



**HEART OF HOPE  
MINISTRIES**

# Celebrating the Grand Opening of the Community Resource Center

Heart of Hope Ministries, in partnership with the Better Health Foundation, Community Health Care, and Augustana College, is excited to celebrate the successful Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the new Community Resource Center at 900 18th Ave., Rock Island. This center is set to become a cornerstone of support for our community, offering a range of essential services and resources.

The ceremony was attended by key community leaders, including Senator Mike Halpin, Representative Gregg Johnson, Mayor Mike Thoms, and Rock Island Police Chief Timothy McCloud. Their presence underscored the importance of this new facility and the significant role it will play in enhancing the lives of residents in Rock Island and beyond.

A highlight of the Community Resource Center’s offerings is its collaboration with the Better Health Foundation and Community Health Care’s Diabetic Program. Together, we have launched a new initiative to provide healthier food options specifically designed for individuals managing diabetes. This program is a direct response to the growing need for accessible, nutritious food that supports diabetes care and management. The partnership with the CHC Diabetic program ensures that individuals enrolled in the program have easy access to these critical resources.

Lynda Sargent, founder and President of Heart of Hope, has been instrumental in bringing this vision to life. Through her leadership and the dedication of her team, the center has become a reality, providing a space where community members can access the support they need. “We envisioned a place where someone in need could come to find the information needed to help improve their lives,” Lynda shared.



The Community Resource Center is more than just a building; it’s a place where hope meets action, where those in need can find the resources and support they require to lead healthier, more fulfilling lives. As we look to the future, Heart of Hope Ministries remains committed to expanding our services and deepening our impact. This collaboration is just one of many initiatives aimed at building a healthier, stronger community. We invite all community members to visit the Community Resource Center, explore the resources available, and join us in our mission to empower and uplift our neighbors. Together, we are making a difference—one step, one meal, and one life at a time.



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*Help us help others!*

**Cash App:** \$HEARTOFHOPEQC

**Venmo:** HOHQ

**PayPal:**

HeartofHope.HOH@gmail.com

**Mail a donation:** 1740 9th Ave,  
Rock Island, IL 61201

## *Introducing Our New Executive Director, Terri Erling*

Heart of Hope Ministries is thrilled to welcome Terri Erling as our new Executive Director. Originally from the Galesburg area, Terri brings with her a wealth of experience and a passion for service that aligns perfectly with our mission. She joins us from Cape Coral, Florida, where her husband, grandson, and two beloved basset hounds continue to reside.

Terri's journey is rooted in a deep commitment to her family, which includes two beautiful daughters and six fantastic grandchildren, ranging from 18 years to just one month old. Her professional background is equally impressive. Terri holds a bachelor's degree in Human Services and a master's degree in Nonprofit Management. With extensive experience in grant management, volunteer management, and senior services, Terri has proven herself as a leader in the nonprofit sector.

During her tenure with United Way as the Senior ARPA Grant Manager, Terri managed an astounding \$16.7 million, overseeing 65 projects and 62 agencies. This role,

which she describes as a true gift from God, has been instrumental in shaping her unique leadership skills. Her ability to think outside the box and her dedication to service have prepared her well for this new chapter at Heart of Hope.

What drew Terri to Heart of Hope was her vision to see the organization grow and thrive with God's blessings. Her ability to see the bigger picture and her commitment to our mission makes her the perfect fit for our community.

Terri is currently residing with her daughter and three grandchildren, ages 12, 10, and one month, as she begins her new role. We are excited to have Terri on board and look forward to the amazing things we will accomplish together under her leadership. Please join us in welcoming Terri Erling to the Heart of Hope family!





## CELEBRATING SUCCESS: DAVID STAPLES, OUR FIRST GIVING HOPE HOUSE GRADUATE

We are thrilled to announce that David Staples, the first resident of Giving Hope House, has achieved an incredible milestone. On May 25th, David graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Augustana College, a significant accomplishment made possible through the Augustana Prison Education Program (APEP).

David's journey is a testament to resilience, determination, and the transformative power of education. As a pioneer in our program, he has set a remarkable example for others to follow. His achievement not only reflects his hard work but also highlights the importance of providing opportunities for those seeking to rebuild their lives. Looking ahead, David will be pursuing his graduate studies this fall at Western Illinois University (WIU), furthering his commitment to making a positive impact in his community.

We are immensely proud of David and look forward to seeing the positive impact he will continue to make in his community. His success embodies the very essence of what Giving Hope House stands for – offering a second chance and fostering hope for a brighter future.

Please join us in congratulating David Staples on this outstanding achievement!



### *2nd Annual Community Love Fest*

#### **A Day of Fun, Food, and Giving**

Our 2nd Annual Community Love Fest was a resounding success, bringing together families and neighbors for a day filled with joy, connection, and generosity. The event, held June 29th, was a vibrant celebration of our community spirit, featuring delicious food, fun activities, and a heartwarming giveaway.

One of the highlights of the day was the distribution of over 20 bicycles to local kids. Seeing the excitement and smiles on their faces as they received their new bikes was truly unforgettable. The bicycles symbolize more than just a mode of transportation; they represent the love and support we have for our community's youth.

The Love Fest wasn't just about giving—it was about coming together, enjoying each other's company, and strengthening the bonds that make our community special. From games and entertainment to shared meals, the event was a beautiful reminder of the power of unity and kindness.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who participated, volunteered, and supported the event. Your contributions made this day a memorable one for all. Here's to many more years of community love and celebration!

Stay Connected with Heart of Hope Ministries on Facebook! @Facebook/HOHQC

1740 9th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201 • (309) 428-4752 • [HeartOfHopeQC.org](http://HeartOfHopeQC.org)

## Join Our Weekly Youth Program: Fun, Learning, and Growth!

We are excited to highlight our vibrant youth program, held every Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:00 pm. This program is designed to provide a safe and nurturing environment where children can release excess energy through physical exercise, enjoy a healthy snack, and get creative with fun crafts.

As we look forward to the fall, we're thrilled to announce that we'll be offering homework help, thanks to dedicated volunteers from the Augustana College internship program. This new addition will provide valuable academic support to help your child succeed in school.

Our program also includes occasional field trips, giving children the opportunity to explore new places and learn outside the classroom.

If you're interested in signing your child up, please give us a call at our office at 309-428-4752. We'd love to have them join us for this exciting and enriching experience!



### DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ Your donation of \$56.70 will purchase food for 100 elderly and disabled neighbors?
- ◆ Your donation of \$114.00 will purchase food for 100 individuals suffering from food insecurity in our community?

### Special Partners:

- ◆ Bridge Cities Church
- ◆ River City Church
- ◆ Royal Neighbors of America
- ◆ Little Caesar's RI
- ◆ Hy-Vee Food Stores
- ◆ Midwest Food Bank
- ◆ Riverbend Food Bank
- ◆ Blessings Boutique

### Those Who Helped Us Keep Our Doors Open in 2024:

- ◆ Better Health Foundation
- ◆ Alfred Street Baptist Church
- ◆ Rock Island Rotary Club
- ◆ United Way QC
- ◆ Blackhawk State Bank
- ◆ Doris & Victor Day foundation
- ◆ Rock Island Community Foundation
- ◆ Rauch Family Foundation1
- ◆ Hubbell-Waterman Family Foundation
- ◆ Bechtel Charitable Trust
- ◆ Moline Regional Community Foundation