

Stories of HOPE

*Without counsel
plans fail, but with
many advisers they
succeed.*

—PROVERBS 15:22



MobileHope

Mobile Hope, 7900 Maple Hill Road,
Corcoran, MN 55340
www.MobileHopeMN.org
www.facebook.com/MobileHopeMN

Mentorship - A Win-Win!

Mentors provide an important role in the lives of adolescents. Often, the mentors and families that choose to step into this adventure experience great benefits along with the mentee. With so many students hungering for social interactions due to quarantines, school closings, and social distancing, Mobile Hope pushed to expand our mentoring opportunities for kids and teens. Here are some quotes from two of those families:

"I have a middle school daughter and she struggles with the typical issues that adolescents are struggle with, such as anxiety. When I learned about the need for Mentors I decided to pursue it as I wanted to make a difference and I felt like it was something I could do with my daughter. Since she has volunteered with Mobile Hope in the past, the first day we showed up to pick up the two elementary girls, they ran to my daughter to give her a hug. They were so excited to see one another and have fun together. I found mentorship was a win - win. It gave my daughter and I something to do of significance, we were able to invest in two very sweet girls, and also have fun. I am so glad we said yes to this opportunity." - Lauren

"The students we mentor fit right into our family and our kids play with them like brothers and sisters. It's been a lot of fun, and it's also clear that we're on a journey with these kids now. We mentor a boy that likes to talk about NASA and technology and it's obvious that he could grow up to be an engineer if he's given the same opportunities as our own kids. We're grateful for Mobile Hope, we're grateful for strong public schools, and we're open to however the Lord is calling us to participate in these kids' lives." - Rob



If you would like to enter into a mentoring adventure of your own, contact Mobile Hope through our website and we'll reach out to start the process!
www.mobilehopemn.org

Strong Partnerships Bring Resources

Resources are difficult to find in times like this. Food insecurity, in particular, can be a serious challenge for families when jobs are being cut, supplies are low, and families are home more frequently than before.

Riverworks Food Shelf partnered with us at Maple Hill Estates and **CROSS Services** has partnered with us at Dayton Properties to provide a weekly food distribution program available to all residents. Simple resources like these allow family budgets to stretch farther and difficult decisions about limited funds are a bit easier.

We want to thank partners like these for recognizing the needs and being willing to partner with on-site food resources for families!



Distance Learning

"Sometimes I just need a place where I can get stuff done!" This was a statement from a student discussing why he comes to the Hope Center for help with his homework.

Distance learning can be an extra challenge in a mobile home. In talking with parents, the issues that surface are things like Internet speeds being slow, devices that are shared between siblings, and multiple students of different ages using the one common area while attempting to listen to lessons, respond to teachers, and do homework. On top of that, if English is not your first language, the reading of assignments or listening to video instruction is more complicated or nearly impossible.



Mobile Hope exists to help families through these situations where we can. The Hope Center buildings at Maple Hill Estates and Dayton Properties offer a bit of a respite from the stresses found in the home during these challenging times. We have added additional Internet access and speed, upgraded our computer lab, and altered our hours of operation, all in an effort to assist families and students to meet the challenging requirements of distance learning.

When students take advantage of these resources, we see them make great strides. They increase assignment completion, are more on track with their work and have the encouragement of loving volunteers interested in seeing them succeed.

Thank you for supporting the work of Mobile Hope. It is during times like these that your support is so important and we appreciate you! We can use additional volunteers to help walk with students during this time. If you feel comfortable, please give us a call to find a time to help out.

Volunteer Highlight: Rick Watkins

Some volunteers prefer to have impact from behind the scenes and our volunteer highlight for this quarter is someone who fits this profile. **Rick Watkins** is now retired and spends much of his time engaged in reaching out and serving others. Rick brings a skill-set that, during these times of distance learning and COVID, has become essential to the successful impact of our ministry – and that is his ability to manage our I.T. infrastructure.

This year, we sent out an appeal for funds so we could upgrade the 5 year-old computer lab at the Hope Center. Thanks to the generous support of so many individuals, we were able to purchase new systems that allowed for faster and more powerful computers that students use regularly to connect with their teachers and turn in assignments. However, having the new computers is only one part of the battle. Rick was able to get these systems set up in a way that gives students what is needed while maintaining a safe path to the internet and online tools necessary for distance learning.

Thank you, Rick, for the many hours you put into making the computer lab what it is today!



Dayton Re-launch

Our Dayton location has been more dramatically hit by COVID than our Corcoran location due to park ownership restrictions making programming very challenging to offer. Much of what was available to residents had to be temporarily shut down and our Hope House at that location was going unused – forcing programs to be moved outdoors.

Fortunately, we are now excited to see a new enthusiasm at this site as restrictions were eased a bit in September and the Hope House opened up for limited programs – primarily focused on assisting students with distance learning.

On top of that, our teen programs (Treehouse and Journey) have launched as shared-site programs where Dayton students are picked up and driven to Corcoran where the Hope Center allows for combined youth programs that are socially distanced and offer more space to run around. We are excited to strengthen the relationships with families in this location!

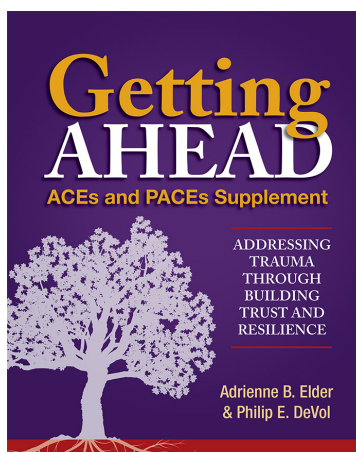


Getting Ahead and ACEs

Mobile Hope has offered a class called “Getting Ahead” for the past few years. In this class, groups of 8-12 adult residents come together for 16-18 weeks for 3 hours each class, to support each other in their learning and planning. We study the causes of poverty, resources that can be developed, and life skills that lead to success. Ultimately, each graduate leaves the class with a vision of their future story and a plan to accomplish that vision.

This year, we have added an element to the class in two additional sessions that focus on an important subject impacting many in our community – Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Research has shown that as the number of ACEs increases so does the risk for negative outcomes such as heart disease, diabetes, HIV, alcoholism, depression, anxiety, etc. “When you look at ACEs, they’re actually a stronger predictor of heart disease than any of the traditional risk factors” – Dr. Nadine Burke Harris.

To counter the impact of ACEs, we are seeking to teach on strategies for **Resilience** such as the importance of safe, stable, and nurturing adult relationships and the reduction of stressors. This is an exciting new development for Getting Ahead as well as Mobile Hope in general!



Prayer Needs

- For the many students and parents struggling with the added stressors of this pandemic across our nation.
- As we head into the winter months, prayers are appreciated for families with mobile homes more susceptible to freezing pipes and thinner walls.
- That the teens would see God in tangible ways in their life.
- For our new Quest 180 addiction recovery group - that participants will have the courage to attend and overcome the addictions holding them in bondage.

Wish List

- Brave volunteers willing to work one-on-one or in small groups to assist students with school work.
- Funds for program games and equipment such as foam balls, pinnies, etc.
- Our Dayton location is in need of a tablet and tablet kiosk stand for check-in attendance
- The Hope Center refrigerator is in need of a \$500 repair kit to keep it from freezing up.
- Individual staff are in need of monthly financial supporters. If you feel led, contact us to offer support for Mobile Hope staff.

Donate

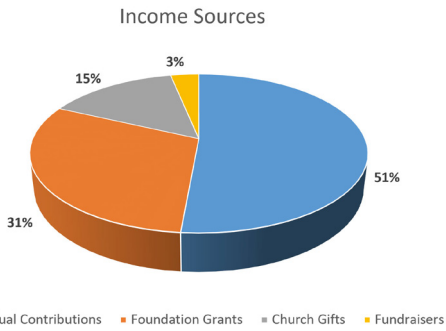
Financial Donations - You can give safely and securely through our website (www.mobilehopemn.org) by credit card, or by mailing a check to 7900 Maple Hill Road, Corcoran, MN 55340.

Non-cash Assets - Would you prefer to support Mobile Hope through assets such as the sale of stock, business interests, real estate, charitable gift annuities, or by setting up a donor-advised fund? Mobile Hope works with our partner, The National Christian Foundation -Twin Cities, to provide these and other services you may find helpful. Contact us for more information.

Foundation Support

This past year, as we continued expanding our work, our budget also grew to handle the additional staff and program expenses necessary for this work. To help accommodate those needs, we expanded our fundraising strategies to include grants from supportive foundations who see the value in what we are doing. We want to thank the following foundations for being the first to see the value of operating within mobile home communities to address one or more of our four program pillars: Education, Healthy Activities, Connection to Resources, and Faith Development.

- Affinity Plus Foundation
- Casey Albert T. O'Neil Foundation
- Grotto Foundation
- H.E. and Helen Warren Foundation
- Leonette N. and Fred T. Lanners Foundation
- Markus Charitable Foundation
- Old National Bank
- Otto Bremer Trust
- Peter J. King Foundation
- Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
- Sauer Family Foundation
- TE Connectivity Foundation
- Warren Foundation



Mission: To honor God by building relationships, hope, and a culture of achievement within mobile home communities through **education, healthy activities, resource connections, and faith development.**

We are excited to announce that Eagle Brook - Wayzata recently selected Mobile Hope as their church ministry partner! We so value each of our church partners, without which we could not do all that we do. We look forward to working with you, Eagle Brook!



Mobile Hope, 7900 Maple Hill Road,
Corcoran, MN 55340
www.MobileHopeMN.org
www.facebook.com/MobileHopeMN

