

# THE TEMPLE OF RESTORATION'S HELPING HANDS M I N I S T R Y

## About Helping Hands Ministry

Helping Hands Ministry ("Helping Hands" or "HH") is a faith-based social ministry at **The Temple of Restoration** ("TTOR"). Faith-based social ministry refers to faith-based responses to social issues, linking faith to social responsibility. The ministry was born from the heart of our senior pastor, Bishop Angelo Barbosa. It was established to assist in bringing forth his vision to develop community outreach programming designed to change and restore lives of people in the community. HH held its first meeting on Sunday, May 4, 2014. Although still in its infancy stage, God has faithfully blessed the ministry with opportunities and resources to serve the community.

## Mission

As part of implementing faith-based social ministries, churches bring several social benefits to communities, including helping the poor, improving marriage relationships and promoting volunteering. The mission of HH is to provide the community with social benefits that are based on biblical principles.

## Values

There are 5 core values that drive the direction and priorities of HH outreach programs.

We believe that:

**1** The spiritual, physical, moral and relational dimensions of human nature are intertwined and promoting spiritual and social well-being are interdependent aspects of the church's mission.



**2** God desires to restore broken lives and rebuild troubled communities through outreaches that are based on biblical principles.

**3** Providing social benefits that are based on biblical principles meets the social needs of communities and enhances the outcomes of social interventions.

**4** By showing people the relevance of the church in their day-to-day activities, the church can give light to the need for the Word of God in every area of their lives.

**5** By serving the needy through faith-based social initiatives, the church puts the love of Christ into action.

## Outreach Programs

Helping Hands' community outreach programs are based on biblical principles and focus on finance, health, family and youth enrichment. The ministry's work is designed to minister to the "whole person" by addressing the social well-being

needs of the community, in alignment with the evangelism outreach of TTOR. The HH team compassionately reaches out to people in need and seeks to change lives, empower people, and transform its community. There are six components of the outreach programs. Each component is based on a biblical principle. The ministry demonstrates faith through service to others and doing good works, motivated

by each component's biblical principle.

**1** The **Abundant Living Tools** component is based on the principle found in **1 Chronicles 29:12** that riches and honor come from God. HH acknowledges that we are stewards of God's resources. The ministry offers programming designed to help the community make financial decisions according to God's principles and empower them to live abundant lives, become financially responsible, achieve their financial goals and find financial freedom.

**2** The **Love in Action** component is based on the principle of **1 John 3:18** that says one of the church's functions is to reach out to people in need—to be the hands and feet of Jesus and demonstrate God's love to those in need. HH puts its "love in action" by serving the needy through initiatives focused on health. HH views health as a state of complete physical, nutritional, mental and social well-being.

**3** The **Fruitful Families** component is based on **Psalms 128:1-4** that speaks of God's blessing of family life and promotes strong marriages and families. HH helps and empowers families to function in accordance with God's biblical truth and plan for marriages and families by bringing marriage and family enrichment programs and workshops to the community.

**4** The **Knowledge is Power** component is based on the principle of **1 Kings 19:5** that teaches us to invite those in distress to get up and eat; that means to help people survive and live abundantly. Through dynamic informational events and programs, HH empowers the com-

munity with practical and topical information on everyday life issues and challenges.

**5** The **Training Up Our Youth** component is based on **Proverbs 22:6** that teaches us to direct the conduct of children onto the path of wisdom and prepare them for



future responsibilities and adulthood. The ministry promotes youth education enrichment initiatives that build life skills and character as well as foster academic, emotional and social development.

**6** The **Special Events** component is based on the principles of **Hebrews 13:16** that we honor God when we

practice hospitality, and that by practicing hospitality, we emulate Christ's love and compassion. HH's special events are designed to provide opportunities to invite friends, family, co-workers and neighbors to church-sponsored events they might enjoy... and receive guests in a warm, friendly and generous way.

#### Vision Statement

Helping Hand's vision is a community where people live victoriously in their financial, health, and family lives and where enrichment opportunities are available to our youth. Therefore, HH is fully committed to:

- Developing finance, health, family and youth enrichment programs that are designed to change and restore the lives of people in our community; and
- Providing biblically-based social benefits to our community.

## Helping Hands Ministry Past Projects

As we reflect on our beginning days, we have much to be grateful about. Below is a summary of the ministry's early work that was accomplished through a laymen leadership team and several faithful volunteers:

#### Abundant Living Tools - Finance Programs

- Provided the community with finance help by offering a free 2-hour faith and finance workshop led by

Dwight Raiford of Raiford, Roman & Associates (an office of MetLife).

#### Love in Action - Health Programs

- Sponsored 3 major painting projects, purchased and installed 8 new air conditioners, and performed minor repair work at Park Slope Christian Help, Inc. ("Chips Shelter"). These projects helped HH show first-hand that the improvement of physical environments positively impacts human well-being.

- Attended 2 House Meetings with the residents of the Frances Residence (owned by Chips Shelter).
- Sponsored and assisted with a healthy cooking class with Frances Residence residents in partnership with East New York Farms and provided healthy food recipes.
- Partnered with Project Sunshine© in making 25 surgi dolls (i.e., medical play dolls) to be used by hospitals across the country to show chil-



dren  
the medical procedures they will experience and comfort them on their journey at the hospital.

- Sponsored a Thanksgiving Day dinner at TTOR and fed approximately 200 people at the church and neighboring shelters. One man who dined even left an offering!

- Hosted a benefit dance, silent auction, and donation drive to benefit TTOR's Cape Verde volcano relief effort for Fogo. The event brought in over \$6,800 that was distributed to Fogo residents by Bishop Angelo and the Cape Verde church's pastors. Through the generous donations of TTOR members, the HH team packed and shipped 7 barrels to Cape Verde that consisted of medical and hygiene supplies (including 150 personal hygiene kits for men, women and babies assembled by the HH team), clothing, and school supplies.

- Hosted a community health and wellness fair that offered free health screenings, mammograms, flu shots and seminars. The screenings were sponsored and conducted by the Academy of Medical & Public Health Services, New York Presbyterian Hospital, Brooklyn Hospital Center, Interfaith Medical Center, Visiting Nurse Service of New York and Project Renewal. Local doctors led seminars on the topics of "Managing Blood Pressure" and "Managing Diabetes." Other health organizations onsite included: Senior

Whole Health, Alzheimer's Association, New York City HRA, Affinity Health Insurance, Lighthouse Guild, New York Life Insurance Company, MD Elixir, and the New American Chamber of Commerce.

### **Fruitful Families - Marriage and Family Programs**

- Hosted 2 marriage enrichment conferences in conjunction with Family Life©. One conference ("I Still Do©") was a full-day event led by nationally known speakers and held via live simulcast. 27 couples attended seeking to invest in and strengthen their marriages in accordance with God's design. The second conference ("Art of Marriage©") was a 2-day video event taught by Christian marriage experts and was attended by 20 couples. As a surprise blessing from Bishop Angelo, 1 couple was treated to a one-week cruise to their choice destination and 3 couples were treated to dinner for 2 at a local restaurant!

- Hosted a free family comedy night simulcast event featuring nationally renowned Christian comedian Michael, Jr. The event was designed to give families a cost-friendly night out. After the show, families were invited to fellowship and enjoy \$5 pasta dinners together. Dinner proceeds were donated to TTOR's Cape Verde volcano relief effort for Fogo.

### **Knowledge is Power - Free Informational Events**

- Hosted a free 2-hour informational and Q&A session on President Obama's Administrative Relief Programs for immigrants. Brian Figeroux, Esq. of Figeroux & Associates, led the session. All attendees received a gift certificate for a free le-

gal consultation with Mr. Figeroux.

### **Training Up Our Youth - Youth Education Programs**

- Hosted a free High School Spelling Bee designed to help youth improve their spelling and reading skills, develop their vocabularies, learn new concepts, enhance oratory and communication skills, and develop social skills. Through the help of Ms. Mary Roberts, 2 retired Brooklyn educators collaborated with the team in developing the Bee. HH awarded over \$600 in prizes and money to the participating spellers!

### **Special Events - Church-Sponsored Special Events**

- Hosted a benefit concert featuring the Howard Gospel Choir of Howard University from Washington, DC. Not only did the event serve as a community outreach tool and attract concert-goers from outside the TTOR membership base, but it brought in over \$7,000 in fundraising from ticket sales, sponsorships and donations.

Helping Hands' work is made possible by God, TTOR member support, community partners, and the selfless commitment of the HH leadership team and volunteers. The HH team looks forward to many years of advancing the Kingdom of God and helping the community, while standing on the Word of God!



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