

Chad's Story of HOPE



When a men of HOPE come to us, they have their own unique histories and desires. As such, Ms. Dee works with each man, helping him develop an individual plan to reach his goals. For some, like Chad, financial literacy is a major component of their program.

It's not uncommon for men of HOPE to not trust banks and want to physically hold onto their income. But, when Chad had his money in his pocket, he spent it. Ms. Dee and Chad discussed numerous ways he could get a handle on saving his money, but nothing seemed to work. Both Chad and Ms. Dee were getting frustrated with his lack of progress.

Though he was hesitant, finally, Ms. Dee convinced Chad to try the envelope method. With Ms. Dee's help, he worked out his budget, created an envelope for each expense, and committed not to "borrow" money from

other envelopes.

In one week, he had made progress - he had paid all his expenses and had a few bucks in his savings envelope. As each week went by, Chad became more and more excited and he was exceeding his savings goals.

It took several months of savings and a lot of self discipline, but Chad saved enough to make his successful transition out of homelessness and into his own home.

It's been two and a half years since Chad successfully transitioned into his own home and self-sufficient living. He's still using the envelope method! Chad called just to check in not long ago, and he says the money management skills he learned at HOPE was the key not only to his transition but also his ability to continue to live self-sufficiently.

Around Town

Alexander High School JROTC

Pre-Pandemic, Kathy, Charlene, and Tiffany were frequently invited to speak at clubs, churches organizations, and schools. Since March 2020, that has slowed down tremendously but when Tiffany was invited to speak to Alexander High School's JRTC classes, she got ready to Zoom.

The students wanted to know more about our local Veterans, and they asked fantastic questions about access to healthcare and homelessness.



After class these students went into action. With the help of their teacher, Lieutenant Colonel Sharon Collier (Army, Retired), the students collected \$500 along with small hand sanitizers, umbrellas, and other needed items to well stock the DESERVE Van and help support a homeless Veteran.

Impact Hero

Veteran, DESERVE Driver, DESERVE Veteran Liason



Steve Thomas served on the USS Ranger from 1978-1984. After leaving the Navy, he didn't stop serving. He served as a member of the Honor Flight for eight years, and today, you are likely to see him around town driving the DESERVE Van.

As you know, DESERVE is so much more than a ride to the doctor. For both the volunteer drivers and the Veterans, it's a time for fellowship and commradere. For some of our local Veterans, it may be the only regular social connection they have. With Trinka Davis closed due to the pandemic, some of our Veterans were completely isolated. They didn't have an appointment at the doctor, so they were missing their regular social connection.

Steve has a deep passion for Veterans, and he stepped up to the plate. He has expand his volunteer service to become the DESERVE Veteran Liason. He reaches out to each DESERVE Veteran regularly, whether they have a doctor appointment or not. Sometimes this means a lengthy visit or phone call just to chat. Sometimes it means helping to connect a Veteran with resources. Sometimes it means just being present.

Since joining the DESERVE team, Steve has been a rockstar volunteer, and we are thrilled that he chose to continue serving Veterans through DESERVE when he moved to Georgia from Ohio in 2017.

We are so excited about the energy Steve brings to the organization and this new way we can serve and support our local Veterans.

Become a Friend of Impact in 2020 <https://www.impactwestga.org/friends>

2020 in quick review

Loss & Blessings

In 2020, we lost two beloved volunteers: Danny Watkins, DESERVE Driver, and Stanley Allen, HOPE Resident Assistant. They were good men who loved God and served others. We miss them, but we know they are now in the presence of the Lord they served so well here on Earth. We will see them again.

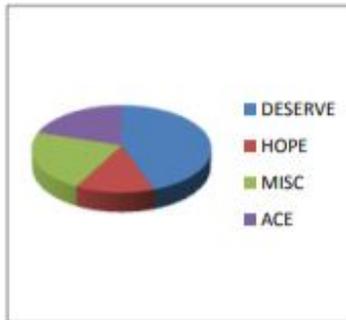


Counting our Blessings



Impact West GA exists to improve the quality of life for vulnerable populations in our area.

Because of your support and partnership, there is a pathway to **HOPE**, for those who **DESERVE**, and that's an **ACE** in my book



UNPRECEDENTED

PAINFUL

CHAOTIC

UNCERTAIN

These are just a few of the words we heard used to describe 2020.

Yet, in spite of all the hard things that happened throughout the year, at Impact West GA we also saw hope, love, endurance, generosity and community shine through. You made it possible to serve over 225 of the most vulnerable in our community throughout the year in ways that changed their lives forever!

\$ 172,895.00 in-kind

\$ 293,804.88 in support
(Grants, donations, events)

\$ 267,328.52 Costs



New Partnership Opportunity
In the making.
Keep Watching for the latest news from



Ride for HOPE
\$ 18,644.00

YARD SALE

\$2,625.00

Volunteers: 123
Volunteer Hours: 1,920
Numbers lower due to Covid-19

Impact is what it is because of you!

Shout Out

Thank you for your generous grants that helped Impact West GA continue to serve our community through ACE, HOPE, and DESERVE in 2020:

- Carroll EMC
- Greystone Power Corporation
- Community Foundation of West GA
- Trinka Davis
- Wells Fargo
- Golden K Kiwanis Club

www.impactwestga.org.

Donate: www.impactwestga.org/donate

Volunteer: www.impactwestga.org/join-the-team