



*800 Southwest Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72401
870-236-8080
www.missionoutreachnea.com*

Mission Outreach of NEA, Inc. was established in 1982 and has provided programs and services for the impoverished in Northeast Arkansas ever since. Our mission is to House the Homeless, Feed the Hungry and Care for the Sick by providing specific help and new hope.

The city of Jonesboro and Craighead County severely lacks appropriate shelter for the growing homeless population in their city and county. The Women's Crisis Center alone had to turn away over 600 individuals seeking shelter in 2012. The Salvation Army operates a shelter in this geographic area, but only has the capacity to house up to 30 individuals per night and with a population of 121,026 in the Jonesboro MSA there is a glaring gap in services for homeless and impoverished individuals in this area. In 2013, Mission Outreach of NEA, Inc. provided shelter to 562 individuals. Our current facility located in Greene County has been consistently at capacity over the past 9 months.

According to the Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress in 2010, on any given night there were an estimated 650,000 homeless individuals in the United States. This number represents 0.002% of the total United States population. Based on the statistics it is estimated that on any given night there are 134 homeless individuals within the city of Jonesboro. While homelessness affects all ages, the majority are between the ages of 25-55. Single males also make up a majority of the homeless population in Northeast Arkansas. All homeless individuals possess low to no incomes and many homeless individuals suffer from some type of mental illness, which is the leading cause of homelessness in America.

Mission Outreach has purchased property at 800 Southwest Drive in Jonesboro. Our plans are to use facilities on this property to provide transitional and permanent housing to homeless individuals and families. Housing will be provided long-term through partnerships with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Veteran's Affairs Administration. In addition, Mission Outreach will provide programs and services to the homeless population that focus on equipping clients with the tools needed to succeed in both their professional and family life. Staff will also connect clients to mainstream services to eliminate barriers that may prevent clients from advancing.

Mission Outreach will continue its partnership with Families, Inc. to staff mental health professionals at our facility to address the mental health needs of the mentally ill homeless population. This partnership has allowed us to expedite the process of connecting mentally ill homeless clients with permanent housing, while addressing the root causes of their homelessness. Mission Outreach enjoys a partnership with Arkansas State University's College of Nursing and Health Professions which will allow real world opportunities for students to apply knowledge gained in the classroom. This partnership will also allow Mission Outreach to in-part have more people at the facility providing services to those in need and hopefully addressing root causes of homelessness and breaking the cycle of poverty that is prevalent in our community.

Mission Outreach has received and currently receives funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mission Outreach has 14 member Board of Directors who oversee all financial, policy, legal and planning decisions. The staff is composed of an Executive Director, Assistant Director, Development Director, Homeless Prevention Case Manager and Benevolent Services Manager.

Mission Outreach plans to solidify adequate funding sources by July 1, 2014 and be fully operational and meeting the needs of the homeless and impoverished population in Jonesboro and Craighead County by September 1, 2014. The STABLE Program will be implemented by September 1, 2014 as well.

During the time period previously mentioned Mission Outreach will focus on rehabilitating the physical plant at 800 Southwest Drive and forming partnerships with other agency to further address gaps in services. The rehabilitation at 800 Southwest Drive will include bringing all electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and fire suppression assets up to code. The rehabilitation will also include cosmetic work including new paint, carpet, tile, beds, furniture etc. Mission Outreach will also incur expense in bringing the existing kitchen and dining room into working order including deep cleaning of existing equipment and the purchase and installation of additional equipment needed to feed the hungry at the facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Biggs", written in a cursive style.

Jeremy Biggs
Assistant Director