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**Subject:** What are your summer adventures?

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## What are your summer adventures?

July 2017



Dear Friends,

Summer is a season that can mean new adventures. I've decided one of my summer adventures is to get to know a few of my neighbors better. It's meant stopping to chat with Terri and her young boys and taking extra time for little things with 92-year-old neighbor Elsa. These are small things. But I'm trying to do it with great love.

Margot Starbuck, in her book "[Small Things with Great Love: Adventures in Loving Your Neighbor](#)", shares this: *"Jesus invites those of us who are weary from our hectic schedules and harried commutes and the burden of taking care of so much stuff into an entirely new way of living.... [to] experience real relief in yoking ourselves to Jesus by moving toward the ones he loves. As we extend small acts of self-giving love in the course of our normal daily routines, God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven."* [page 30]

I'd love to hear your adventures in loving your neighbors. And I'm thrilled to share that Margot Starbuck is speaking for Bridge of Hope at our conference this fall and at our Gala Luncheon in 2018, sharing stories of adventures in loving your neighbor. It's a great connect as our Bridge of Hope network begins a two year adventure in changing our language from "[mentoring](#)" to "[neighboring](#)".

For Bridge of Hope, our "adventures" this past year in loving families facing homelessness has been one of joy and

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### Why I Believe in Bridge of Hope

I am delighted to share this video of Jon Witmer, owner of Re-Bath & More (Lancaster, PA), sharing about why he believes in Bridge of Hope.

success. I am thrilled to share our outcomes data for our fiscal year ending March 31, 2017. Here's a quick overview of one of our strongest years ever, in impacting families facing homelessness:

- Served 252 women and children
- 91% of families exiting Bridge of Hope in 2016-17 had safe and stable housing
- 95% of families exiting Bridge of Hope in 2016-17 were employed

Thanks for all that you do for Bridge of Hope families across our [locations in 11 states and Canada!](#)

Adventuring with you in loving our neighbors facing homelessness,



## What's New at Bridge of Hope?

- Later this month, [Bridge of Hope @ Midland's Open Door](#), our newest program site in Midland, Michigan, will train their first 2 groups of Neighboring Volunteers. Congratulations!
- Last month, the Lancaster & Chester Counties affiliate of Bridge of Hope announced that they will be transitioning to join the Good Samaritan Shelter and become a Bridge of Hope program site rather than an affiliate. We are pleased to extend our support to the Lancaster & Chester Counties affiliate in their transition to a Bridge of Hope program site and wish them the best in these months of transition.

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