

12.13.2017

Dear Friend,

This fall marked the 14th anniversary of Haven of Hope Ministries. Please allow me to offer a brief overview of what Haven of Hope is all about. My wife (April) and I have been transitioning from the business world into full time ministry since 2003. We completed that transition 2010 and have rearranged our lives to make it possible to focus exclusively on Haven of Hope in 2013. Haven of Hope is a non-profit, faith-based ministry, offering hope to struggling marriages by providing spiritual and emotional help to those in trouble and those who simply want to enrich their marriage experience. Since its inception, counseling services at Haven of Hope have been available at no cost to our clients. Our financial support comes from the business community, churches and individuals who believe in what we do, as well as clients who chose to support us. Through the generosity of others, we have been able to finish each year in the black. It has been exciting to see all the ways the Father has used this ministry to bring healing to many relationships that otherwise might have ended in divorce. These miracles are constant reminders of the Father's grace and mercy and that he has called us to share these blessings with others.

The success of our counseling model has brought with it some concerns. One concern is that we have outgrown our existing facilities. Recently we were presented an opportunity to purchase an abandoned elementary school in the nearby town of Clarksville, Michigan. This facility is well suited for the vision we have for Haven of Hope. It would allow us to expand the ministry significantly to meet the needs of our local community and of those from out of state. We have seen the fingerprints of God in so many ways as we have pursued this opportunity. We believe that, if Father God wants us to expand in this direction, He will provide the funding for that expansion. Our vision for this facility would be to create a life center where there would be ample space to add a variety of counseling services; training rooms for life mentors and coaches. We are developing a follow-up program for continued client care. We want to host weekend marriage retreats and conferences, and provide extended training for pastors and lay leaders by which they could duplicate the caring for the heart model.

This 24,000 sq. ft. facility was built in 1999 and sits on approximately 4 acres of land, nicely nestled in the southwest corner of the village of Clarksville, Michigan. In recent weeks the Lakewood school board has offered this building and property to us for a sum of \$150,000.00. Time has been limited for us to raise the necessary funding, but miraculously we have raised \$105,000.00 in pledges in a very short period of time. Recently we received a matching dollar pledge for up to \$20,000.00. As of this writing, we are \$25,000.00 short of the funds needed to make this a reality. We have been given until December 31, 2017 to raise the balance. The Haven of Hope Board of Directors would like to invite you to prayerfully consider pledging toward this project. All gifts are 100% tax deductible. For your convenience you may make a pledge right from our website. Just exit this page and click the "Pledge Here" button. We thank you in advance for all of your financial support and your prayers throughout the past years. We never take your generosity for granted and thank you for partnering with us. Without you, we would not be able to carry out the vision the Father has given us, and we are so grateful.

In Christ

Directors – Steve & Aprils Swartz