

BUILDING
COMMUNITY
AS WE BUILD...

SHECHEM

At Hope Street

AUGUST 2021

GOD WASTES NOTHING

That's a common concept at Hope Street, as we wrestle with broken pieces of our lives - many which have been traumatizing, gut wrenching or down right evil.

It's hard to face those trials and see how anything good could come out of it, and yet we are continually reminded that our Father redeems, and reconciles all things. Where loss has stolen time, energy and focus - peace and joy are firmly rooted in the midst of a divine community that continually points people back to the One who gives us Hope, no matter the situation.

We have been on a journey together these last several years. We have embarked on our first major capital campaign. It has had its ups and downs along the way. We have paused, and sprinted. We have kept our hands wide open in holy surrender, and been met with grace when we attempted to hold on a little too intently. We have had every part of the project questioned, down played and in some

regard ridiculed. Down to the very name of the space. I had a major donor walk away, because I told him I refused to change the name. Call me stubborn, but my number one job from the very beginning was to walk obediently with our Father. I have to answer to Him at the end of the day, and I'm no longer willing to allow that voice to be the quietest one roaming through my head. I can write that easily, but not listening to louder voices comes at a cost. It's been difficult running a campaign in the midst of what had also been a difficult season at Hope Street. The loss we experienced, at times felt crippling and in many ways like permission to "give up". I want to thank YOU and all of our supporters for practically being the hands and feet of Jesus when my team needed it the most. Whether it

was an unexpected financial contribution, an encouraging word, or your coveted prayers - we were able to be sustained and push forward in saying YES to His plan.

God wastes NO thing, but uses everything to bring his name honor and glory. Thank you Father for the gift that is Shechem, thank you that you have been, and will be in every detail, at every step along the way. We trust you. We are counting on you. Thanks for letting us join in your kingdom work.

You can continue to join us in that kingdom work. Curious how? I would love to meet with you, and help you discern how. We have lots of needs, and we are trusting that Jehovah Jireh, our great provider, will provide in the exact ways we need as he continues to meet us in our broken places, all along letting nothing go to waste.

Thank you.

ASHLEY THOMAS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

UPDATE: \$941,710 OF \$3,500,000 GOAL

We are still working towards our goal. With the help of a \$3 million loan from ForteBank in Hartford, we have started the building process! The first step of this was pouring Shechem's walls at Stonecast!

LEMONADE STAND

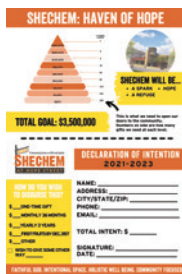
Last summer, a family that had just moved to the area came to our Bruised But Not Broken event. The family came and asked questions, the kids carefully painted reeds and the parents made a donation. We were so grateful to welcome in new supporters and we didn't expect more. Something that was learned about Shechem must have stuck with the family,

because a week or two after we met we got a donation from their daughter with the description "lemonade stand".

This little girl didn't have anything to give, but she wanted to be a part of something bigger than herself! This

isn't an uncommon occurrence here. We've received return envelopes with only a dollar or two in them and the address that is most prevalent in our Donor Software is 2522 W Capitol Dr., meaning our members are donating to Shechem too! There are a lot of people who really care about this project, enough to give away what little they might have.

DECLARATION OF INTENTION



A Declaration of Intention Card outlines how much you and your family intend to give over the next 3 years towards building Shechem. We are asking for these cards to be completed by the end of this year.

Why?

Thanks to generous donors, we paid off Hope Street's mortgage on our current building (2522 W Capitol Dr) and are currently debt-free. We have received a construction loan to build Shechem. We would like to remain debt-free by paying off the loan before the loan-period ends, Declaration of Intention Cards ensure we do that! In addition, securing Intention Cards and being able to show the support that is coming in, propels us forward in receiving grants from larger foundations and corporations!

Who?

Internally, we are invested. Our staff and board members have all filled out Declaration of Intention cards.

Externally, people believe in us. We have already received 630 donations and Declarations of Intention Cards towards Shechem from individuals, corporations, foundations and churches.

What?

INTENTION We are asking you to prayerfully consider how you can join us financially over the next three years. By joining us you are directly contributing towards Shechem's development.

FIRST FRUITS There is an additional place on the Declaration of Intention card to share your "First Fruits" gift. We would like to use as little of our loan as possible. First Fruit gifts (giving now) will help us to pay for current construction costs, allowing us to stay away from our loan!

How?



Follow this QR code or link to fill out your intention now.

Completed declarations can be sent to kendall@hopestreetministry.org.

[hopestreetministry.org](mailto:kendall@hopestreetministry.org).

Schedule a meeting to talk more about your intention. We would love to have a conversation with you, on what makes the most sense for you and your family.

Email ashley@hopestreetministry.org

PLEASE JOIN US IN THIS ADVENTURE THIS YEAR

1 > Follow us on social media

- @greenhouseforpeople
- HopeStreet_GFP
- @greenhouseforpeople
- Hope Street Ministry

2 > Show up (come to our events)

3 > Take the time (read our emails, prayers and stories, and share the message)

4 > Pray! (we value this so much)

5 > Give when you can (and encourage others to)

SIMPLY WALK ALONGSIDE US AS WE CONTINUE TO BUILD SHECHEM AT HOPE STREET



hopestreetministry.org/shechem