

HOPE

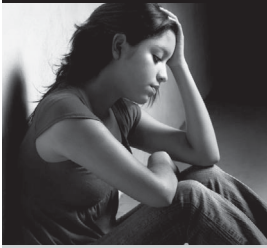
He heals
the brokenhearted
and binds up
their wounds.

— Psalm 147:3



MEL TROTTER
MINISTRIES

Restoring lives
Rebuilding families
In Jesus' name



Living Our Faith in the World

Faith, we're told, is "evidence of things not seen." One of the most important ways to manifest that faith is by helping others in crisis. That's what we do every day at Mel Trotter Ministries. Founded more than 100 years ago by the Rev. Mel Trotter, we are a non-profit organization serving thousands of needy people each year regardless of their background or creed: Homeless men and women. Forgotten children. And their families.

Our primary goal is to bring hurting people back from the edge, to restore them to right relationships with God, their families and society. We do this by providing:

- Emergency shelter
- Food and clothing
- Education and training
- Spiritual guidance
- Job training
- Substance abuse treatment



To continue this important mission, we depend on people like you, as well as our strategic partnerships with church groups, organizations and businesses throughout the region. To learn more, please call (616) 454-8249 or visit us at www.MelTrotter.org.
"You are blessed to be a blessing."

Essential Programs and Services

Emergency food and shelter is just the beginning of what we do at Mel Trotter Ministries. Our holistic, Christ-centered approach reaches far beyond the immediate need to address underlying problems that are often the root cause of homelessness and extreme poverty. Here's a summary of how our programs and services benefit those we serve.

Feeding the Hungry

More than 11% of Kent County residents do not consistently have enough to eat. We take this problem very seriously. Each year, we serve more than 287,000 meals at our Mission and distribute 2.6 million pounds of food to others in need.



Changing Lives

Substance abuse is a common problem among homeless people. Our licensed counselors and recovery program help dozens of people each year break the stranglehold of addiction so they can develop new relationships with God, their family members and society.



Caring for Kids

Thousands of children in West Michigan live in extreme poverty, without the support or resources they need to succeed in life. We provide a safe place for kids to play, learn and grow after school. And we send more than 300 kids to camp each summer.



Cars, Clinics and Charity

Used vehicles donated to Mel Trotter Ministries aren't just sold. We first use them to train our resident men in the skills of auto repair. Funds raised in our vehicle program also help support our vision and dental clinics, which treat more than 800 people each year.



225 Commerce Ave. SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 454-8249
www.MelTrotter.org

Stories of Faith and Redemption



From Emptiness to Hope

James spent time in jail before coming to Mel Trotter Ministries. "I lived a life that was empty, abused my body, drank too much and did drugs. Now every day is a blessing, thanks to God and thanks to the caring staff here. My daughter and I are re-establishing our relationship.... If you're a parent, you probably understand what a great victory that is for me. I am deeply grateful for Mel Trotter Ministries."

A Mother and Three Children

Rosie lost custody of her three children after becoming addicted to crack: "Sometimes I'd go for days without eating. My daughter said: 'Momma, I found you a bed at Mel Trotter.' I tried the women's program for seven months, but had to leave because of my anger problem. When I was ready to return, they welcomed me back with open arms and I started opening up. Thanks to their counseling and care, I'm on the path to a better life. God is moving in this place."



Calling Out to God

Lewis was walking in the bitter cold for miles after spending all his money on drugs: "I was calling to God, tears freezing on my face. God was working in my life, but I just wasn't listening." After talking to his pastor, Lewis boarded a bus to Mel Trotter Ministries where he found love and acceptance, despite his impatience for change. "I know where God wants me to be, with help from Mel."

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Facts & Figures: All in One Year

What gets measured is what gets done. Here at Mel Trotter Ministries, we track our programs carefully to make sure we're helping those who need it the most. The following facts and figures represent our work in 2008 alone. For more information, please visit our offices at 225 Commerce Ave. SW in Grand Rapids or visit us online at www.MelTrotter.org.

- Nights of safe shelter provided: 80,607
- Hot meals served: 287,690
- Vision & dental clinics - people served: 253
- Group counseling sessions: 1,100
- Individual counseling sessions: 1,000
- Inner-city kids sent to summer camp: 424
- Individual lives committed to Christ: 1,100+
- Cars donated, repaired and resold: 528
- Emergency food boxes distributed: 6,152
- Pantry-style meals in those food boxes: 129,192
- Thanksgiving meals served: 1,500+

We cannot measure the profound spiritual and emotional impact that our programs have on people every day. To see this important work first hand, we invite you to volunteer your time at Mel Trotter Ministries.



Our Mission:

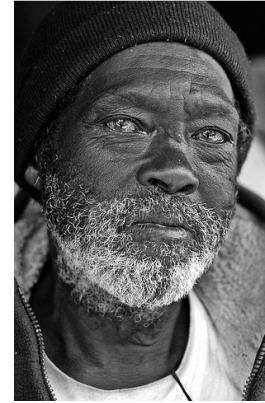
To demonstrate the compassion of Jesus Christ toward the hungry, homeless and hurting of the Grand Rapids area.

HELP

How You Can Help

We depend on your gifts to continue this vital work in our community. Your generosity gives hope to thousands of homeless and forgotten people every year. Here are some ways you can help right now:

- Make a tax-deductible donation
- Donate a car for repair & resale
- Volunteer your time
- Drop off used clothing, furniture and household items for our store



"God has given us two hands – one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing. Let's get to work."
– Billy Graham

Every dollar you give will be multiplied many times by the work of our local volunteers. To make a donation, please call (616) 454-8249 or visit us online at www.MelTrotter.org. All gifts are tax-deductible and greatly needed. **Thank you!**

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