



# Journey of Hope

P.O. Box 277  
O'Fallon, IL 62269

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why is Journey of Hope becoming an independent non-profit?

A: Transitioning to independent, non-profit status provides practical benefits such as:

- Improved practicality for managing insurance and rental agreements
- Opportunities to apply for grants that require independent nonprofit status
- Autonomy in hiring staff and establishing policies

Q: Where is Journey of Hope in the process of becoming a non-profit?

A: Journey of Hope is now operating as an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit. We have received incorporation status, obtained an EIN number, submitted our 501(c)(3) application, and had it endorsed by an attorney. We will receive our official IRS number soon.

Q: How is my giving to Journey of Hope affected?

A: Journey of Hope has opened its own bank accounts and is in the process of separating our financial records from those of O'Fallon First UMC. You may now write your checks directly to "Journey of Hope" and mail them to P.O. Box 277; O'Fallon, IL 62269. If you schedule recurring ACH donations, our bookkeeper will be in touch within the next couple of weeks to reschedule your giving with our new bank information. Be on the lookout on social media, on our website, and in your email for details about how to give online as new platforms become available.

Q: Are donations still tax-deductible?

A: Yes, any donations given to Journey of Hope through O'Fallon First have been tax-deductible, and any donations given directly to Journey of Hope will continue to be tax-exempt.

Q: How will Journey of Hope be different now that it is its own corporation?

A: Some changes include:

- Separating financial records and employing an independent bookkeeper.
- Transitioning our advisory board into a governing board.
- Working towards establishing a rental agreement with O'Fallon First United Methodist Church for use of the property that has previously housed Journey of Hope.

Q: Is the home open?

A: No, not yet, but the repairs are finished, and could be used as soon as a rental agreement is reached.

Q: Is Journey of Hope currently accepting donations?

A: Currently, JOH is only accepting monetary donations. At this time, we cannot accept tangible items, as we do not have storage for them.