

God's Mercy Will Give Shelter

Close your eyes for a moment and imagine standing on a street corner one rainy day. You're watching people drive by talking on their cell phones, singing to themselves, and even children watching TV as their parents are talking to each other. Then you look across the street into a small diner and you see people enjoying each others company over a hot meal. You then turn to look at the individuals stopping on the same street corner as you. But they don't stand too close and they only glance at you for a second as if you're not there. Then you notice someone pointing in your direction. As you turn slowly you realize that they are pointing at you and your family. Why are they looking at you and your family? Because you and your family are standing there holding the few items left to your name, your clothes are worn and dirty, and each member of the family has an unclean appearance. Then you remember the night before when the shelter told you your wife and daughter can stay but you and your adolescent son cannot stay. The last thing you have left is your family and how can you let that be torn apart. So you and your family hide in an abandoned building for the night. Cold and hungry the next day comes, you can only hope for one single meal at a local soup kitchen. In one single moment uncertainty, depression, and hopelessness overcomes you. You have this overwhelming feeling of worthlessness.

A simple structure without any emotions or personality can be called a house but if you add people it then becomes a home. This structure will now affect these individuals in so many ways.

Who can help?

Local Department of Social Services
Local HUD Agencies
Local Charities

What can we do?

Support and volunteer at your local charities. Educate yourself about local programs. But most of all take the time to care and pray for these individuals. Understanding and love can go a long way.

Southeastern District
Extending Mercy – Human Care
www.se.lcms.org

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