



The Beacon

We physically, nutritionally, and spiritually serve people experiencing homelessness and low-income members of our community.

By the Numbers: 2024 Impact



57,968
MEALS SERVED
vs. 62,472 in 2023



17,857
VOLUNTEER
HOURS WORKED
vs. 14,548 in 2023

700+
people served
at the Clean Start office

250+
pairs of shoes
distributed

8,900
acts of kindness
including showers, clothing, shoes,
winter gear, haircuts & counseling

30+
community partners
helping clients with housing, jobs,
domestic violence aid & health services



Dear Friends,

2025 started with an arctic blast! Bitter wind chills, dangerous snow and ice hazards, and a heating unit that wasn't working made

January a month we won't soon forget.

Despite these challenges, our staff and volunteers worked diligently to meet the needs of neighbors experiencing homelessness and hunger. On the coldest days, with few staff and volunteers and limited heat, we were open for lunch to serve anyone who needed a hot meal and a respite from the weather.

Through your kindness and support, our mission-centered ministry continues important and much-needed work. Our meal program, Dining with Dignity, is one of the best soup kitchens in Kentucky and serves 80-100 people per meal. We serve healthy and hearty lunches and dinners seven days a week, along with helpings of hope through the Lord's word.

Our Clean Start program, now in its second year, is the only program in Lexington's East End where people living on the streets can walk in and get a hot shower. The ministry is evolving to provide more services.

From humble beginnings, the Lighthouse has grown into an organization that, as a vital community partner, strives to meet basic human needs. We have the potential to do much more. Please join us in making a positive impact. Your generous gift today will provide nutritious meals and a fresh start for those who are in desperate need of care.

Tay Henderson
Executive Director

P.S. Please mail your gift using the enclosed envelope today or visit us at lighthouselex.org to make a secure online donation. Gifts through donor advised funds and IRA qualified charitable donations are also welcome. Thank you!

OPENING DOORS



Our Clean Start program serves as a one-stop shop to meet hygiene needs and help clients gain necessary life skills. Through community partnerships, we now provide targeted case management, mental health counseling, and art therapy. Our staff assists with referrals to 30+ local organizations that address needs such as housing, addiction recovery, medical care, and job preparation and placement.

SUCCESS STORIES

Dennis, 62, was living in a tent and came to the Lighthouse for meals and showers. Through available resources, he now receives Social Security, has his medications monitored, gets Snap benefits, Medicaid, and lives in a small apartment.



Antone, 24, lived in his car for six months after leaving college and experiencing the loss of his mother. He approached Clean Start for a shower and clothing. He was referred to Jubilee Jobs for job readiness training, received money management training, grief counseling, help with apartment applications, locating household items, and support. Antone is now employed, has an apartment, and has returned to school.

2025 CALENDAR

Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive - May 10

Looking for volunteers to help process food donations. This project is great for youth groups. Reach out if you would like to help.

Kentucky Gives Day - May 13

A statewide, 24-hour, online giving event for nonprofits. Our goal is to raise \$20,000. Please reach out if you'd like to offer a match.

The Light of Possibility Fundraiser - September 18

Seeking corporate sponsors to underwrite costs.

Thanksgiving Feast - November 22

GoodGiving Challenge - December 2-5

Do you love the Lighthouse? We'd love for you to help us fundraise.

Christmas Feast - December 20

Ministry Highlights



Henry Clay Basketball

The Henry Clay High School boys' basketball team was one of many groups who volunteered to help us clean, sort, move, and serve lunch.



GoodGiving Challenge

The 2024 GoodGiving Challenge was a big success. We raised \$36,000 through donations, matches and prizes from December 3-6.



Delicious Meals

We are very proud of our kitchen staff. They create delicious, hot meals for lunch and dinner using mostly donated food items.



Donation Drives

Thanks to Pickleball Paddock, Ashton Park Apartments and Gray Construction, we received donations of socks, mittens, gloves, scarves, blankets and personal care items.



Thanksgiving Feast

We served 150 guests at our annual Thanksgiving feast. Thank you to all the volunteers who cooked, served and cleaned.



Church Wedding

This couple stays in a tent and wanted to get married, so our Sunday night church group gave them a wedding, and put them up in a hotel for a week for a honeymoon!



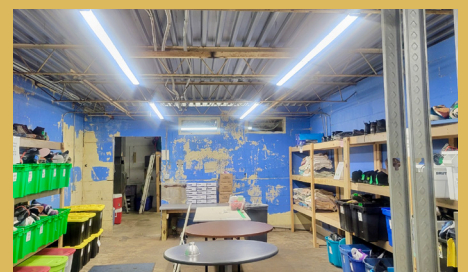
Joseph Beth Scarf Drive

We received several boxes of new scarves from Joseph Beth Booksellers to distribute to guests as a result of a sales promotion they did over the holiday season.



Amazing Volunteers

We'd like to thank volunteers from VisitLex, Pax Christi Catholic Church, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church (pictured), and Sand Spring Baptist Church.



Let There Be Light!

We are excited to have permanent overhead lighting in our upstairs work area. Staff and volunteers had previously used temporary lights in that space.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- **Clean Start ministry** light cleaning and gathering items for guests on weekday mornings
- **Lunch and dinner** prep, serve & clean
- **Guest speakers** deliver a brief—10 minutes or less—gospel message before lunch

Email barbara@lighthouselex.org

Worship With Us

THE JOURNEY EAST

LOVE GOD | LOVE PEOPLE

Sundays at 4 PM at Lighthouse
Dinner follows service

Join what God is doing downtown!

DONATE NOW

lighthouselex.org/donate



Connect with us!



Lighthouse Ministries & Dining With Dignity

Meal Times: Lunch at noon & Dinner at 5:30 PM, Monday-Saturday
Dinner following church on Sunday

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Board of Directors: Don Howard, Chair; Melissa Jones; Colin Stout