

Dear friends, supporters and volunteers, we and our clients continue to be both overwhelmed and deeply grateful for the above and beyond help we have, and continue, to receive. The response to our last update has encouraged us to continue providing you with continued updates. So, here goes.....

It is, in many ways, business as usual at Wellspring. We continue to serve 50-80 meals each day we are open, our showers and laundry facilities are doing double duty and other programs are ongoing. Annual events like our recent "Bed and Bath Shopping" provide clients, like shown here, with the chance to choose replacement sheets and towels. Later in the fall we will have a "Shop for Clothes" time followed by a "Winter Coat" opportunity.



Both out of necessity and because it is part of our "DNA," Wellspring has been an all-volunteer army that has "marched" with minimum overhead taking maximum advantage of whatever we are given. However, the flood added demand for our services that revealed the need for

expanded infrastructure.

We "old dogs" are adding new technology tricks and new, donated hardware as well as a new, to us, truck. Okay, okay so the new truck is a 2006 model with 96,000 miles but it is the best vehicle we have ever had. And replaces a nearly 20 year old truck with about 300,000 hard miles. We will keep the old truck for hauling firewood and other rough tasks but we now have safe, over-the-road transportation thanks to the generous help of several people including a car dealer hundreds of miles away who never had heard of Wellspring.



People are being helped by our teams and individuals working to get them back into severely damaged homes. As can be seen in these bathroom pictures, progress is



"before and almost after" being made for people to have a decent place to live and shower. Indeed the flood has created opportunities to improve, often substantially, home owner's environments. Also pictured below is one of our workers, Charles, pointing to the high water mark in a house that is partly restored to an reasonable state.



Yet there is still much remaining to do. Here is one person's mobile home, clearly damaged beyond repair. We cannot help them get a new dwelling but we can and have helped such people



locate temporary or alternate living accommodations. And the resources just keep coming. A man some 50 miles away called and offered the contents of his parent's home to us for distribution to anyone in need. We gathered some help, another truck and off we went. Much of these furnishings are



in the hands of people who needed them desperately. And you know what else? The gentleman who gave us this furniture also slipped us gas money to cover the cost of our getting his gift.

And hope springs eternal. Here is a sentiment expressed by someone without a usable home. We know he is watching, praying and expecting some help...with gratitude. In fact, when we delivered some heavy building materials, the owner, struggling to walk, came from the neighbors house where he was staying to offer his assistance, express his appreciation and wish us a blessed day!



So that is the news from Western Greenbrier County, West Virginia. We ain't dead yet!

Scarlett and Fred
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