

Welcome Back, Volunteers!



Rick Penn, Marshall and Mike McGaugh cook breakfast for guests staying at the Men's Crisis Shelter
ing real help and lasting hope 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Through volunteering in the soup kitchen, the reception office and the clothing assistance ministry, their hard work has sustained Open Door through this difficult year.

Traditionally, summer at the Open Door is the perfect time for group projects. The campus is ready for its growing list of maintenance needs, especially as the weather turns warmer. Open Door is also desperately in need of volunteers skilled at repairing bikes to help with the bike assistance program for soup kitchen, shelter and other community guests.

If you're interested in volunteering, or in starting a group project, please contact Bob Marsh at the Open Door by calling 989-835-2291, ext. 107, or emailing him at bob.marsh@midlandopendoor.org.

Chaired by Michael and Claudia Goad



Mark your calendars today and make plans to join us on Tuesday, November 9 for Dine on the Door. We're pleased to announce Michael and Claudia Goad as our honorary event chairs for 2021.

This year, Open Door will host two in-person events at The H Hotel: one at 11:00 am for lunch and one at 6:00 pm for dinner. Whichever option you choose, you'll still have the same amazing opportunity to witness the lives changed through your partnership with the Open Door.

To become a sponsor or host a table, call the office at 989-835-2291 or visit midlandopendoor.org/dine-on-the-door.

As the state of Michigan eases COVID-19 restrictions, Open Door is excited to welcome you back to the campus to serve our homeless, hungry and hurting friends.

Since the start of the pandemic, Open Door has experienced an incredible influx of new volunteers who have stepped up to the challenge, helping ensure there were no interruptions to services. In fact, for about two months after the regional flood, we were welcoming helping hands from the early hours of morning until late at night - providing



Outreach and Operations Coordinator, Bob Marsh

Bulletin Board

Experience Your Impact

In 2020 we provided over **71,000** meals, including more than **8,300** for flood survivors

Grocery List

Mayonnaise	Sliced cheese
Frozen peas	Sour cream
Green beans	Cream cheese
Carrots	Chicken stock
Spinach	Beef stock
Ground beef	Ziploc sandwich bags

How to Give

1. Mail enclosed envelope to:
PO Box 1614
Midland, MI 48641
2. Text to Give:
Text "opendoor" to 56651
3. Call: 989.835.2291

Find Us Online



www.midlandopendoor.org



P.O. Box 1614 Midland, MI 48641
989.835.2291 office@midlandopendoor.org
www.midlandopendoor.org



A Place to Stay

"I love you guys."

When Heidi opens the door of her new home at Greenhill Apartments, she's quick to invite others inside. From the pictures hung on the walls to the cozy couch carried up several flights of stairs by Open Door volunteers, this isn't a temporary space: for Heidi, it's a place to stay.

This isn't Heidi's first time living at Greenhill. When the apartment building caught fire in 2017, Heidi was among the 170 residents who evacuated, leaving her home and moving into temporary housing until the building's renovations were complete.

But last year, after a disagreement with a neighbor, Heidi became homeless. With Greenhill still undergoing renovations, she had nowhere to go. Heidi called Midland's Open Door and stayed at the Women and Children's Shelter, where she worked with a case manager who helped her prioritize her needs and work on her goals while she waited for her promised apartment.

Nearly four years after the initial fire, Greenhill officially reopened earlier this year. Heidi was one of the first people on their waiting list so she was able to move in quickly. But since many of the former Greenhill residents had since adjusted into different housing, there were multiple apartments available to other guests staying in one of Open Door's two shelters.

A few months later, and Heidi is surrounded by neighbors she met while staying at the Open Door. Sixteen Open Door shelter guests and several other regular soup kitchen guests have moved into Greenhill Apartments over the past few months. The relationships Heidi built through the community at the Open Door has carried into her new community at Greenhill.

For those living at Greenhill who have never been to the Open Door, neighbors like Heidi serve as the perfect bridge to share about the hope offered through the ministry's programs and services. As the Open Door outreach team drops by to check on former shelter guests and deliver gifts of food or hygiene products, they also stop to share resources and support with anyone who has a need, extending community within newly restored spaces.

Welcome Hope

Nobody should move into a new apartment empty-handed. When members of the Open Door community learned about the guests moving into Greenhill, they instantly wanted to help. The Stitch and a Prayer group from Assumption of BVM Church created laundry bags filled with household linens, Midland County Youth Leadership provided cleaning kits, and some of you gave much needed kitchen utensils through a Pampered Chef fundraiser.

Thank you for your kind generosity!





From the Executive Director



With all that took place last year, I praise God for friends like you who cared for the needs of our most distressed neighbors at such a critical time. The incredible number of meals served - a 48 percent increase - and the unique service gap that the Open Door outreach team filled during the first few months of the pandemic when most services were temporarily shuttered, demonstrates the deep compassion and steady generosity of our Midland community.

The lives of men and women like Charles and Heidi were sustained and rebuilt through partners like you. And, while we are thankful that last year is behind us, we know that more men, women and children will make their way to our door in 2021. Will you commit today to join us in sustaining the emergency and supportive services the Open Door provides by becoming a monthly partner? You can complete with the envelope provided or visit our website at www.midlandopendoor.org to sign up to be a monthly partner.

Thank you for remembering our homeless, hungry and hurting neighbors.

Renee

13,357
meals

Meal Demand Triples

The American Red Cross asks the Open Door to provide two meals a day to flood survivors for 44 days. Open Door holds a special Community Clothing Assistance event for those affected by the flood.

June

Good to Be Home

"This place is awesome," Charles said. "It saved my life."

Several years ago, Charles moved into Greenhill Apartments after staying at the Open Door's men's shelter. But in July of 2017, Charles and 170 of his neighbors were displaced when a fire on the eighth floor consumed a corner of the building. Charles was temporarily resettled in another apartment until May of 2020, when his temporary apartment flooded. Charles was out of town at the time.

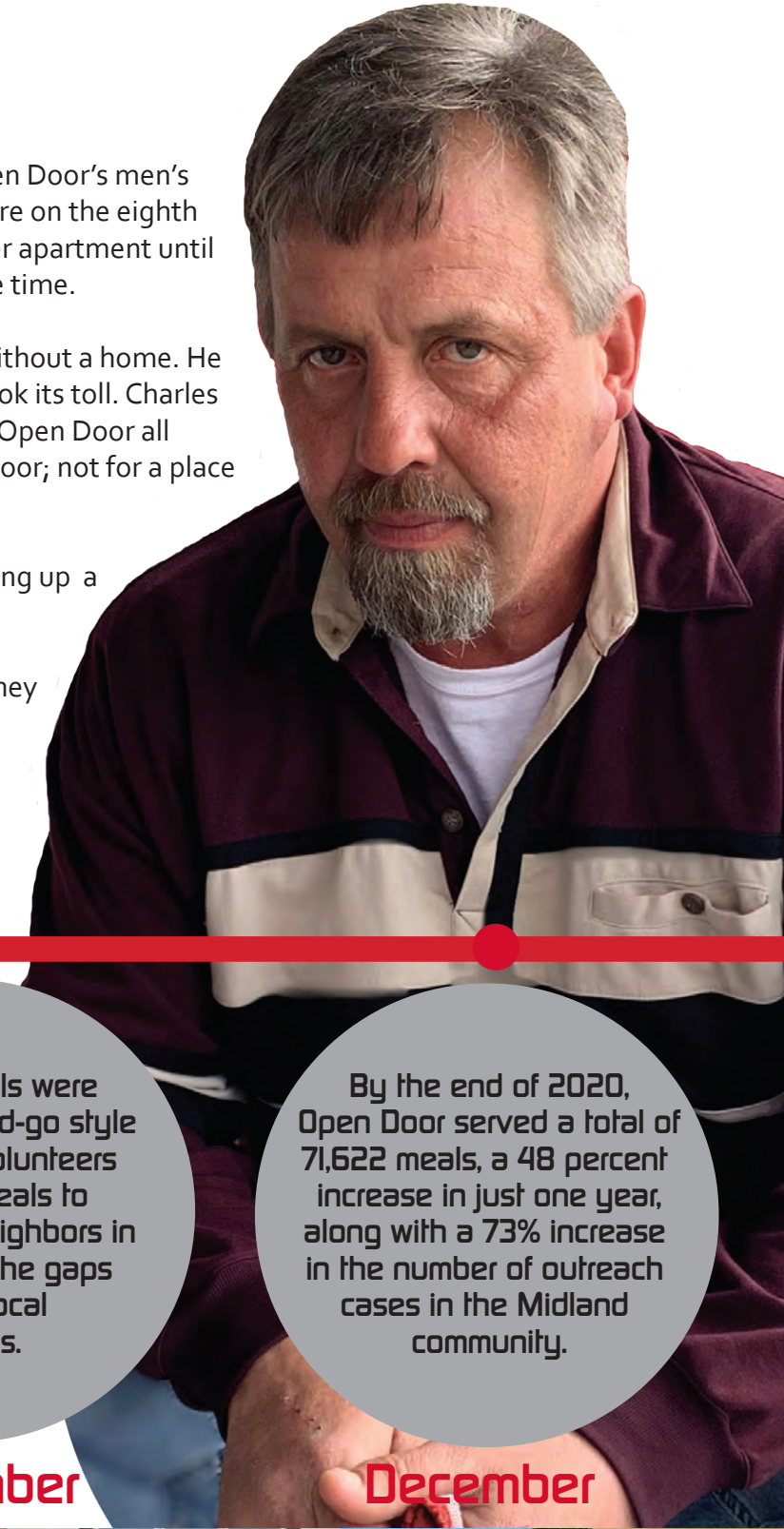
Charles was devastated when he came back and found himself, for the third time, without a home. He moved to another temporary apartment but the discouragement of his situation took its toll. Charles has been part of the Open Door soup kitchen community since he moved out of the Open Door all those years ago. When he was hit by hardship again, he made his way to the Open Door; not for a place to stay, but for a hot meal and encouragement.

After the flood, Charles stopped by the soup kitchen multiple times each week, picking up a meal for himself and for his neighbor who was also displaced by the flood.

"Open Door helped me and also helped me feed my buddy and his kids," he said. "They loved to see Uncle Charles coming with that food!"

On February 15, 2021, Charles moved back into his same Greenhill apartment, now newly renovated.

"It feels good to be home," said Charles.



Open Door switches to grab-and-go meals from the front porch of the Buttles campus. Food donations skyrocket, with 4,255 pounds donated and 3,108 pounds redistributed within the first 48 hours.

March

153 grab-and-go meals are handed out on Easter Sunday. Open Door assists 26 households with unemployment claims and taxes while initiating local eviction assistance collaboration.

April

Open Door evacuates both shelters, moving all operations, including the soup kitchen, to Emmanuel Baptist Church. Open Door aids 10 households transitioning from the mass emergency shelter into local hotels.

May



Thank You
for your support!

Open Door provides emergency case management services for 45 households facing eviction through a multi-agency and local church collaboration effort.

July/August

Holiday meals were served grab-and-go style on-site, with volunteers delivering meals to quarantined neighbors in need to fill in the gaps of other local services.

November

By the end of 2020, Open Door served a total of 71,622 meals, a 48 percent increase in just one year, along with a 73% increase in the number of outreach cases in the Midland community.

December

