

Center of Hope
PARKER COUNTY

♥ February 2012 ♥



*"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me."
Matthew 25:40*

Highlights of 2011



Poverty Simulation



Remodeled Kitchen



Camp Hope



650 Turkeys

God's Work in 2011

What an awesome year 2011 was! We believe the reason Center of Hope experienced such great increase in both donations and in our ability to serve others is because in everything we do, we strive to show our neighbors God's love and honor Christ. So we look forward to 2012 with a great anticipation and watchfulness for what the Lord will be doing.

We would like to share with you a few of the amazing blessings that we received. We see God's hand working here, literally, everyday. Sometimes, He moves in really large ways and that is just so fun to be a part of. This year He arranged for us to:

- Receive a 2-story house valued at \$135,000
- Have our kitchen completely remodeled and updated by special donations
- Hold a hugely successful Poverty Simulation with community leaders
- And then take the Poverty Simulation to TCU graduating class of educators
- Receive 650 large turkeys just before Thanksgiving
- Receive free nearly-new office furniture when we moved our administrative offices
- Receive funds for new flooring and a new telephone system
- With community support that allowed Camp Hope to expand into 8 neighborhoods serving over 600 children
- With many more volunteers, each with skills that are needed to move our ministry forward

In our efforts to serve our neighbors, He has allowed us over 15,000 family visits. Some needed groceries or help with a utility bill and some just needed someone to listen as they cried through the details of an unfair and harsh economic season. And always, in the depth of their need, people are told of the love of Christ and the Hope He offers for new beginnings.

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God's Work in 2011 *(continued from pg. 1)*

Also, in our Hope for Tomorrow program, hundreds of people have gained new disciplines. They have learned that our God has new mercies everyday and abundant grace. People have found new skills and confidence that help them be more effective in the job market.

Because of your donations, we have new computers, new classrooms, new programs – all aimed at helping others break the cycle of poverty. We could not do this work without your gifts and most especially your prayers of support. Maybe you work and don't have the time to come here and volunteer but you give – thank you.



Classroom Expansion in 2011

Maybe you don't have any extra finances but you do have extra time and you volunteer – thank you. Maybe you don't have the ability to give or even come serve but you can sit in your home and pray – thank you. However you have been a part of this ministry, we say thank you – we would not be here, if not for you.

We specifically ask for your prayers, that we would not try and run ahead of God, but have patience to wait on His timing and His provision as He continues to lead us.

New at Center of Hope!

Expanded Services to our clients:

- Kingdom Smiles offers emergency dental assistance
- Individual Development Grants which assist students with their career path expenses
- Individual Development Accounts designed to develop long-term saving strategies

We offer a hand up, not a hand-out.

2012 Classes Off To A Great Start!

The new classes at Center of Hope began early January. Jobs for Life class has over 20 students and the computer class, partnered with Weatherford College, has 12 students enrolled this semester.



Classes are held twice a week and provide knowledge, encouragement and continuing support that will empower students to achieve high levels of success. Please be in prayer for each student as they start their new journey.





MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1 John 4:7-8



We Can Make The Difference



At Center of Hope we strive to meet the individual needs of every client. We are here for those who need help and have nowhere else to turn. This is the story of Julie. She came to us during the Christmas holidays. As with many of our clients during this time, financial burdens seem to overshadow the joy of the season. While Center of Hope's message is that Christmas is about the celebration of Jesus' birth, it is hard to look at a mom with tears in her eyes and tell her Christmas is not about the gifts. Julie had come with a special request for her 25 year old son with special needs. Due to his age, her son was not able to qualify for local gift programs and she was unable to purchase gifts on her own. Julie was not looking for anything extravagant, just some winter clothes. A couple of volunteers heard about this story and immediately wanted to help.

A few days later, Julie came back to the Center to pick up the gifts. When we presented them to her, she was beside herself with gratitude. Julie appreciated the presents that were purchased for her son, but it was the spirit of giving that showed her the Christ-like love we can all have for one another.

It takes a team of people to meet the needs of others. Our purpose is to serve and bring glory to God. **Every need that is met is because of someone like YOU. Thank you to everyone who donates, volunteers or prays to bring HOPE to others.**

THANK YOU

To all businesses, churches, and individuals who helped fill our shelves during the Christmas Season.

Over 460 families received food in December!

When you give,
you give to families in crisis.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hope For Tomorrow

- ◆ Life Coaches
- ◆ Teachers
- ◆ Office Help

Client Services

- ◆ Advisor
- ◆ Data Entry
- ◆ Office

Camp Hope

Someone to help find recipes, activities for cooking and Bible curriculum.

Be a part of an exciting ministry!





Center of Hope
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Center of Hope
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Permit No. 101

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*Center of Hope is a Christ-centered ministry
dedicated to helping others break the cycle of poverty in Parker County.*


Center of Hope Board of Directors:	Tom Dean Wade Julian	Corey Tucker Blayne Schorr	Patti Young Dennis Ledford	Janet Foster Mike Brasovan
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**Look Who's Serving
in the Kitchen:**

Weatherford Location
The Church in Peaster
South Main Church of Christ
Couts Methodist
St. Stephens
Northside Baptist
Christ the King Covenant
Spring Creek Baptist

East Parker County Location
Faith Presbyterian
Parker County Cowboy Church
Oak Ridge Church of Christ
Christ Church West
The Summit

WHO did your donations help this month?



Jonathon came to the Center for help with his utility bill. His son had been in a serious accident and in order to care for him, Jonathon had to miss work. Unfortunately, the company had let him go and coupled with medical bills, there was a financial strain on the family. But Jonathon remained positive and chose to put his trust in God. He remained hopeful and had two job interviews lined up. He simply needed help to fill the gap until paychecks started coming again.

Center of Hope is able to help many people for many different reasons. Just like Jonathon, we strive to go the extra mile and help people get back on their feet. **As a donor, you are a very important part of this ministry. Give to the Center of Hope and help Parker County Families.**



**Volunteer, Donate, Partner with Center of Hope
to help families in Parker County.**
Donate online @ www.centerofhopetx.com
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