

February 2013 Newsletter
Isaiah 61 Ministries

"2012 was a great year for Isaiah 61 Ministries. God has truly blessed us and we praise Him for everything that He has allowed us all to be a part of. We have been so blessed to have many new volunteers come out and give their time and talents to serve. The number of people we served in 2012 more than doubled from 2011. Many churches have stepped up to help take a night to prepare meals and run food, clothing and blanket drives. We have also had other groups step up and run clothing and food drives such as the Office of State Senator Charles McIlhinney, Chambers Hill Elementary School, and Halifax High School. God has used the ministry and its volunteers to make a great impact on the homeless and less fortunate in Harrisburg. We have seen more than 15 professions of faith, 5 baptisms, Life group started, and many new relationships have been formed. We have seen people we love pass on and many others make huge life changes. We are very grateful to all of those who have sown into the ministry and have made it possible to serve our community in the way we do." Blessings,
Isaiah 61

HUGE thank you to the kids at Chambers Hill Elementary School!!!! They collected 301.5 lbs of food for the ministry! Great Job!

A Big thank you to Mr Ruff's discovery class at Halifax High School for collecting winter clothing, socks, and toiletries for us! You guys are awesome! **These clothes went right back out to our clients at the Christmas Dinner on Dec. 28.**

The Christmas Dinner held on Dec. 28 at the Swatara Church of God was a big success. Many many thanks to the 50+ volunteers who made this event happen, as well as all who donated food, gifts, bus, and clothing. There were lots of smiling faces as our clients got back on the bus to return to Harrisburg! See some pictures below.

A few of our friends have either recently moved into apartments or are moving in within the next week. We are in need of the following: pots and pans, dishes, silverware, and a microwave. If anyone is able to help with any of these items please contact us to arrange pick up or drop off. Thanks in advance for your help!

We are also in need of men's jeans, new socks/underwear, deodorant, shaving cream, and razors.



Our clients listening to Dave Layser play Christmas music before the dinner.



Beth Leonard, April, Angel, and Theresa Sellers give out the donated presents.



Some of the volunteers pray before serving



Dave Layser performing before dinner



Buffet Line at Christmas dinner Dinner



Lots of happy people eating at Christmas Dinner



*I-61, still serving in the freezing cold, Jan '13
Jan '13*

Over 80 people/ night still needing to be fed,

Isaiah 61 Ministries has put a proposal in to purchase a building in Halifax. This facility will allow us to have a home base for services being provided now as well as allow us to expand services to the Upper Dauphin area. Please keep the ministry in your prayers as we complete this process. We will announce more information when paperwork is finalized.

Isaiah 61 is forming Committees to help spread the responsibility for various tasks within the Ministry. Below is a brief listing of each new Committee and how to contact the Committee Chairperson. Take a look and see if you are interested in becoming a part of our Committee efforts:

Mentor/Discipleship Committee: We as a ministry believe that it is very important for us to make sure that we are mentoring and making disciples of those we are serving. Over the next month April Ocasio will be forming a Mentor/Discipleship Committee to help oversee this aspect of the ministry. If you feel that you have been gifted in or are being called to this area of ministry please contact April at aprilocasio@isaiah61min.org.

Events Committee: This Committee will focus on planning, organizing, and staffing of various events throughout the year, such as our Easter Dinner, Yard Sale, Christmas Dinner, Volunteer Mixer, etc. This Committee will also need people who are interested in helping with food preparation, decoration, set-up/clean-up, and advertising/marketing of our events. Contact Trish at carlefamily@comcast.net if you are interested in joining us to make these important events happen.

Transportation Committee: We are always looking for those with the time and vehicles who are willing to transport our clients to church on Sundays, which requires picking people up from Harrisburg and driving them to Exponential Church at Regal Cinemas off of Progress Ave. Also, we always need drivers and vehicles to transport our clients to special events such as parks, concerts, and plays. And, we are seeking individuals who would be able to transport tables for Tuesday and Wednesday evening meals. If you are interested in helping with any of these tasks, please contact Angel at ocasio.angel@gmail.com.

Clothing Committee: Our Clothing Room is located at Howard Motors on Cameron Street. We need people willing to help sort, store, transport, and distribute clothing. We

take orders for specific needs and distribute on Tuesday/Wednesday nights when we serve, and we also provide a Clothing Room at our dinners such as the Easter Dinner and Christmas Dinner (these larger events require many people to make this effort happen). If you feel called to help with the Clothing Ministry for Isaiah 61, please contact Theresa at mtsellers5@verizon.net.