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Unknown

Okay. Okay. All right. Uh, I guess we'll start off with the rest So my name is Alice Cota. And I can hear your second question. What do you do? Corner. So I am on the board of directors, and I am also the head of volunteer. So I do volunteer management for Head Start.

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Unknown

You give us a description of Sure. Hope's Corner. We're a nonprofit, and we offer hot meals and showers every Wednesday and Saturday to anyone in our community that needs it.

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Unknown

And I just before us hugs corner serves literally anyone that needs help. We don't have any paperwork or questions, so anyone that's in need of a hot meal or a shower or just some companionship, they're always welcome here.

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Unknown

What brought you? So I started Hope's Corner about six or seven years ago at this point because I was looking for a place to volunteer with my kids at that time. And they were quite young, about five and eight. And there's not a lot of places where you can volunteer with young kids, and Hope's Corner tends to be one of them, and they're quite welcoming about that.

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So that's how I started. I really enjoyed it. And so I decided to continue without my kids sometimes because it's very early. It was a seven to 9 a.m. shift, and that also allowed me time to get home and go to the soccer games and all that.

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Unknown

I was convinced So COVID has changed how corner works a lot. Unfortunately, right now we do have an age limit, so we aren't accepting kids as young. We start about 14, 13 or 14 in different positions, but our very popular Saturday Breakfast Service is 16 and over. So that's changed for us and we've also moved outdoors. So our meal service needs to be split down inside, which allows people to kind of chat with each other.

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Unknown

And because of COVID, we've moved it out into the parking lot. So it's been an outdoor service. And then lastly, we've also changed the number of volunteer signups to keep our numbers down. So normally we have about 20 people signed up for a shift. During the pandemic we actually had a team of 12 working a four hour shift instead of our normal two hour shift What

sets us apart from other services I think what makes us a little bit different is, first of all, we do welcome everyone without any paperwork because sometimes some guests are wary about doing paperwork or whatnot.

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So we don't have that kind of challenge. And also we have a high repeat guest percentage. I would say we easily have 80% of our guests who return week after week. So you really develop a relationship with some of the guests And also our volunteers are quite dedicated. We have a pretty high return volunteer count, and so a lot of the volunteers become close friends with each other Right.

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Well, we're trying to get back to indoor service again, where we're waiting on a couple of things. We want to see how COVID plays out but that is our main goal, to be able to head inside and offer a sit down service again.

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Unknown

In what is it. I enjoy volunteering at Hope's choir because it allows me to bring a perspective to my life, especially my work life balance. Sometimes when we get frustrated at work and then we come serve at home corner and we realize the challenges that we're dealing with is actually not a big deal compared to the challenges some of our guests are dealing with.

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Do you think is a relevant too? Absolutely. I mean, based on the number of meals that we serve, where we're doing on average about 325 meals every Saturday, we do about 200 to two 50 every Wednesday. So you add up those numbers. We're doing over 500 meals a week for people in our communities. And especially with the pandemic, the need is even greater than normal with all the people who have lost their jobs or are unable to work because of medical issues.

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Can you give us the St Luke's Corner? Sure. So Hope's Korner, we actually just celebrated our ten year anniversary this year. We're hoping to do a big party, but we weren't able to. But it literally started with a group of friends who attended a course about giving back to the community and they noticed there is a gap in our community of Saturday mornings where people couldn't get food, and so they started with a group of friends.

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They had more volunteers than guests when they first served. So imagine in ten years they went from ten guests to, you know, 500 guests a week And besides food, we also added shower service facilities a couple of years ago, and then we added laundry facilities as well, which is somewhat new for us, maybe three or four years old as our laundry facilities.

00;06;28;09 - 00;06;59;14

Unknown

Yeah. Do you plan to expand working 20 days or not in terms of the service? I don't think we're expanding, but we are talking about maybe adding another shower date because as you can imagine, showers are extremely hard to get if you're not housed or they managed to, you know, clean themselves up in a bathroom somewhere with cold water.

00;07;00;07 - 00;07;17;28

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The importance of a hot shower and being able to be clean is so important. So that's something we are looking into I guess that's it. That's all right. Thank you so much for your home.