



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **GRACE CENTERS OF HOPE KICKS OFF ANNUAL \$2.05 HOLIDAY MEAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN**

*Donations to help provide nutritious meals to the homeless throughout the holiday season,  
Nonprofit also hosting a special lunch and dinner on Thanksgiving Day for anyone in need*

**PONTIAC, Mich., Oct. XX, 2011** – Grace Centers of Hope, one of southeast Michigan’s oldest and largest homeless shelters, today announced the launch of its “\$2.05 Holiday Meal Campaign.” The annual fundraising drive allows the nonprofit organization to assist local individuals and families who find themselves without food or shelter this holiday season.

“Although the cost of providing a nutritious meal is only \$2.05 at Grace Centers of Hope, we are encouraging individuals, families and organizations to give generously to help cover the cost of multiple meals,” said Pastor Kent Clark, CEO of Grace Centers of Hope. “A gift of just \$25 will help feed 12 people who come to our shelter in need of assistance.”

In addition, Grace Centers of Hope will open its doors on Thanksgiving Day and will provide a free, nutritious holiday meal to anyone in need. Visitors do not need to be enrolled in the nonprofit’s Emergency Shelter, One Year Life Skills or After-Care programs to participate. Lunch will be served at noon and dinner will be served at 5 p.m. at Grace Centers of Hope, which is located at 35 E. Huron St. in Pontiac.

As one of southeast Michigan’s largest faith-based organizations, Grace Centers of Hope provides a continuum of care for men, women and children who are experiencing homelessness, addiction or domestic violence. From emergency food and shelter to long-term life and work skills programs, the organization helps empower individuals to become productive and responsible citizens.

With an annual operating budget of \$4.8 million, Grace Centers of Hope accepts no government funding and 100 percent of its revenues are obtained through private support, its four thrift stores and fundraising initiatives held throughout the year.

“Because the U.S. poverty rate is at its highest point since 1993 at 15.1 percent, many are left wondering whether they will be financially able to provide for their next meal,” said Clark. “It is during these difficult times that we must rely upon one’s compassion, faith and sense of kindness to help those in need.”

Donations to the Grace Centers of Hope “\$2.05 Holiday Meal Campaign” can be made by credit card or by check. For more information or to make a donation, visit [www.gracecentersofhope.org](http://www.gracecentersofhope.org) or call 1-855-HELP-GCH.

***About Grace Centers of Hope***

*Giving hope to the helpless since 1942, Grace Centers of Hope is one of southeast Michigan’s oldest and largest service provider for the homeless. Today, Grace Centers of Hope is considered one of the leading faith-based organizations in Southeastern Michigan, confronting issues of homelessness, addiction, poverty, abuse and spiritual emptiness on a daily basis. On any given night, Grace Centers of Hope provides transitional and emergency shelter to 150-200 men, women and children, in addition to serving more than 100,000 meals each year. Grace’s \$4.8 million yearly budget is maintained solely through corporate and private donors, exclusive of any government assistance. For more information, or to make a donation, visit [www.gracecentersofhope.org](http://www.gracecentersofhope.org).*

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