

Outreach Annual Report

Written By Alesha Thomas

Please list the members currently serving on your ministry or leadership team.

- ❖ Alesha Thomas, Clark Dingman, Michael Caine, John Owens

Please list what the goals of your group or ministry were for 2017.

- ❖ To advocate for homeless, disenfranchised and the underserved in major city like Philadelphia.
- ❖ *To serve the city's most disenfranchised by providing shelter, food, clothing and toiletries and other necessities through our Saturday Morning Breakfast Program and Men's Winter Shelter.*
- ❖ *To spread awareness on homeless in Philadelphia through our Urban Service Camp Program.*

Were you able to achieve your goals for 2017? Please be as specific as possible of your successes and failures.

- ❖ The goals for 2017 were surpassed. As a whole Outreach was able to garner major support for our Men's Shelter (with numerous donations including toiletries, blankets, pillows, jackets, socks and underwear).

For years, we've had four consistent breakfast teams serve each Saturday Morning. However in 2017, we were blessed to add two additional breakfast teams with a total of six breakfast teams who are consistently able to meet the demands of our guests each Saturday morning rain or shine.

- ❖ We were able to comfortably host 14 service camp groups in 2017.

Where is your group or ministry area stuck? What is your group or ministry area pondering?

- ❖ Volunteers are always needed, and sometimes especially from within the Old First church community come few and far between. It's important for all to know that in order to sustain this ministry it takes a village.

What do you hope to accomplish in the coming 2018 year

- ❖ The goal of Outreach in 2018 is to keep up the momentum gained from a great 2017.
- ❖ To garner volunteer support for Saturday Morning Breakfast and the Men's Shelter, add more service camps to the calendar, and figure out additional ways of advertising this incredible ministry so that others both in and outside of Old First are aware of it and to continue to partner with other organizations like MOMs Organic Market who provides a surplus of food to the shelter and pantry as well as Bethesda our Men's Shelter community partner.

What are the ways that the church can support your team?

- ❖ Volunteer in Outreach's ministries. Volunteers are always needed Saturday Mornings and during shelter dinners.
- ❖ Contributing/ donating items like toiletries and new gently used clothing.
- ❖ Spread the word about Outreach at Old First to others.