

HISTORY

In January of 1993 a group of concerned citizens recognized the need in Sandusky County for an Emergency Shelter which would provide short term care for the homeless and displaced. Fund-raising projects began in May of 1993. The Liberty Center of Sandusky County Inc. received its 501 (c) (3) tax exemption status in March of 1994. The organization leased a facility in Fremont and opened in June of 1994 to serve homeless men, women and children. By 1999 the need for a larger facility was overwhelming. Fund-raising events for the building project and a search for a larger location began in the Spring of 1999. In January 2002 a building was purchased and extensive renovations began. December 2004 marked the move into our newly renovated facility providing 4800 square feet and doubling our resident capacity to at least 24 people. Many of the residents that we have served have been families, with the majority being single parent women and children. The vision of the Liberty Center has been to provide a family living environment where our residents will be treated with dignity and have the opportunity to start their lives over and become self-sufficient. As a result of the shelter's philosophy many residents have found employment, housing, and regained self confidence in themselves. Many former residents have returned to volunteer at the shelter to give back and to encourage others to keep trying.

SERVICES

- * Temporary shelter for up to 60 days
 - * Nutritious Meals
 - * Toiletries and personal needs
 - * Life skills classes
- * Support to develop a plan of action
 - * Case Management
 - * Advocate services
 - * Job and housing referrals
- * Continued contact beyond placement

FACILITY

The temporary shelter includes: administrative offices, kitchen, dining room, dormitory style sleeping rooms, restrooms, living rooms, play room, showers, and laundry. A play area for children is located outside in the yard.

FINANCE

The Liberty Center operates on the contributions of local churches, private donations, corporate gifts, service groups donations, fund-raising and grants. Please consider remembering the shelter in your will or estate planning.

ADMISSIONS

Applications for admittance are available Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm. Referrals to the shelter are accepted from local agencies and churches. Walk-in applicants are welcome. All applications are recorded in a confidential registry. A criminal background investigation and intake interview are completed before admission to the shelter.

HOUSE RULES

- * Be cooperative
- * Respect others and their property
- * Strictly comply with curfew
- * Refrain from using alcohol or drugs
- * Look for job daily if not employed
 - * Attend house meetings
 - * Attend life skill classes
- * Work toward self-sufficiency
 - * Follow case plan
 - * Complete assigned chores
 - * No weapons

MISSION STATEMENT

We provide temporary shelter in a family living environment and opportunities for personal and family development, guiding residents toward self-sufficiency and independent living. We are committed to increasing awareness of homelessness, developing and coordinating community services, and securing contributions of time money and resources.

STAFF

The Liberty Center has a dependable staff which includes, an executive director, two case managers, office manager, shelter services person and two night staff.

Volunteers assist the shelter regularly during the day, evenings and weekends.

The shelter is governed by a Board of Directors.

DONATIONS

The shelter accepts various types of donations. Monetary donations are always accepted. Perishable food items, paper products, cleaning supplies, office supplies, stamps, boxed and dry food products, canned goods as well as bread, milk, juice and coffee are needed on a regular basis. Furniture is not accepted due to limited space, however Destiny's Attic at Vineyard Christian Fellowship does have a furniture ministry that serves our residents.

Donations are tax deductible under guidelines of a 501 (c) (3).

HOW CAN I HELP?

- * Shelter volunteer
 - * Fund-raising volunteer
 - * Donate money or items
 - * Help cook a meal at shelter
 - * Serve on a committee
 - * Serve on the Board of Directors
 - * Transport residents to work
 - * Special Projects
 - * Organize a fund-raiser for your group
 - * Assist with newsletter mailings
 - * Decorate for Holidays
 - * Assist with yard work or snow removal
 - * Assist with building maintenance
 - * Pray for the shelter
 - * Sponsor a day at the shelter
 - * Remember the shelter in your will
- A COMMUNITY
EMERGENCY SHELTER**
- United Way Member Agency**

The Liberty Center



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