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A Message from the President

As always, I want to take this opportunity to thank all members of our HTN Team for their efforts to help us support the neediest among us. Our efforts bring smiles to the faces of so many and are a prime example of what can be accomplished when people work together. In the spirit of coming together, I'd like all HTN members to mark their calendars for our **HTN Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 18th**. Last year we had about 35 members attend and I'm hoping to see more of you this year. More details to follow, but please save the date now.

In other news, I'm pleased to share that we'll be working with a couple of our ministries to help the children in Kensington have a good summer. Read more below and look out for more details as we'll organize our collection in the May time frame for delivery in early June.

I'm also happy to report that our Furniture Team has been very busy these past few months. Although the first quarter of the year is normally a down time, due to emergencies and special requests, we made 15 furniture deliveries to needy families. This was made possible by the fact that we accepted/picked up furniture donations from over 35 families during the first 12 weeks of the year.

When we speak of our **Furniture Team**, we often think about the movers who make it all happen and we're most thankful for having such a strong and dedicated moving team. However, there are many, many pieces of the puzzle that need to be executed before items get into the hands of needy families. It starts with the donor advocate team (**John Cavanaugh** and **Chuck Losciavo**) who collate and arrange the donations. The moving is arranged by **Bob Thompson** and **Jerry Dugan**, while

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pillows, sheets, etc. to fulfill those needs and **Kathy Morris** is working with the ministries to initially identify the needy families. **Nancy Moore** and her **Home Goods Team** prepare the kits containing essential home items for the families. At the end of the move, **Steve Barbera** and **Mike Kenefic** are often there to return the truck.

Special thanks to **Jerry Dugan** and **Ted Felix** who are the overall coordinators for all the efforts mentioned above. It's amazing how much our all-volunteer team can accomplish. We continue to be the only ministry that, on a relatively large scale, provides furniture to the families of Kensington and others in need. Thanks again to all who make that happen.

On a final note, at our March Board Meeting, the board approved the search for an additional board member. This member would provide overall assistance for our projects and, eventually, coordinate one of our major projects. If you're interested in stepping up to help our ministry by serving on the board, please give me a call to discuss at **(267) 576-9084**.

Again, thank you for all the good work that you do and may the glory and promise of this Easter season bring peace and renewal to you and those you hold most dear.

Steve Finley



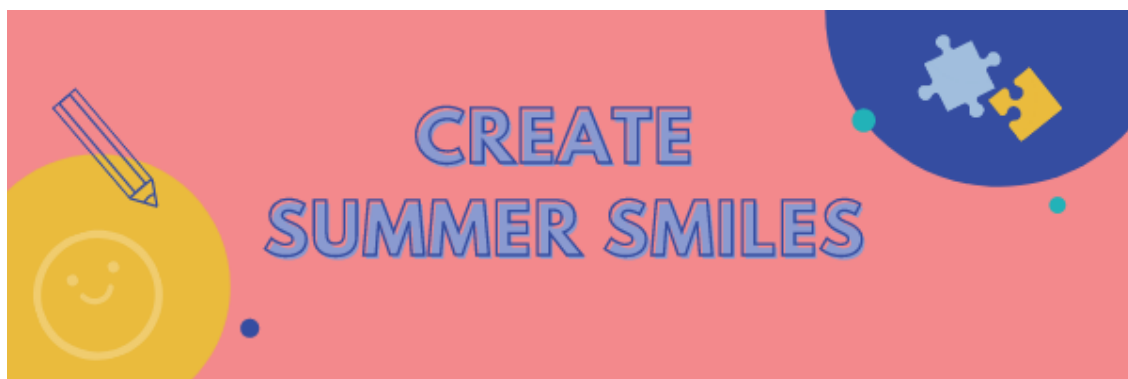
Our ministry partners play a vital role in improving the lives of countless individuals and families in our community. Here we're sharing more about [The Community Center at Visitation \(CCV\)](#), a nonprofit based in the Kensington.

CCV specializes in bridging the gap between nonprofits in the neighborhood to provide access to educational and social opportunities, in addition to wellness programs and resources, that promote a mentally and physically healthier population. The team at CCV — under the direction of **Executive Director, Katrina Keating** — knows that it's not the only organization in the area embarking on this journey, but that by working together with others that share the same goal, it can streamline access to services and avoid duplication. It is through this collaborative effort that CCV believes it will not only inspire positive change in the community, but also a shared sense of respect, belonging and love for Kensington.

The CCV team works to achieve this mission by celebrating and growing the community through regularly scheduled events such as community dinners, holidays festivals, and educational workshops. Through public input, CCV offers valuable resources including healthy food, tutoring, professional development training, and recreational activities.

Guided by core values of hope, hospitality, community spirit, preferential option for the poor, and acknowledgement and promotion of the dignity of each person, CCV responds to the needs of a diverse neighborhood in dire need of assistance.

"The Community Center at Visitation is guided by the strength and resilience of its neighbors, offers a welcoming community space for Kensington residents to build healthy, meaningful connections."



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In our conversations with The Issac Sheppard School and The Community Center at Visitation, we learned that, although Christmas remains a great time for giving, the children of Kensington need help during the summer months too. While most kids in our own neighborhoods can be found playing outside in the backyard or at a local playground, Kensington children are at risk in the summer due to the unsafe streets of the city. They cannot go and play outside like most children.

Enter **Create Summer Smilies**, this year's HTN summer giving program, to put some fun in their summer break. We'll be collecting children's games, crayons and coloring books, art supplies and new and/or gently used children's books for this drive.

More information on how you can participate in this important program will be shared in future HTN emails as well as in the St. Alphonsus Church bulletin in the coming weeks.



SAVE THE DATE: HTN Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 18th
St. Alphonsus Narthex

Stay tuned for more details!

With Your Support, The Work Goes On

Last year, with the wonderful financial support of our members and our donors, HTN was able to continue our mission to help the needy despite the ongoing pandemic restrictions. Fifty-six donors made gifts of \$200 to allocate beds for needy children who live, for the most part, in the Kensington area. HTN's Furniture Team under Jerry Dugan's leadership continued to make furniture pick-ups and deliveries to needy families. At the end of 2021, our Project Santa Team under Tom Moore and

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was made possible through — the generosity of our members and donors.

Jesus reminds us that “the poor will be with us always” and so, our work never ceases. This year, through our partnership with One House At A Time (OHAAT), the charity that delivers the beds, your 2021 financial contributions have already enabled us to supply beds to 32 families. Our Furniture Team has delivered furniture, food and housewares to 14 needy families and completed 37 donation pick-ups to replenish our furniture inventory for delivery to additional families in the coming months.

In the next few weeks, we’ll be mailing our 2022 HTN Fundraising Letter. We hope you will be as generous as possible. All donations stay right here with HTN to help support our mission.

Thank you for all for your continued support that enables us to continue helping our needy brothers and sisters in these difficult times.

Dave White



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