

First Baptist Church of Holliston  
40 High Street P.O. Box 6939  
Holliston, MA 01746

November 2, 2006

Dear First Baptist Church:

Thank you so much for your support of the Lion's Den and the ministry that we do. Because it's getting cold outside, we have found ourselves thrust into different aspects of ministry to the homeless people of our community. I thought you'd like to hear about one homeless person in our community who "found us." Her name is Claire. I just wanted to update you on what's been happening with the homeless, so you can stay connected with us on this project. Once again, I extend my sincerest thanks to you for your willing hearts.

Claire's stumbling into our life has lead to us seeing the plight of those sleeping outside more than we have ever imagined. A few nights ago, I took a group of older Lion's Den workers and teens as well as friends and pastors and we went to the homeless section of Springfield. We brought all the necessities: food, clothing, blankets, but most importantly the Word of God. In talking to several people, we were told that homeless people live under the bridges of the downtown section, so we walked on a bike path that took us literally under the city. Not that I don't deal with scary situations, but truly, this was a sobering time and a chilling moment as we went to this very dark and secluded area of town. Occasionally we saw tents or cardboard set up, but at that time we found no people inside them. After walking about 3/4 of a mile, we realized that we needed to head to some other place if we were to find anyone tonight. After getting back in our car, we drove 500 feet and finally we found who we were looking for. We met three very unique homeless people on last night's adventure. One was Amy. She asked us to pray for her, specifically for the children that she has birthed but has not been allowed to care for. Amy is about 40 years old and was sleeping on a bench near the highway. There was another woman with Amy, her name is Bonnie. Bonnie normally sleeps in the local community shelter, but sometimes because of fear and paranoia, she chooses to sleep outside for "safety." Bonnie is also unusual because she has a Ph.D. from a local college. We brought my friend Joe Wilson with us, and Joe played the saxophone for Bonnie and Amy. He played "Amazing Grace" as we prayed for them. Another man joined us shortly after that. His name was Dale. Dale had been drinking. He certainly did not have enough clothes on, and he had also threatened the women with assault. Dale had told them that he wanted to enter a program for men who abuse women. He was under the impression that he could not enter the program unless he does something to a woman, so he asked permission to abuse these women so that he would be able to enter a program. We also prayed for Dale and we stayed there until we felt it was safe for the women before we left. It's scary seeing all this happening in the world right around you, but there is a great amount of

comfort in knowing that the God we serve is powerful and mighty. He is even able to meet people at their time and place of need. So I praise Him for sending us down to the neighborhood and for introducing us to Dale, Amy, and Bonnie. Well, so much for ministry excitement.

With Eternity in mind,

Greg Dyson

Executive Director Lion's Den  
Youth Outreach Center 40 Front  
Street P.O. Box 51142 Indian  
Orchard, MA 01151  
[www.lionsdenoutreach.org](http://www.lionsdenoutreach.org)