

CONNECTION

Winter 2018



KALAMAZOO DEACONS CONFERENCE

Psalm 72:13

*He will have compassion on the poor and needy
and save the lives of the oppressed.*

This verse in Psalm 72 speaks to the work of KDC. Triune God has compassion for all of His children and we are called to be His representatives; His hands and feet showing compassion and speaking God's Truth in love to our guests.

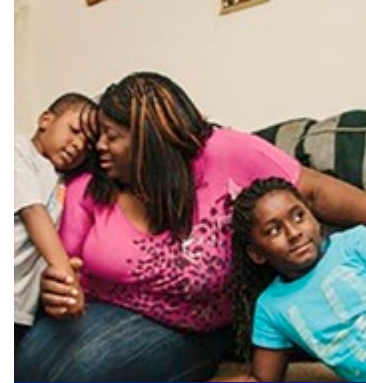
One thing a person or family living in poverty will express is their sense of being invisible. They feel completely alone and shunned by their community. At KDC, these fathers, mothers, and children can walk through our doors any day of the week as our guest. No matter who they are, or how they look, they are treated as a child of God with Kindness, Dignity, and Compassion by our staff and volunteers. They have opportunity for understanding, discussion, counseling, and a wide variety of options to help meet their physical and spiritual needs.

As the Thanksgiving and Christmas season draws near, we once again count our many blessings. Triune God has been incredibly faithful to KDC and to all of us who work and volunteer at 1010 North Westnedge and at Simple Treasures. In response, we send to Him prayers of praise and thanksgiving every day, recognizing our amazing God as creator and leader of all things; every day and in every way.

We humbly ask that you provide KDC with financial support so we can continue to help put smiles on the faces of those who feel invisible and alone.

Blessings to you from all of us at KDC.

*Kenny Bizzell, Operations Manager
Staff and Volunteers*



*Help us celebrate God's blessing this
holiday season. It's so easy!*

**TEXT "GIVE" TO
269.234.1623**

1. Text "GIVE" to 269.234.1623
2. Enter your donation amount
3. Use the link in your confirmation email to download the Tithe.ly app
4. During the Season for Giving, we are so thankful for your support!

Our Vision: To glorify God by building a faith-filled, caring and compassionate community.

MERGER NEWS!

The Kalamazoo Deacons Conference and the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission are coming together under one umbrella.

We are working together to improve and increase services to those who are homeless, transitioning out of homelessness and working poor families.

KDC and KGM believe in the incredible grace of Gospel Power! We know that working together we are more effective and are better stewards of all the blessings we receive from our community.

Please be assured that in this partnership KDC's services and mission WILL NOT CHANGE - it will increase, improve and create a firm foundation from which we will continue serve God and His children in need.

WISHLIST

For Men - Women - Children

ALL SIZES ARE NEEDED

Winter coats

Gloves

Scarves

Hats

Socks

Boots

Thermal Underwear (new)

Personal items

Toothbrush/tooth paste

shampoo/conditioner

Bath soap/Body wash

Wipes

Lotions

Toilet Paper

Tampons/Pads

Razors

Laundry Detergent

Dish Soap

Diapers size 3-6

Deodorant

Household Items

Pots/Pans

Sheets

Towels

Blankets

Pillows

Dishes

Glassware

Silverware

Items may be dropped off

Monday - Friday 9am-5pm

1st and 3rd Saturday 9am-1pm



Lula's Story

I came to KDC seeking something that would be therapeutic for me after a sudden tragedy in my life.

Being a part of KDC has given me the ability to meet new people, make new friends and given me my smile back that I lost eight years ago.

KDC is truly a God-sent place, as we impact peoples' lives everyday in many ways. We offer prayer when serving our guests, which is a very important tool that so many people can use.

At KDC one can find comfort and assurance that we care and are here to support them.

Diane's Story

I have gone through some very rough times in my life. I know what it is like to be in need. I was able to use what KDC offers during that time. In May of 2017, I started working at KDC through the AARP program. I am so grateful to have the opportunity to give back to this organization that helps so many people in our community.

I come in everyday and help organize the donations. KDC has so much to offer those in need - clothing, household items, furniture, some financial assistance and most importantly, Prayer. I love my job at KDC and I can't imagine not being a part of the KDC family.



Fastest Pastor Grand Champion — 5K
Senior Pastor Dan Sarkipato, Southern Heights

RUN KDC 5K & Walk 2018

Congratulations to our Fastest Pastors and everyone who sponsored, participated and volunteered this year!



Fastest Pastor Grand Champion — Walk
Team SHALOM

Larry Wallace, Supervisor of Direct Response Servants

Larry is a member of Radiant Church and is on the prayer partner's team on Sundays. He started volunteering as a Direct Response Servant (DRS) at KDC in 2009. Larry is extremely passionate about the work KDC does and the help we provide to the working poor. He is responsible for not only our Helping Hand Program but all the services KDC provides to the community. Along with these duties, Larry spends most of each day meeting and praying with our guests.

Larry explains: God's got me right where he wants me. My journey to the Kalamazoo Deacons Conference started after a very serious cycling accident in 2007. Months of recovery allowed me time to reflect on my relationship with God. The first 105 days I could do nothing physical, so I spent much time rebuilding my relationship with God through the study of His word and many hours in prayer. One of my study times took me to the 25th chapter of Matthew, verses 31-46. The subtitle of that passage is 'Jesus tells about the final judgement.' The study notes for this section state: 'The parable describes acts of mercy we can do every day. These acts do not depend on wealth, ability or intelligence; they are simple acts freely given and freely received. We have no excuse to neglect those who have deep needs, and we cannot hand over this responsibility to the church or government. Jesus demands our personal involvement in caring for others needs.'

After reading the above passage, I knew that as soon as I was able, I needed to find a ministry I could get plugged into. During a rehab session at the Borgess Fitness Center I ran into a friend, Jon Whan, who at the time was KDC Board President. Jon set up a meeting for me with Terri Thomas and the rest is history. I have now been a Direct Response Servant for eight years and almost two years on staff as the Supervisor of our team

of DRS's.

It's a humbling experience. Each guest has a different story. They all have some kind of material needs, but the part I like the best is finding out where they are spiritually and having the opportunity to encourage them on their faith journey. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit in me, I try to project the love of Jesus to each of our guests.



During this Season for Giving, we are so very thankful for your support!

With your help, over the last 5 years, KDC has served over 15,700 people in distress, provided over \$80,000 for those in need and helped thousands of people with free clothing and Direct Response Service. In addition, qualified guests received free furniture, household and personal care items.

None of this would be possible without YOU! THANK YOU!

SIMPLE TREASURES

resale 

furniture • clothing • accessories • more

3721 S Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

269-492-7335

Mon-Friday 10am - 5pm

Sat 10am - 2pm

WEB



DONATE NOW

kzoodc.org

BANK



Your bank will help you set up a monthly payment to be mailed to:
Kalamazoo Deacon's Conference
1010 N. Westnedge Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

MAIL



Make checks payable to
Kalamazoo Deacon's Conference
1010 N. Westnedge Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Please continue to support us this Giving Season and together we can bring Kindness, Dignity and Compassion to those we serve.



KALAMAZOO DEACONS CONFERENCE

1010 N. Westnedge
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kalamazoo, MI
Permit #26



Hours of Operation

Monday–Friday 9am–5pm

Donations

Monday–Friday 9am–5pm
1st & 3rd Saturday 9am–1pm

Devotions

Monday–Thursday 9am–9:30am

Direct Response Intake

Monday–Thursday
9:30am–11:30am, 1pm–3pm

Holiday Hours

THE KDC OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

Thursday, November 22 and
Friday, November 23, 2018

Monday, December 24 and
Tuesday, December 25, 2018

Monday December 31 and
Tuesday, January 1, 2019

Teva's Story



I started volunteering at KDC about 13 years ago. I had stopped by to donate items from my garage sale and noticed a sign for the KDC Treasure Sale. I asked if they needed volunteers to help sort and price items. They said yes, they can always use more help. I have never regretted asking!

I volunteer every week on an ongoing basis, not just before the Treasure Sales. Tuesday has become my day at KDC. I also enjoyed working on other projects like our Christmas Giveaway for children. When KDC opened Simple Treasures in 2010, I also began to work in the store on Mondays. Profits from the Treasure Sales and

Simple Treasures go to help people in need. And both are run mainly by volunteers.

KDC is like an extended family to me. Everyone is so warm and welcoming. It is very gratifying for me to know that I am helping other people. I have made so many friends at KDC and the store and I am so grateful.

Our Mission

To share the love and hope of Jesus Christ by addressing the physical and spiritual needs of the working poor and people in distress.

P 269.344.7333
F 269.344.2437
www.KZooDC.org