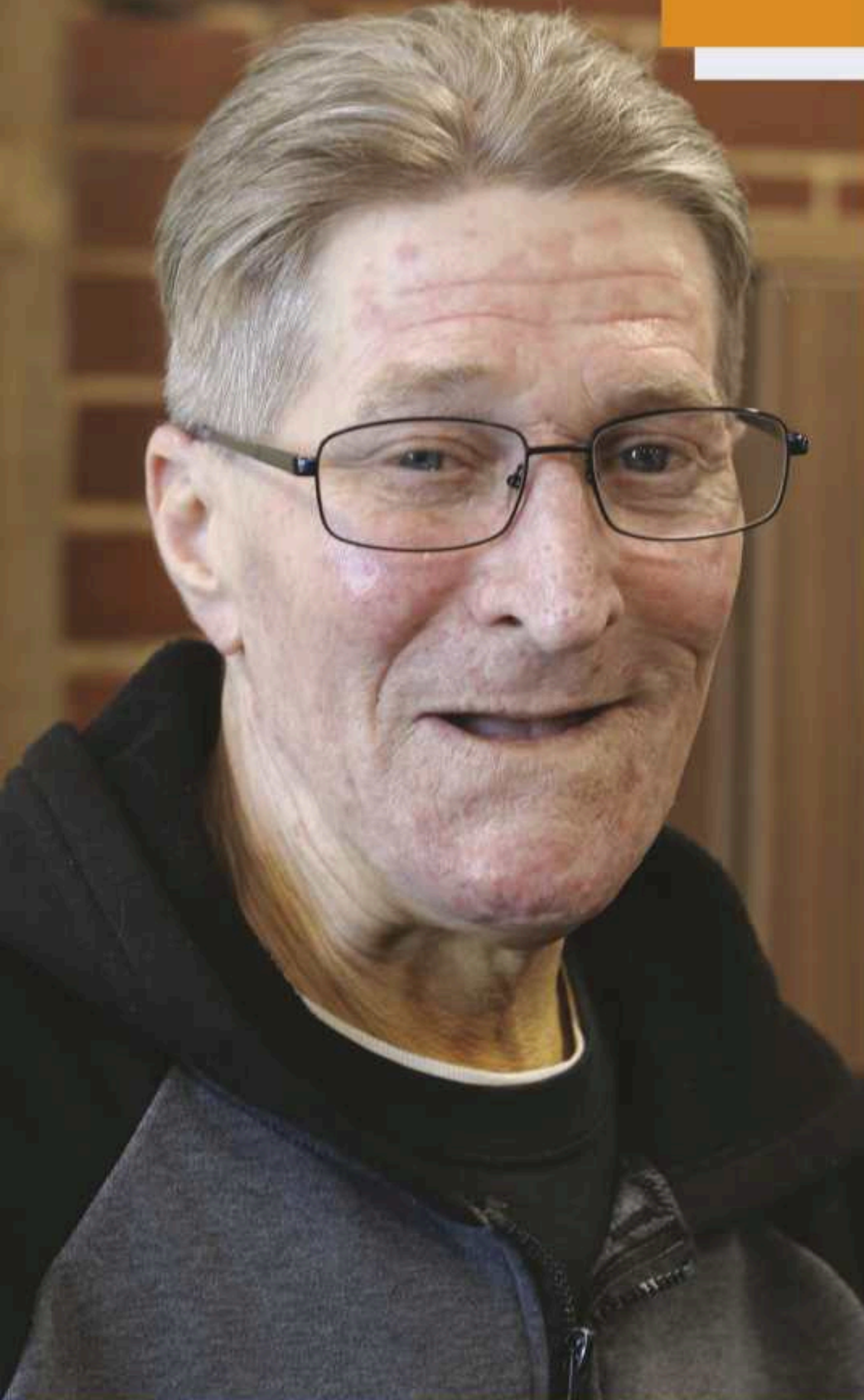


**MORE  
THAN**  
*a shelter.*

# RAISING UP

THE GOOD NEWS OF HELPING UP MISSION



## The World I Wanted

“Before I came to Helping Up Mission (HUM), I was homeless, mentally unstable, totally addicted to alcohol and suffering from malnutrition with nowhere to go,” says William, 61 (pictured left). “I was born in Baltimore City. My stepfather had just returned from the Vietnam War and was suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. It was very violent in my home. When I was seven years old, I had my first drink. By the age of sixteen, I was a regular drinker.”

William found odd jobs around Baltimore and one day in 1986, he was working at Attman’s Delicatessen on Lombard Street. “I was sitting in the stockroom, and I could see the mission. Everything was dirty with homeless people lined up. It looked like jail. My boss told me if I kept up my drinking, I would end up there. I swore I would never live in a place like that!”

Over the next three decades, William continued to drink. “I ended up homeless in Morrell Park, Baltimore. I remember the first time I saw HUM’s Mobile Street Outreach bus. I was drinking and Pete Griffin—the

continued on page 2 →

2

Daniel Stoltzfus’  
monthly update

3

• Focus on Recovery  
• Cheer, Chicken,  
and Sauce

4

Impacting Lives  
for Generations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Director of Outreach and Intake—was passing out Help and Hope cards. That night, recognizing my grim situation, I prayed to God to get me out of this. Two days later, the bus came back, and they were handing out hot dogs. God had answered my prayers.”

“I met Evelyn ‘Nikki’ Jones, the Outreach Coordinator, and when I asked her where she was from, she said HUM. I said, ‘Do you mean that dirty old mission?’ We talked, prayed and cried then she put me in the outreach van headed for intake!”

## “Next month, I’ll have my high school diploma at age 61!”

“Since coming to HUM, I am transforming into a person I never thought I could be. I’ve been receiving the education I never thought I’d have. Next month, I’ll have my high school diploma at age 61! I’m also training to become a Peer Recovery Specialist and in six months, I’ll start a new career. For the first time in my life, I’m taking care of my health and by the time you read this, I hope to have my hepatitis C cured and a complete set of new teeth!”

“Thank you to the donors. Baltimore needs this place. When I was younger, the streets were packed with homeless people and now most of them are here getting the help they need. If I could go back in time and talk to my 20-year-old self working at Attman’s, I’d drag him over here and make him put the gin away. This is the world I always wanted to be in. I couldn’t stop drinking until I came here!”



## Hope Restored. Lives Rebuilt.

Daniel’s Monthly Update

### Dear HUM Family,

You may wonder—how does the transformation in the lives of those who come to Helping Up Mission (HUM) happen? Often it begins with a simple step, an act of love and compassion. We’ve learned over the years at HUM that hope, and transformation often starts with a simple act of love like a meal.

Recently, my family along with HUM Board Chair, Chuck Knudsen and his family had an opportunity to prepare a hand-breaded chicken parmesan dinner for the 600 plus men and women residing our two recovery campuses (see pictures on page 3). It was a joy to work together to share a meal with our community prepared with love.

Another example of the power of acts of kindness and love are found in William’s story this month, where he shared, “I was drinking and Pete Griffin—HUM Director of Outreach and Intake—was passing out Help and Hope cards on the street. That night, recognizing my grim situation, I prayed to God to get me out of this. Two days later, the bus came back, and they were handing out hot dogs. God had answered my prayers.”

This kind of love in action initiates transformation. When you give to HUM you make this love and compassionate care possible for those we serve.

Serving with you,

**K. Daniel Stoltzfus, CEO**  
Helping Up Mission

**Our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action.**

– 1 John 3:18

# Focus on Recovery

“Nikki” Jones – Outreach Coordinator

My method is love. Letting people we meet on Mobile Street Outreach, like William from the feature story, know we care about them. We hug on them and love on them – a feeling many of them have not felt in a long time. Sometimes, you can see in their eyes that they want help. Sometimes, it does not work out, but we wear them out with consistency by building personal relationships. We remember their names.

Every person we meet gets my personal number, and if they don't come back with us, I simply ask them to meet us again next week.

The next time we show up, I hear them calling my name, “Nikki! Did Nikki make this soup?”



Because of our commitment, they bring others dealing with homelessness and addiction to experience our love.

# Cheer, Chicken, and Sauce

For the fifth year, our CEO Dan Stoltzfus, his wife, Angela, and their family, along with our Board Chair Chuck Knudsen and his family took over Helping Up Mission to serve a delicious Italian meal. Angela's family recipe featured hand-breaded chicken with homemade sauce. Over 600 portions were lovingly prepared and served. Thank you, Dan, Angela, the Stoltzfus, Strachan and Knudsen families, for your heartfelt gift!





## Toiletry Drive

Even with the holiday season behind us, we urgently need full-size toiletries to support those we serve.

**Hosting a toiletry drive** at your local church, school, or organization is a simple and impactful way to help. We are accepting new, unopened items such as shampoo, body wash, and deodorant. For more information on hosting a toiletry drive or to view our current needs, please email Brian Murphy at [bmurphy@helpingup.org](mailto:bmurphy@helpingup.org).

### To Donate Urgent Needs

[helpingupmission.org/ways-to-give/donate-goods](http://helpingupmission.org/ways-to-give/donate-goods)



# Impacting Lives for Generations

As we enter 2025, you may be thinking about things you will tackle this year. If you are thinking about creating or freshening your will, we want to share that creating a faith-honoring legacy has never been simpler. Helping Up Mission (HUM) has partnered with FreeWill to make it easier than ever to begin your estate plan—at no cost.

As you reflect on the legacy you want to leave, consider creating a lasting impact to **Restore Hope and Rebuild Lives** by including HUM in your estate plans. Ensure that your most cherished values continue to thrive in Greater Baltimore - for generations to come.



## How do I get started?

Visit [FreeWill.com/helpingupmission](http://FreeWill.com/helpingupmission) today! If you have already included a gift to HUM in your plans, please fill out the form at [FreeWill.com/Record/helpingupmission](http://FreeWill.com/Record/helpingupmission), so we can thank you!



## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

We currently face a volunteer shortage at the **Center for Women & Children** and need your help! Your time and dedication can make a difference in the lives of our community members—join us and be the change today!



[helpingupmission.vomo.org/org/helping-up-mission](http://helpingupmission.vomo.org/org/helping-up-mission)

 **Helping Up Mission**  
**Hope Restored. Lives Rebuilt.**

1029 E. Baltimore St.  
Baltimore, MD 21202

**410-675-HELP (4357)**  
[helpingupmission.org](http://helpingupmission.org)

## Our Mission

Helping Up Mission provides hope to people experiencing homelessness, poverty, or addiction by meeting their physical, psychological, social, and spiritual needs.

### Donate now

Mail us your gift or give online at [helpingupmission.org/donate](http://helpingupmission.org/donate).

**Follow us on social media:**  [helpingupmission](https://www.youtube.com/helpingupmission)

 [@helpingup](https://www.instagram.com/helpingup)

 [helpingupmission](https://www.facebook.com/helpingupmission)

 [@helpingup](https://twitter.com/helpingup)