Here at Hope Ministries we serve lunch and dinner every day of the year to our residents and community members. We have not missed a meal since first opening in 1954! This would not be possible without the help of our dedicated Food Service Providers and Servers.

What to expect when serving a meal at Hope Ministries:

1. Make sure that you are free from illness when serving a meal for Hope. If you are not feeling well, be sure to cancel and we can reschedule you to serve another day. This is important in order to keep our community healthy especially when handling food.

2. You may park anywhere on Lafayette Blvd. or on the North side of Monroe Street. You may also park in Hope’s parking lot if space allows.

3. You may enter through the back service door just west of the dock area. The door will be locked. Be sure to wrap on it rather loudly. Kitchen staff will be waiting for you. If your arrival time is any different than what you had previously arranged with the Volunteer Coordinator, please be sure to inform the front desk. 574-235-4150

4. You will be asked to sign in when you arrive. Please be sure to indicate the time you are arriving and update any contact information at that time. Please don’t forget to sign out when you leave as well.

5. Please dress comfortably, but conservatively. Jeans, T-shirts and tennis shoes are appropriate for most volunteer activities. Shoes must have closed toes if serving in the kitchen and shirts must have sleeves if working in the kitchen. You will also be required to wear a hairnet, apron and rubber gloves while you are serving food. These are provided for you at Hope. Due to Health Department regulations, we must strictly enforce these regulations. If even one volunteer is not in compliance with the dress code, Hope Ministries will be in violation of the City ordinances and can be cited. It is
also strongly suggested that our volunteers do not wear shorts due to risk of burns from food drips etc... doing so is at your own risk.

6. If serving lunch, we ask that you please arrive no later than 10:30am. You will finish by 12:30. If serving dinner we ask that you arrive no later than 5:30pm. You will finish by 7:30. This allows time for any reheating that needs to take place.

Additional Guidelines:

In an effort to make your service at Hope Ministries as fruitful and enjoyable as possible, we ask that you please abide by some simple guidelines during your visit to Hope Ministries. Please be faithful in fulfilling your commitment. If you cannot make the time for which you are scheduled, please call or email Jill Gunn, the Volunteer/Event Coordinator, or the Department Head in which you are volunteering for, as far ahead as possible.

1. If the number of volunteers in your group changes, we must know prior to your arrival. All projects are scheduled in advance for a specific number of individuals. If you bring additional volunteers than planned, we may not have staff available to provide additional unscheduled projects.

2. Do not give rides or money to residents.

3. Do not take pictures of the residents without their permission. If permission is granted, we ask that the photos remain only for your personal use. Please do not publicize photos in newsletters, papers, or online. However, please feel free to take group pictures or pictures of the facility to use as you wish.

4. Please be sure to report any inappropriate behavior or anything that causes you to feel uncomfortable to the staff person on duty.

5. Unless you made prior arrangements when scheduling your project, please do not bring food or snacks for our residents. We do, however, always appreciate your non-perishable food donations for our kitchen.

6. Have a great time! You as volunteers are a tremendous blessing to Hope Ministries and you are making a huge difference in the lives of our residents.

We would ask that all group leaders please review these guidelines with each group member before arriving and that they be responsible for group members strictly adhering to these guidelines.

Thank you for choosing to serve at Hope Ministry!!!!