



Serving Rural Appalachia

MOH KEY CALENDAR DATES AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES 2023

July 8	Outreach & Distribution Event – Scott County, TN
July & August	26 th Annual Back to School Program
July 25	Back to School Collection – Lexington (WKYT)
July 28 – 30	Pack the Bus Back to School Collection – Turkey Creek
August 12	Cruisin’ For Kids Car Show
September 14	20 th Annual Mission of Hope Golf Classic at Willow Creek Golf Club
October 7	Outreach & Distribution Event – Campbell County, TN
October 31	Construction Ministry & Handicap Ramp Builds End
November 26	Keyboards at Christmas – Civic Auditorium
November 28	Pack the Lobby – Lexington (WKYT)
November - December	28 th Annual Christmas Program and Cyber Barrel Drive in Knoxville and Lexington
December	LMU Christmas Concert & Tree Lighting (Toy Collection for MOH)

Note: Dates & Locations will be confirmed for upcoming events as they are set

For More Details: 865-584-7571 or Toll Free 877-627-1909
Mission of Hope • P. O. Box 51824 • Knoxville, TN 37950

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SUMMER NEWSLETTER, 2023

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Our Brand
New Website
is Here!

PLEASE VISIT AND TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

missionofhope.org

Dear Friends,

We are thrilled to have this opportunity to connect with you, sharing the incredible impact we have made together in the lives of those less fortunate. At Mission of Hope, our purpose is simple yet powerful: to bring hope, healing, and transformation to the most vulnerable communities in rural Appalachia.

In this quarterly newsletter, we will bring you closer to the heart of our mission. Get ready to be inspired by the personal stories of individuals whose lives have been forever changed through our work. Discover the far-reaching impact of our programs across schools and mountain ministry centers. Dive into the behind-the-scenes updates, highlighting our dedicated team members and volunteers who tirelessly strive to make a difference.

As we embark on this journey together, we invite you to join us in our mission to create a brighter future for those in need. Your continued support, advocacy, and involvement will play an instrumental role in the lives of countless individuals. Together, we can bring HOPE where it is needed most.

*David Heatherly
Executive Director*

VOLUNTEERS ARE HEROES OF THE HOPE

It has been a joy and privilege to be a Mission of Hope volunteer since the late 1990s. This was before MOH had a permanent warehouse. Donations of food, clothing, and toys were first collected and taken to individual churches where they were sorted and packed for distribution. My church, Central Baptist, Fountain City, was responsible for food items. After sorting, non-perishable items were packed in boxes and labeled as green beans, corn, canned fruits, peanut butter, etc. All of us volunteers were “newbies,” as was our dedicated leader, Emmette Thompson.

For several years MOH leased available warehouse space from which to conduct its day-to-day activities. My time as a volunteer was spent at four different locations. Having to pack up and move took lots of time and was never easy. In 2008 MOH purchased its present warehouse and moved into it debt free!

As a high school teacher, my time as a volunteer was limited to summers and other breaks during the school year. I enjoyed serving as food coordinator during the annual Christmas campaign. It was also during this time that Emmette and I began the MOH Newsletter. It was typed out, printed in black and white on standard typing paper, and mailed to recipients. The present newsletter format was created in 2005-2006. When I retired as a teacher from Knox County Schools, I had more time to give to MOH activities. I enjoyed going into the office to answer the phone and to do other office-related tasks.

The Scholarship Program was launched in 2009, and I was privileged to serve on this committee through 2016. Students have always occupied a special place in my heart. Serving on the Scholarship Committee gave me the opportunity to continue working with students. Eligible seniors who had attended one of the 29 elementary schools served by the MOH, were given the opportunity to apply for a scholarship.



The committee reviewed each application and selected our first thirteen students to receive a \$2500 scholarship. They could choose to attend a two-or four-year college. or a trade or vocational school. Rita Layman served as the contact person with our scholars. It soon became apparent that this was too big of a job for one person. Rita then suggested recruiting a volunteer to mentor each of the MOH scholars.

God spoke to me and assured me this was something I needed to do. I made the decision to become a mentor. As a teacher of adult ladies in the Koinonia Sunday School class, I decided to ask all 14 of them to join me in this endeavor. They enthusiastically accepted, and we became a mentor group in 2009. We have watched students grow and mature while in college. It was not always easy for them, but they made us proud because they never quit or gave up. Since 2009, we have served as mentors to two very successful graduates. The student we are presently mentoring will complete her degree in Elementary Education in the spring of 2024. She will then be prepared to seek a position as a certified teacher.

Presently as a volunteer, I edit the MOH Newsletter and serve as a mentor to a MOH scholar. Being a part of the MOH has blessed my life in so many, many ways. The staff and other volunteers have become dear friends. It is the place where I learned what it truly means to help others. Going on a delivery trip to a school at Christmas time and watching excited youngsters as they anticipate what the black tarps are hiding. When the tarps are pulled off to reveal the toys and gifts they have been hiding, yells of happiness and delight erupt from the eager students. This is a perfect picture of HOPE being fulfilled. If you are willing and desire to give a few hours of your time as a MOH volunteer, you, too, will be blessed. Just try it!

--Mary Sue Miller



20TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

AT WILLOW CREEK GOLF CLUB



SCAN TO REGISTER

**HELP THE MISSION OF HOPE GIVE STUDENTS IN
NEED A GREAT START TO THE SCHOOL YEAR!**

We are excited to announce and share that the 20th Annual Chick-Fil-A Knoxville and Mission of Hope Golf Classic is teeing off at Willow Creek Golf Club on Thursday, September 14. The MOH Golf Classic supports one of our biggest programs: Back-to-School. We plan to provide 10,000 students in 29 schools with backpacks, school supplies, and hygiene items at the beginning of the school year.

You can help us by registering to play and/or becoming one of our sponsors. Register by scanning the QR code or call our office at 865-584-7571. We would be grateful and honored to have your player and sponsor support.

Thanks Fore Helping The Hope!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PROGRAM



Do you remember how much fun it was to get new school supplies when you were a child?

Parents want their children to have everything they need for a good education, but in Appalachia, this privilege is sometimes an impossibility. The Mission of Hope needs your help with its Back-to-School program. This year, we plan to assist 10,000 Appalachian children at 29 rural elementary schools with the school supplies they will need to get a good start to their school year. **A donation of \$10 will provide a new backpack and supplies to a very deserving student.** The following are needed school supplies:

Student Supplies Needed

- Sturdy Backpacks
- 24 Pack Crayons
- Pencils
- Safety Scissors
- Glue Sticks
- Folders – 3 Prong with Pockets
- Notebook Paper
- Colored Pencils
- Pencils
- Pens

Classroom Supplies Needed

- Antibacterial Wipes
- Kleenex
- Highlighters
- Dry Erase Markers
- Post it Notes
- Hand Sanitizer (with pump)
- Paper Towels

Or if you would like to make a financial donation you can donate online at missionofhope.org, call the Mission of Hope office at 865-584-7571, or mail a check to:

Mission of Hope
P.O. Box 51824
Knoxville, TN 37950

Drive Thru Food Giveaway/Outreach Event



We had another wonderful Outreach Event/Food Giveaway with Compassion Ministries, this time in Claiborne County. It was a remarkable day as we had the opportunity to assist over 496 families. The weather was absolutely delightful, and we were grateful for the abundant harvest of food that we were able to distribute. The event would not have been possible without the outstanding support of our volunteers who selflessly devoted their time. Through their efforts, we were able to extend a helping hand and share the love of Jesus to this community.

The Drive-Thru format has proven to be an effective means to reach out to those in need. To find out more about our upcoming events and ways you can get involved, please follow our social media or visit missionofhope.org

THANK YOU

Thank you from MOH to the following for their help in compiling, proofing, and mailing our newsletters: Editor Mary Sue Miller; MOH staff members: Diane Webster, Lesa Medley, and Becky Mills; Coleman's Printing and Awards; and Direct Mail Services.

If you would like to keep up with all of our activities: go to our website at missionofhope.org or follow us on Facebook (Mission of Hope Knox) or Instagram ([missionofhope_knox](https://www.instagram.com/missionofhope_knox))

“BRIDGE OF HOPE” RAMPS



MOH volunteers have had the opportunity to go and build several “Bridge of Hope” ramps this season. The resident of this build in Oneida is a 95-year-old mother who was having difficulty walking and could no longer safely use the steps to leave her home. One of her daughters lives with her and another lives in the area. Both are excited and so thankful that through this MOH’s ministry, their mother can now experience the physical freedom this ramp provides.

Special thanks to our friends at Appalachian Life Quality Initiative for their ministry partnership in serving this community. Also, a special thank you to all of our MOH volunteers who helped build these ramps. These builds are not just about tearing down an old, rotting ramp and building a new one. Each build is a powerful testimony of what can be accomplished with God’s guidance as we go about His work. Providing safety for handicapped residents as they enter and exit their homes allows them to experience both physical and spiritual freedom as they come and go.

Please join us in praying for this branch of our ministry and the families it touches.

SO MANY WAYS TO GIVE TO THE MISSION OF HOPE!

Credit/Debit Card

We accept VISA/MC/Discover

- Visit our website at missionofhope.org/donate OR
- Call our office at (865) 584-7571 OR
- Complete the enclosed donation envelope and mail it in

Recurring Donations

You decide the amount and frequency

- Call our office at (865) 584-7571 to set up using your debit or credit card OR
- Complete the enclosed donation envelope and mail it in

Check

Mail to: Mission of Hope, P.O. Box 51824, Knoxville, TN 37950
(Donation Envelope Enclosed)

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