

THINK OF US ON GIVING TUESDAY!



2019

NEW BEGINNINGS



UPWARD TO WORK

Thanks to the HELP Board Vice-President Dominic Duren and his employer the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the Upward to Work Program was recently created.

Upward to Work takes the successful Getting Ahead Program used at St. Vincent de Paul and adds the HELP Program Training activities. Dominic has fully integrated the two programs in an intense 8-week curriculum using evidence-based practices from a Federal study of successful re-entry programs.

During the founding of The HELP Program, Brother Mike Murphy recognized that there are other factors negatively impacting the employment prospects of returning citizens. Those factors include transportation, housing, training, education, soft-skills, attitude, food insecurity & state ID acquisition.



Other employment training programs ask the participants to sit in a classroom for a period ranging from 3-days to 12-weeks. Upward to Work is unique; the class comes which comes with a full-time job and wrap-around support activities from St. Vincent de Paul with resources are provided to ensure that all of the factors that could impact employment are reduced, if not eliminated.



Dominic could not run the program alone; Nativity parishioner Mike McNamara has stepped up as a volunteer and is teaching the Getting Ahead curriculum with Dominic.

- Upward to Work Graduates will have the following:
- A full-time job
 - OSHA 10 card
 - First Aid Certificate
 - Housing aid voucher from SVdP
 - A bank account from First Financial
 - A bonus from SVdP for being drug-free
 - Weekly bonuses for attendance from SVdP
 - A Getting Out While Getting Ahead certificate
 - Funds from HELP to regain driving privileges
 - Interview practice
 - An updated resume
 - A preliminary Action Plan
 - A mentor (when enough volunteers are available)
 - A furniture voucher from SVdP
 - A forklift operator certificate (only some members).



A donation of \$1500 in gas for the van helped the passengers EARN

\$44,118.00

in WAGES during
October 2019!!!

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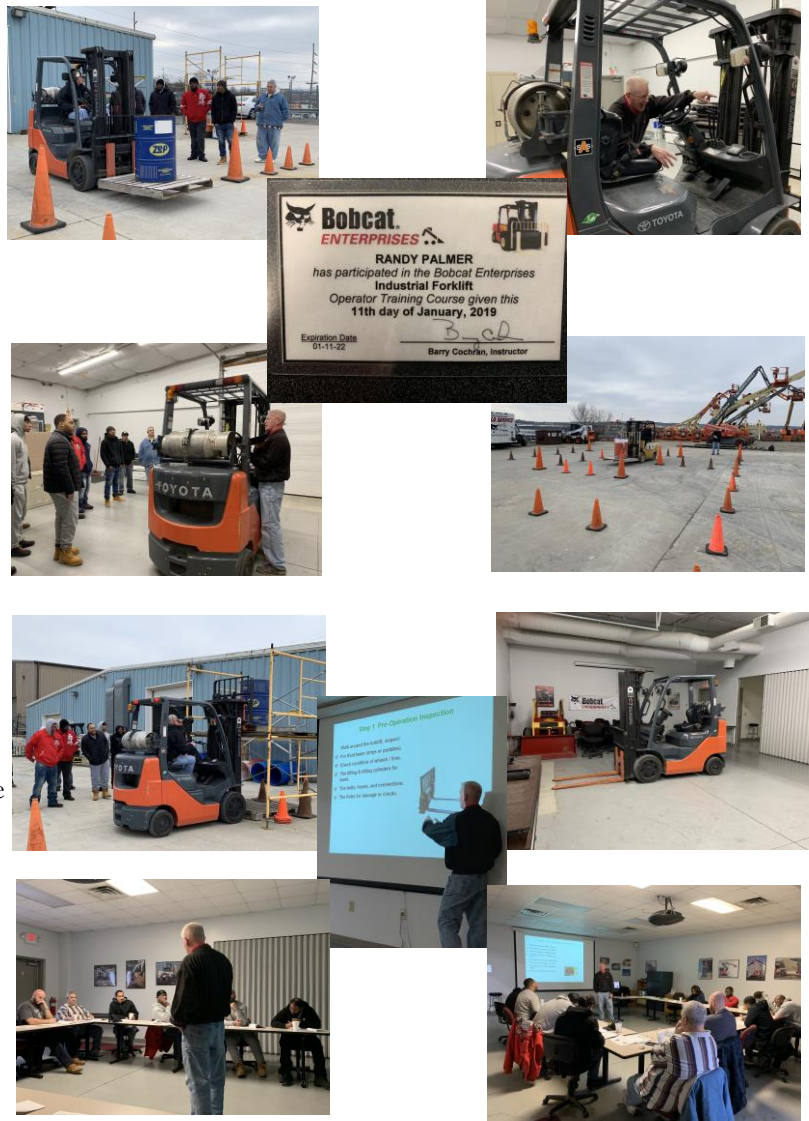
FORKLIFT TRAINING

A very generous anonymous donor has stepped up to fund the forklift training of HELP members! The donor funded a Trial Class last January and now the program will be a regular offering to Upward to Work participants and to current HELP members who have an updated Action Plan specifying participation.

The class takes all day. Food during participation is provided by Our Daily Bread in Over-the-Rhine and participants are transported on the HELP van to the Springdale area for class.

Part of the class involves safety instructions from a professional operator followed by a test. The other part of the class involves hands-on experience and a training course the participant must run safely to earn an Industrial Forklift Operator Certificate.

During the first class, HELP Board Member John Smiley, Good Shepherd volunteer Terry O'Connor and HELP Member Johnathan Jackson were provided additional training to become licensed to teach the class themselves. This will not replace Bobcat since we do not have a forklift, but it does allow them to provide additional tutoring and training to any HELP members who need more training.



2019 – 2020 HELP Board and Leaders

Brother Mike Murphy **Member Emeritus**

Bob Miller **President** *Christ the King Parish Mentor Program*

Dominic Duren **HELP Vice-President** *St. Francis de Sales Dismas Journeys*

John Finn **HELP Treasurer** *Nativity of Our Lord Business Manager*

Joy Rushing **HELP Secretary** *St. Francis de Sales Action Plan Database*

Rosemary Byes **HELP Parish Council Liaison** *St. Francis de Sales Children's Programs*

Dean Backscheider *Good Shepherd*

Brad Brookbank *St. Francis de Sales Member Engagement*

Toria Cooper **HELP Member Engagement**

Joseph Dick **HELP Ironworker Training**

Emily Gilb *St. Francis de Sales Newsletter Mailing List*

Nathan Gordon **HELP Fatherhood Initiative**

James Lunsford **HELP Ironworker Training**

Andrew Mittower **HELP Employer Representative**

Ed Neenan *Good Shepherd Employer Recruitment*

Charles Roberts **HELP St. Francis de Sales, Parishioner and HELP member**

John Smiley **HELP Upward to Work**

Tom Sparough, *St. Clare Storytelling, Interviewing, Public Speaking*

Wilson Willard III **HELP Executive Director**

Linda Neenan *Good Shepherd Development Committee Chair*

Mike McNamara *Nativity Upward to Work – Getting Ahead while Getting Out*

Terry O'Connor *Good Shepherd Forklift Training*

Vicky Reynolds *St. Francis de Sales Grant Writer*

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THRIVING STAGE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

James Lunsford is an original HELP member. Since 2007 James has been involved in the evolution of the program from a single-person operation with no budget or board to a fully functioning 501 c 3 and he now serves on the board.

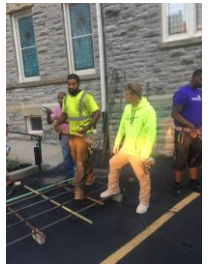


Since joining HELP James has worked his way from apprentice to crew leader in the Ironworkers Union and has constructed buildings and bridges in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.



Now, as a way to give back to the program that has changed his life, James has initiated a new HELP training program to get more members into the Iron Workers Union. After several months of using the parish basement and parking lot on Wednesday evenings to learn to tie rebar, carry steel rods properly, walk on beams (laid on the ground of course) and work while wearing heavy gloves, the participants are taken to the Union Hall for testing and an apprentice position.

Mr. Lunsford is only taking HELP members who are willing to put in significant time into training, and a lot of effort into preparation. That hard work paid off last Spring!



Joseph Dick, a member who joined HELP in 2018, attended every training session, maintained an excellent attendance record at his day job, and showed the initiative and attitude that James required. Joseph is now working full-time for a construction crew and is a member of the local Iron Workers Union. Joseph recently joined the HELP board as a way to start giving back to new members. Next month he will become a mentor as well. Congratulations Joseph! Brother Mike would be so proud!



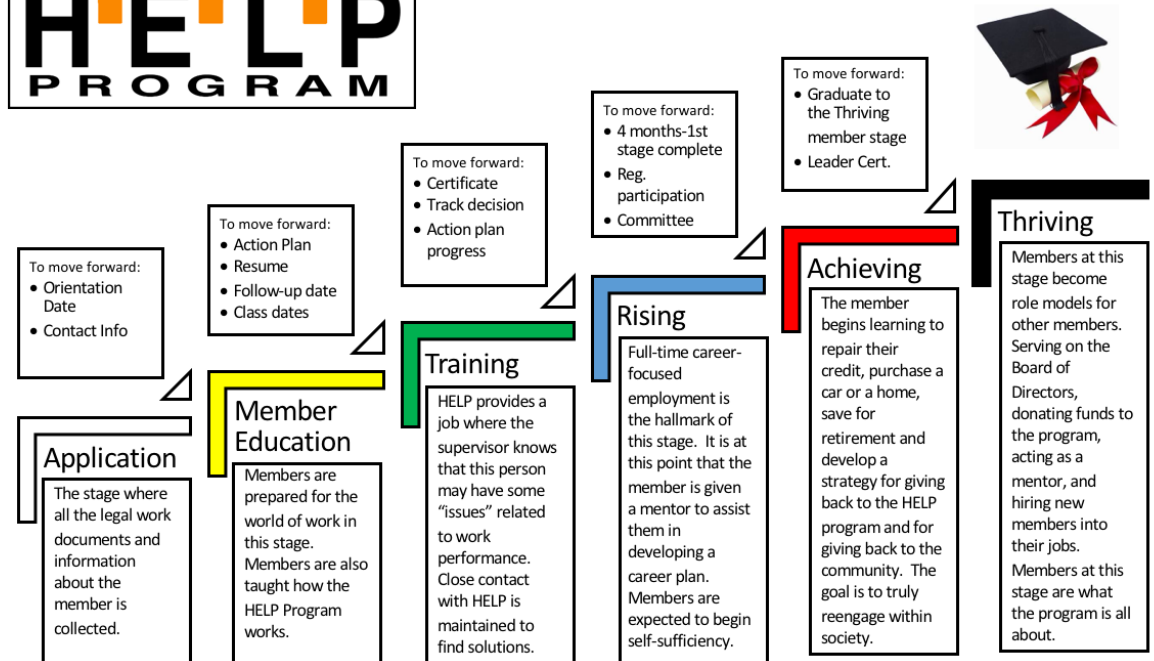
Member Process Flowchart

A path from needing help, to providing help.

Empowerment

NOT

Entitlement!!!



The HELP program inspires hope in those who have been convicted of a felony, by providing leadership opportunities in a caring community of support as well as the tools, education and resources they need to find and maintain career employment and become fully self-sufficient and contributing members of our society.

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Thanks for Helping me get to work!

One of the biggest challenges for HELP members and returning citizens in general is transportation to and from work. Most members live in the city and most jobs are on the periphery - many outside the 275 loop. Earning enough income to get a car and restore a driver's license takes time. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of the Bosse Family, parishioners at St. Francis DeSales, the HELP program has a 15-passenger van we use to drive people to and from their jobs. HELP also purchased a used car to do the same and both vehicles are on the move constantly. They also provide an opportunity for part-time work for HELP members as drivers.



Understandably, this transportation solution has had a significant impact on our operating costs, so we are asking for you, your congregation, company, or organization to help. Please consider becoming an "Adopt-a-Month" donor and help defray a portion of our transportation costs. A one-time contribution of \$1500 would help cover the cost of gas for one month for the two vehicles and a gift of \$2000 would help to subsidize our drivers for a month.

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated and help us achieve our mission of "self-sufficiency through work."

Upcoming Events

12/1/2019	Upward to Work Graduation	St. Francis de Sales	1 pm	All Are Welcome
12/3/2019	HELP Development Committee Mtg.	St. Francis de Sales	2 pm	
12/4/2019	Mentor-Mentee Matching	St. Vincent de Paul	6:30 pm	
12/11/2019	HELP Mentor-Mentee Dinner	St. Francis de Sales	6 pm	All Are Welcome
12/17 – 19/2019	Upward to Work Preparation Days	St. Vincent de Paul	9 am	
12/19/2020	OJPC Legal Clinic for a CQE	FreeStore Foodbank	9:30 am	
12/20/2020	OJPC Legal Clinic for Expungement	Urban League	9 am	
1/8/2020	HELP Board Meeting	St. Francis de Sales	6:30 pm	
1/9/2020	Upward to Work Policies Test	St. Vincent de Paul	9 am	
1/13/2020 – 3/20/2020	Upward to Work Class 3	St. Vincent de Paul	10 am	
3/29/2020	Upward to Work Graduation	St. Francis de Sales	1 pm	All Are Welcome
5/1/2020	EXCEL Program Graduation	United Way	9 am	
6/6/2019	HELP Retreat	Jesuit Spiritual Center	8 am	All Are Welcome

Contact Information

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Donation Information:
501(c)3 30-0788420

Ways YOU can be a part of HELP:

1. Mentor a member.
2. Share a skill or special activity by teaching a class.
3. Meet about volunteer opportunities 2020 has a new list!
4. Invite HELP to speak at your company, social group or church.
5. Set up a meeting for HELP with your company HR Director.
6. Set HELP as your Kroger Card donation recipient:
 - a. www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com
 - b. NPO #: ni255
7. Set HELP as your Amazon Smile Program recipient
 - a. smile.amazon.com
 - b. select The HELP Program
 - c. select city Cincinnati
8. LIKE our Facebook Page The HELP Program Cincinnati