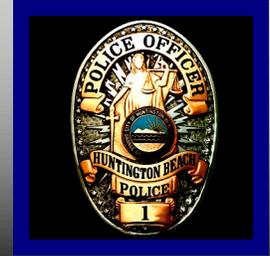


REACHING OUT

EFFECTING CHANGE ONE PERSON AT A TIME



H U N T I N G T O N B E A C H P O L I C E D E P A R T M E N T

TEAMWORK WINS



Above from left: OFFICER SMITH, SCOTT AND DAVE GROSSE

Scott was sleeping behind a local business when Officer Smith woke him up to have a conversation. “Scott was very respectful and very motivated to get off the street,” recalls Officer Smith. It did not take long for Officer Smith to offer assistance. He called his Homeless Task Force colleagues who interviewed Scott the same day. Within two weeks, Scott was accepted into **SHIP (Self Help Interfaith Program)**, where he remains safely housed.

After housing was handled, the HTF contacted Dave Grosse of **Branches Church**, who had offered to assist the HTF in the past. Branches Church, which offers services at the Senior Center and the Community Bible Church, has a Ministry, Matt 25:40. The Ministry focuses on service to our homeless residents. As Dave puts it, “We focus on helping people in our HB community. We are on this Earth to serve, not to be served.”

Scott accepted a full-time position with a major grocery chain and will be looking for an apartment soon. He is so grateful. To Officer Smith, Scott points out, “You were so polite to me. I thought I was going to get in trouble, but you cared. You just wanted to help.” To Dave, Scott says, “You bought me pants. You picked me up and drove me around even though it was out of your way. You helped me get a job.” Reflecting, Scott adds, “There are people out there that actually care.”

PIT COUNT

Special thanks to all the volunteers who participated in the County's Point in Time count on January 23rd and January 24th. The HTF is often asked to estimate the number of homeless that live in Huntington Beach and we will soon know the most accurate count to date. We appreciate your role in this civic activity.



“Thank you for giving me a chance to get my life back on track.”

-Rebecca

Rebecca was the recipient of our December HTF outreach request, allowing her the funds to rent a room with a family. She tells us, “I now have a safe place with a family that has been so welcoming. I love kids so I couldn't be happier.”

Rebecca is acquiring dog grooming skills for her new job. She picked up a second job as a dish washer in a restaurant, hoping to become a line cook. Of her new situation she tell us, “Whenever you're in a certain place and you keep trying but nothing works out, you're not supposed to be there. Since moving to my new place, everything is working smoothly and my heart knows this is where I am supposed to be right now.”

Frequenting the Starbucks at Main and Olive? Feel free to visit the giving meter that HB's Community Services recently installed on the southwest corner.

