

## Outreach SLG

Written by Clark Dingman

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

- ❖ Stephen G, Yajeh, Mike W, Andrew H, Luke D, Michael J, Alesha, John O, Michael C.

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

- ❖ To feed and provide clothing and toiletries to the homeless and poor in our Old City neighborhood each Saturday morning; To partner with Bethesda project to shelter up to 30 homeless men in our Social Hall Nov-April; To coordinate dinners for the shelter residents; To provide urban service experience for people unfamiliar with the challenges

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

- ❖ Old First and other church and civic partners provided over 4,000 Saturday breakfasts and over 2,000 Shelter dinners. In addition, our Shelter residents received casseroles and Mom's Organic Market donations to make meals for themselves. Generous donations of toiletries and clothing were received, including gloves, scarves, hats, long johns, socks, under wear, and 60 toiletry kits. Many youth, young and older adults experienced weekend or week long Service Camps which combined direct service at a number of organizations throughout Philadelphia with time for reflection on the realities of urban inequality and homelessness.

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

- ❖ We sometimes struggle to get Old First members and friends to volunteer in our Outreach activities. We are providing input to the possible development of the 4th St. Parcel into housing for homeless individuals.

*What do you hope to accomplish in the coming 2018 year*

- ❖ We will continue the Saturday Breakfast and Clothing Cupboard, Urban Service Camps, and partner with Bethesda for another winter Shelter. We will continue to provide input to the 4th Street Parcel Committee.

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

- ❖ Volunteering in our Outreach ministries and contributing clothing, toiletries, and other needs that arise.