



# MEL TROTTER MINISTRIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



## OUR MISSION

*To demonstrate the compassion of Jesus Christ to the hungry, homeless, and hurting of the greater Grand Rapids area.*

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# DEAR FRIENDS,

In the Bible, Paul writes a letter to the Christians living in the community of Philippi. He begins his letter with these words, "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel..."

At Mel Trotter Ministries, we thank God for you. We also pray with joy for you because of your partnership in the gospel work being done here. The truth is, we could not do the things God has called us to do without your support. Your prayers, gifts of talent and treasure enable lives to be changed and miracles to happen.

Throughout scripture, God demonstrates His heart for the poor and the marginalized. He has called us to work with those who are not always easy to love or easy to help. He calls us to minister to the least of these in His name and then leave the rest to Him. I believe He has called each of you to pray, volunteer and share some of your resources to make this possible.

So, as you flip through the pages of this annual report and ponder the ministry that has been done over the past year, please know that God has equipped us to serve in this ministry and He has called us to partner with you.

Thank you for answering His call and helping 224 families and individuals find permanent housing and 121 people secure full-time employment last year. Thank you for supporting us so we can not only end homelessness, but walk alongside people on their faith journey. Thank you for helping us provide nine chapel services and a dozen Bible studies each week. Thank you for helping our guests who want to find Christ and a church home.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry.



Dennis Van Kampen  
CEO/Executive Director  
Mel Trotter Ministries

**“WE WORK TIRELESSLY TO END HOMELESSNESS AND INSPIRE PEOPLE ALONG THEIR FAITH JOURNEY TO CHRIST, WITH CHRIST, AND FOR CHRIST.”** Mel Trotter

# PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Your gifts help our staff and our volunteers work daily to answer God's call to care for one another, to carry each other's burdens. You help feed the hungry, lift the fallen, restore the broken, and heal the hurting. You help us live and work and endeavor to ensure the poor and the prisoner, the oppressed and the marginalized, the hungry, homeless, and hurting know and embrace their identity in Christ.



## LIFE CHANGE

- Advocacy and case management services
- Job training and career readiness
- Housing and employment assistance
- Addiction recovery
- Discipleship



## EMERGENCY SHELTER

- Hot meals
- Warm, safe beds
- Spiritual guidance



## FOOD SERVICES

- Meals
- Emergency and holiday food boxes
- Food pantry
- Great Thanksgiving Banquet
- Christmas Eve Luncheon



## DAY CENTER

- Shelter
- Housing
- Employment services
- Laundry services
- Computer access



## CLINICS

- Dental, vision, and chiropractic
- Legal guidance
- Public inebriate center
- On-site medical assistance



## TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

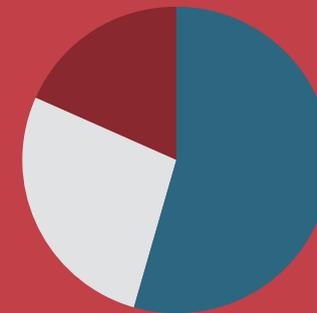
- Temporary housing for guests who are working
- Advocacy and case management services
- Advanced living skills assistance
- Discipleship



# 2015 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

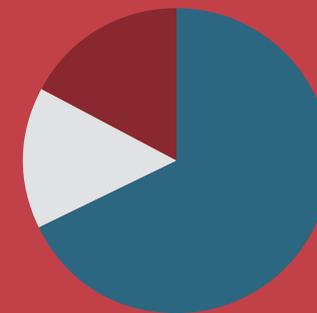
*Psalm 82:3-4*

**DEFEND THE POOR AND THE FATHERLESS; DO JUSTICE TO THE AFFLICTED AND NEEDY. DELIVER THE POOR AND NEEDY; FREE THEM FROM THE HAND OF THE WICKED.**



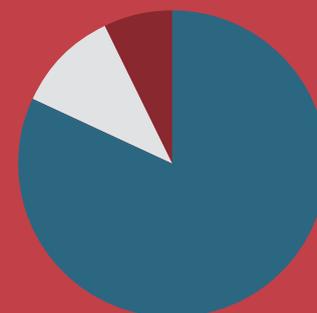
**2015 TOTAL INCOME:  
\$11,075,008**

- Cash Donations - \$6,015,270
- Gifts in Kind - \$3,092,229
- Auto/Retail/Other - \$1,967,509



**WHERE DOES OUR SUPPORT  
COME FROM?**

- Individuals – 68%
- Businesses – 15%
- Foundation, churches, and others – 17%



**WHERE DOES YOUR  
SUPPORT GO?**

- Programs – 82%
- Development – 11%
- Administration – 7%

# 2015 ANNUAL REVIEW

## PATHWAY HOME

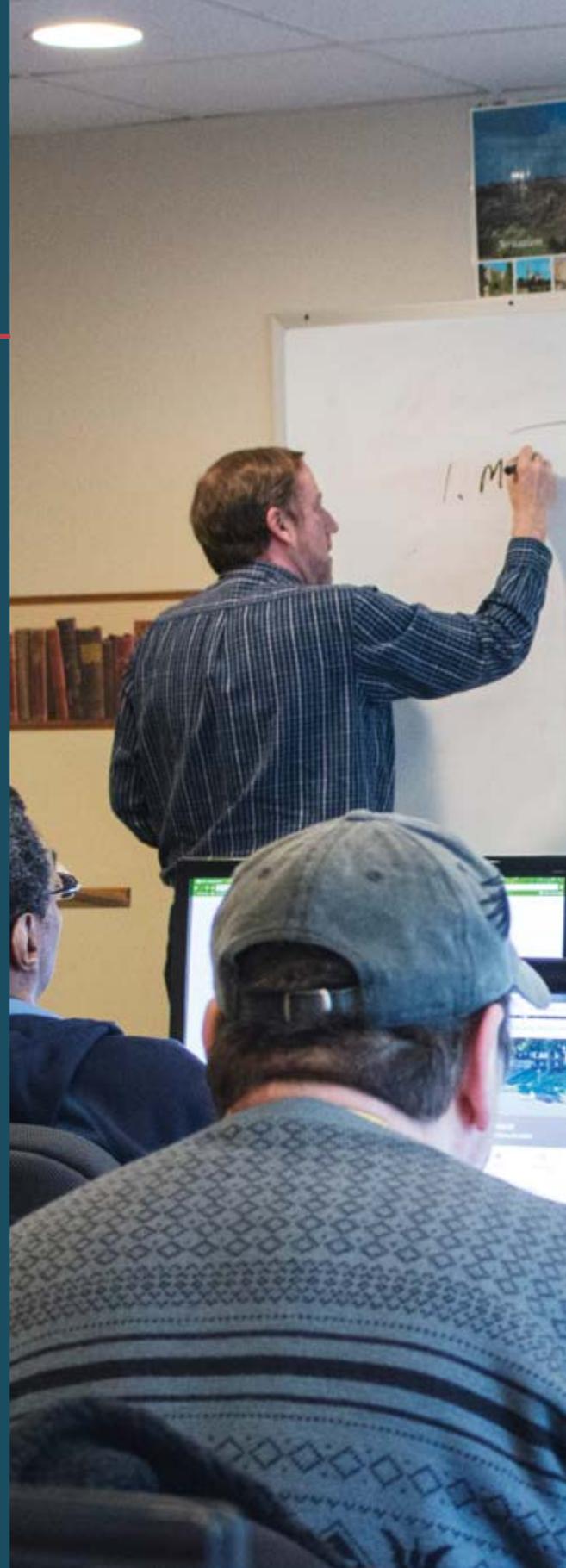
Mel Trotter Ministries collaborated with Family Promise in 2015 to form our Pathway Home program. Pathway Home keeps families together while advocates search for permanent housing opportunities. The goal of Pathway Home is to get families into stable housing situations as quickly as possible.

## STEP-UP PROGRAM

Our Step-Up program comes alongside men and women whose primary barrier to housing and employment is substance abuse. The program lasts at least 90 days and includes intensive case management. Individuals in our Step-Up program learn how to maintain sobriety, while moving toward full-time employment and permanent housing.

## MTM'S PILGRIMAGE PROGRAM

Mel Trotter Ministries' Pilgrimage program serves male guests that have physical or medical limitations and are currently receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability (SSD). Our advocates work with these men to obtain a payee, locate housing resources, and identify aid for their specific needs. The guests participate in chores, classes, weekly meetings, and other activities during their stay at the Mission.



84,295

Provided nights of shelter  
(an average of 230 per night)

121

Secured employment

134,826

Hot meals served  
(an average of 369 per day)

4,831

Care provided to public  
inebriates; services valued  
at \$4.8 million

224

Families or individuals found  
permanent housing

73

Individuals assisted in our  
Legal Guidance Center

2,254

Individuals treated at the vision,  
chiropractic, and dental clinics;  
services valued at \$264,580.75

5,236

Volunteers who completed  
35,535 hours of service

# HOPE BY THE NUMBERS

# TESTIMONIALS

## RONDA KARASIEWICZ

"I believed everything that was precious to me was gone. In my mind, my future was dim and hopeless. I saw the light through the compassion demonstrated by Mel Trotter Ministries. I have grown mentally and physically, but most of all, spiritually. I wake up every day full of inspiration and see a bright future ahead. May the Lord bless this organization for leading me down the path of peace, serenity, hope, and genuine faith."



## LEE BAILEY

"I used to walk down the street with plenty of drink in me, and I was terrified. I could go weeks without drinking, but then I'd fall and find myself underneath a bridge. I knew I could come to Mel Trotter. Every time I relapsed. Every time I did something bad. I could always come here. I can't say enough about the nurses and all the staff here. They're the only ones that believed I could change. I got my memory back. I got hope. I just take it day by day."

Lee volunteers in the P.I. unit every day and in the food pantry every Thursday. He meets with his AA group regularly, participates in Bible study, and partners with his advocate, Ben, to reach other men struggling with addiction.

## PRAY

The most powerful means of support you can give Mel Trotter Ministries is prayer. Our God hears and answers each of our prayers for continued grace, clarity, and wisdom for our staff, our guests, and all those we serve.

## GIVE

The work of Mel Trotter Ministries does not get done without the financial support of individuals, businesses, families, foundations, and friends. Your financial investments ensure life-change can happen for years.

## VOLUNTEER

Dozens of volunteers visit Mel Trotter Ministries each week to feed the hungry, lift the fallen, restore the broken, and heal the hurting. Your talents will be put to good work at our Mission.

## DONATE

Mel Trotter has three thrift stores throughout the greater Grand Rapids area. Donating to and shopping at these stores directly impacts our Grand Rapids neighbors in their time of crisis.

## VISIT

Attend one of our luncheons to network with area business leaders and to learn more about Mel Trotter's work to end homelessness in the greater Grand Rapids area. Become an advocate and encourage those in your community to get involved in our mission and vision.

Contact Bert Elliott, Vice President of Development  
616.588.8760 | BertElliott@MelTrotter.org.

# YOUR IMPACT

Mel Trotter Ministries is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest amount permitted by law.



# MEL TROTTER MINISTRIES

compassion **demonstrated.**

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