

Good Samaritan Home

# New Beginnings

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## Success stories

There are 240,000 people on probation in Ohio—third highest in the nation! That is why Ohio has started an innovated program called Justice Reinvestment—to find better ways to keep people out of prison.

**Good Samaritan Home is one of those better ways.**

Since we welcomed our first resident from prison in 2007, we have housed nearly a thousand men—and now women.

Here are few of our success stories.

### Deanna

She had no place to live when released from prison a year ago. Fortunately our new female house just opened.

Her goal now was to find a job. But it wasn't that easy.

"I never had been in trouble before," she said. "I felt like people looked at me different. That made it hard for me to get a job."

A major obstacle was her appearance. Her ex-boyfriend beat her, and even broke most of her front teeth. How can she get a job when she couldn't even smile?

**But Family Health offered a solution.**

Two dental surgeries and a new set of teeth were donated!



"I cried. I felt like a new person. I didn't have to be ashamed anymore," she said.

Now Deanna has new job in a restaurant. "If they need me, I always go to work and do whatever needs done."

"She really is doing well here," her manager said.

"A year ago I never thought I would be doing so well. I'm 38 years old, but I feel 28 now!"

That's because Deanna has support—and hope.

### Daniel

Six years ago Daniel was sleeping in an abandoned barn. He was an

alcoholic and could not keep a job. Eventually he went to prison.

Now he has been sober for three years. He is working more than 70 hours a week, owns a truck and will be closing on his own house in December.

"I credit sobriety for my success," he said.

**He also said he could not have made it without help from a local building contractor, who gave him a job right out of prison, and Good Samaritan Home.**

"I couldn't have done it without you guys."





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## A safe place to live

Jimmy, 75, has been in all of our housing programs during the past 9 years. As an ex-offender, battling mental health issues, and with only his meager Social Security income and no one to help him manage his money, he was often broke, homeless, and sleeping in a car—until it was repossessed for some reason he never could remember.

On several occasions he nearly died on the streets in winter. But now in our transitional living house, he has a safe, warm place to live, more than enough food to eat, and with Kathy Graham's help managing his money, he even has money saved—something he never could do on his own.

"This is my home now," Jimmy said.



## Faith is love in action

Our faith statement these past 16 years has been to simply ask what is the need in the community, and then try to help meet that need.

That was the reason we opened our Greenville homeless shelter in 2006, our reentry house in 2007, our transitional house in 2009, and nine more houses in Dayton since 2011—because so many people in need were coming to our door asking for help.

**But it's not just housing we offer. It's a second chance—and everyone wins!**

If someone coming from prison is working and paying taxes, then they won't be costing taxpayers the nearly \$1.8 billion we pay for prisons in Ohio.

But far more important than money, the basis of our faith is that God's



*Volunteers — and even several men just out of prison— offered much needed help renovating one of our reentry houses in Greenville. We could not have done it without*

If God can forgive the thief on the cross who repented, then so must we. For us that means housing and support for those coming home from prison.

That is the basis of our legal system and, more important, it is the foundation of our faith. Helping hurting people, regardless of what sin they may have committed, is what the Church is commanded to do.

The need for this type of "boots-on-the-ground" ministry is never-ending.

**This ministry is about the moral and spiritual right of every person to have a second chance. It's about grace.**

love, God's forgiveness, knows no limit.  
**There is no sliding scale of grace.**