, food & misc items. **2/9:** Served 42; the RV was loaded tonight with necessary items to give out to clients; one man was very thankful for new socks; he said his were about to walk away by themselves! **2/10:** Served 34. **2/11:** Served 24. **2/14:** Served 50; 3 prayed for salvation; need some Spanish Bibles. **2/15:** Served 48. **2/16:** Served 42; client, Leo, was so thankful for the sneakers and clothes that we gave him; he's happy that he is starting a new job! **2/17:** Served 43. **2/18:** Served 24. **2/21:** Served 57; 2 prayed for salvation. **2/22:** Served 66, 3 children. **2/24:** Served 39. **2/23:** Served 69; the line was all the way down the street—serving chili tonight with John praying a blessing over the food. **2/25:** Served 31; thank you Alicea and your Buff State team for blessing us by joining the team tonight and handing out socks & under shirts to clients. **2/28:** Served 60, 7 prayed for salvation.



## IMMEDIATE FOOD NEEDS:



**PARMESAN CHEESE, CANNED: CHICKEN, BAKED BEANS, SAUCE, CHILI, CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP, CREAM OF CHICKEN SOUP, SANDWICH COOKIES, AND JUICE BOXES. THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

