

Outreach Coordinator Report

Written by: Alesha Thomas

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

- ❖ Michael Caine, Alesha Thomas, Clark Dingman, Beth Walker, Greta Stewart, Mike Wass

Please list what the goals of your group or ministry were for 2018.

- ❖ The goals of the ministry are to expand the Outreach program by means of volunteer support. It is essential that we as a team increase volunteerism with our Men's Shelter program and our Saturday morning program. We have volunteer support outside of Old First, but support from the congregation itself is lacking.

Were you able to achieve your goals for 2018? Please be as specific as possible of your successes and failures.

- ❖ I am proud of the goals that were made during the 2017 – 2018 Outreach season. Outreach was able to branch out and connect with the broader community. We successfully added two additional breakfast teams to the monthly roster, we were able to include special events for our shelter guests, including hosting a super bowl party and men's breakfast. In addition, we were able to engage the Philadelphia police department, who came out to serve dinner at our Winter Shelter. Lastly, we provide an extended safe haven on various days throughout the season by keeping the shelter open all day.

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

- ❖ We are stuck in being able to garner volunteer support from within the church/congregation/members of the church. We have been successful in generating volunteer support from the community, but not from within Old First itself, which I hope to work harder to rectify during the 2019 season.

What do you hope to accomplish in the coming 2019 year?

- ❖ In the coming 2019 year, my goal is to garner volunteer support from within Old First. My goal is to also develop our Urban Service Camp program where we're able to partner with more grassroots organizations throughout Philadelphia.

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

- ❖ It would be amazing if church members inquired more about volunteer opportunities. It would be so helpful if we as a team could reach out to the masses. Old First has an extraordinary platform. Chiefly we're a historical church in the heart of Old City, with heavy roots in outreach and community development dating 30+ years. It would be nice to expand that platform so that we are recognized broadly throughout Philadelphia and not just within the UCC framework.