

TOPEKA RESCUE MISSION MONTHLY REPORT APRIL 2023

Topeka Rescue Mission • 600 N. Kansas Avenue • Topeka, KS 66608-1240

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RECOGNIZING THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



RECOGNIZING THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

70 years ago this month, a man named Max Manning had a vision for starting a shelter for those experiencing homelessness and hunger in Topeka. Max had been in the Marines throughout World War II and the Korean War, and he was no stranger to bravely going where others feared to go - he was even one of the first Kansans to be called overseas during the Korean War.

He gave his life to Christ while in the Marines and became filled with a desire to share the love of Jesus with others. On returning to Kansas he began witnessing to people on the streets of Topeka, and during one of these times he met a businessman named George Eutsler. Also a Christian, George and Max began talking about the needs of the people they encountered on the streets and how Topeka needed a shelter for people to go when they had no where else to turn.

Soon their shared vision had taken root and, in 1953, they rented a building in North Topeka and turned it into a makeshift homeless shelter. Max paid for the first month of rent himself and emptied out his own kitchen - bringing his own pots, pans, and kitchenware to TRM so they could begin serving meals in addition to providing shelter. He had no idea where his vision to start a shelter in Topeka would go, but he knew his mission: to serve the people in front of him as best as he could and to share the love of Jesus Christ with everyone he encountered.

Today, Max is 95 years old and the last living founder of TRM, and his vision - along with the other founders of TRM - has become a reality for tens of thousands of people who have come to TRM to receive help, hope, and healing over the last 70 years. Max could have made many different decisions in his life, but he decided to serve God above all, and we at TRM and all those we serve still benefit from his faithfulness today!

La Manda Broyles, Executive Director of TRM, said on meeting Max:

“I think there are moments in our lives that stand out so clearly, and this is one for me. It’s one thing to hear about Max’s heart, and to hear about his legacy, but to be able to see him, hug him, shake his hand, and hear his stories is so empowering. It’s a reminder to me that this is a calling and a very purposeful assignment that the Lord has me on. It’s a great responsibility to ensure that the love of Christ is still the foundational root at TRM.”



Over the past year La Manda has been at the forefront of an incredibly successful transition into new leadership at TRM, and now serves as the seventh executive director. She shares this passionate calling to lead the ministry of TRM, standing on the foundations of those who came before her and seeking God for the foundations she will establish as our leader. As we look ahead to the future, she knows that the needs of those who experience homelessness, hunger, and the difficulties of life will be met with the same conviction and dedication to loving those in front of us that has been shared by many over the past 70 years.

While the future of the next 70 years is unknown, the assignment of TRM will not change - to seek God, to be available to meet the needs of the community as they arise, and to do whatever is required to serve God and love our neighbors. We thank you for standing with us on this journey, recognizing those who have been with us in the past, the present, and those who will join with us in the future! †



“God’s mighty power comes when God’s people learn to walk with God.” - Jack Hyles

WAYS YOU CAN HELP



Mail Donations to:

Topeka Rescue Mission Ministries
PO Box 8350
Topeka, KS 66608

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Visit TRMonline.org
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Consider a recurring monthly gift.

Set up monthly auto payment online, it’s quick and easy!



Volunteer

Contact our volunteer services to get started!

Email: volunteer@trmonline.org

Pray

Pray for our staff, guests, and all those we serve!



1953

Street evangelist George Eusteler, Missionary and Reverend Max Manning, & businessman Walt Hillmer founded the Topeka Rescue Mission.

1955

Reverend Charles Fox was named Executive Director of TRM.

1968

TRM continued to add beds for men (housing approximately 20-30), a kitchen, and a chapel.

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1954

Started providing bed space for approximately 10-15 men to sleep each night.

1959

Rented and moved into a building in the 600 block of North Kansas Ave, on the north side of the Pepsi Bottling Plant at Kansas and Curtis Street

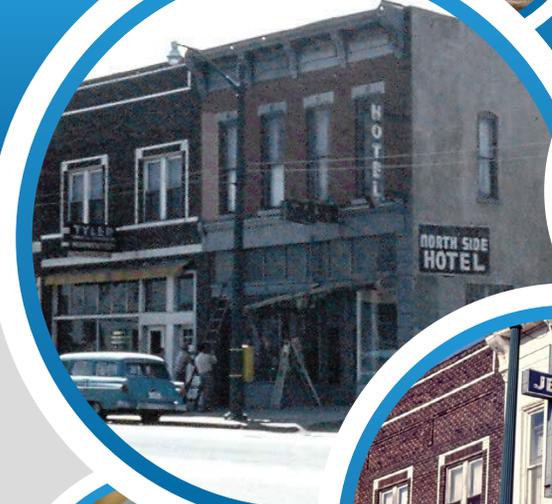


1986

Barry Feaker becomes Executive Director of TRM.

1987

601 N Kansas... as an extended... mentally ill. O... increased to c... per night. The... biggest grow... with women a... sheltering app... kids per night



TRM TIMELINE 1953-2023

"This success story is about the unfailing love of a creator God and a wonderful Savior, along with an army of compassionate people that have heard His voice and answered with a yes through their loving hearts, working hands, servant feet, compassionate voices, tears of sympathy, personal resources, and fervent prayers of faith."
- Barry Feaker, TRM Executive Director Emeritus

Next decade saw multiple leadership changes for the Topeka Rescue Mission. Reverend Quentin Housted took over as the Director, followed by Reverend Nathan Beasterfield and then Reverend Ray Canfield. During Beasterfield's time as Director, they acquired the Pepsi bottling plant building. It was remodeled for family living, allowing TRM to create additional housing to include rooms for men and children.

1985

Art Kennedy, a guest at the Topeka Rescue Mission, was named Interim Director while the board looked to fill the Director role.

2000

Construction on the Hope Center was completed. Within the first two weeks, it was at capacity with 150 guests. The total number of guests staying at the Topeka Rescue Mission in both the Main shelter and the Hope Center continued to run at about 225-300 per night for the next several years.

1986

The current men's shelter building opened. The new shelter was occupied by 150 guests the very first night it was open.

2004

The TRM Distribution Center opens to help provide more services to the community.

2011

The Street Reach program was founded to make a more significant difference in meeting the needs of our unsheltered neighbors who were not guests of the Rescue Mission.

2013

NET Reach (Neighborhood Empowerment and Transformation) began in the Hi-Crest community when Topeka Rescue Mission envisioned a community outreach to "throw the 'net' in the community to meet needs in the community!"

2015

Restore Hope was launched to help make an impact for women who were experiencing human trafficking by intervening to meet their physical needs and assisting in their stabilization efforts to help them work through physical, emotional, and spiritual restoration.

2016

The CaRE (Career REadiness) program, started with the focus of helping guests prepare for and find employment. These programs help increase the positive impact TRM is making for many guests.

2023

Celebrating 70 years in need by bringing serving those experiencing and hunger. Look has in store for the the next 70 years!



— CELEBRATING —

70TH YEARS

— ANNIVERSARY —



2019

The Topeka Rescue Mission started struggling to acquire the needed financial support to maintain the high level of community support efforts. As a result, TRM had to scale back operations and programs and transition our full focus to sheltering, feeding, and sharing the Gospel with the homeless.

2020

Covid. TRM faced a whole new set of challenges which gave clarity to God's plans of 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic hit, and the Topeka Rescue Mission became a pivotal place for community support during an extraordinarily challenging time. The required changes for safety significantly reduced occupancy limits from an average of 242 guests per night to approximately 150 per night. TRM also became a USDA Community Food Distribution Program distribution location and launched what would be known as Operation Food Secure (OFS). Working with local churches and organizations, TRM helped distribute over 4 million pounds of food to families in need during the pandemic throughout the community.

2017

The Children's Palace opened to provide trauma-informed education and care to children aged zero to five who had experienced homelessness or trauma. The Children's Palace was in operation for two years, and the impact on the lives touched during that time is priceless.

2021

After 36 years, Barry Feaker announces his retirement as Executive Director of the Topeka Rescue Mission.



Years of ministering to those seeking Help and Hope through experiencing homelessness moving forward to what God has in store for the Topeka Rescue Mission in



2022

La Manda Broyles named Executive Director of the Topeka Rescue Mission.