



MINISTERING TO THE HOMELESS

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

DEAR HARVEST FAMILY – Thank you for your support of our ministry which started with a vision of Anne and Jim to simply offer bottled water to individuals experiencing homelessness in Woonsocket during the hot summer months. With information provided by the city, we identified and visited encampment sites in July of 2025. Some were empty. Others had varying numbers of people who were living outside. During those early weeks, our goal was to go out on one day each week, visiting the same encampments to establish relationships with any who came our way.

We regularly pray with individuals and have distributed over a hundred Bibles, Christian books and tracts. Our mission has expanded from its humble beginning to the point where we offer hot chocolate, food, clothing and personal care items. More importantly, we have succeeded in establishing relationships centered on the love of Jesus, showing concern and love to those most in need.



at Harvest.

We currently encounter many of those initially contacted on a regular basis. Many of these have moved into the city's shelters as the cold weather has set in, including our own men's shelter

We have worked with the cooperation of city officials, even encountering the mayor on one occasion during our ministry activities this past summer. The group has grown to up to sixteen who go out on a regular basis on Thursday. Our mission has transitioned to serving more of those who utilize the city's overnight shelters. Several have visited us during our Sunday service.

ENCOUNTERER - *The first homeless site we visited was off Privilege Street, a location most of you probably drive by regularly. We didn't know what to expect. Venturing down the riverside dirt path on that hot July morning we encountered Nikki, sitting on a table outside one of the tents populating the encampment. She looked somewhat dejected. We told her that we had some water for her and anyone else there. She responded to our offer and several others came out. We continue to see her and others from that first encounter. We see a change in them that is an encouragement to us, a clear indication that they are seeing in us the love of Jesus, our Lord. Right – Ministry at the Woonsocket Library parking lot.*



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

We're writing to thank you for your most generous donations over the past few months. Most of all, we need your continual support and prayers. Also, cash and gift cards (Amazon, Walmart) clothing items, personal care items in small sizes,

Bible verse that best defines our ministry – please suggest – Gen 1:27, Matt 25:40?