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Modern country artist Steven Cade entertains House of Hope 316 clients on 'Giving Guitars' tour



Steven Cade performs four songs for the House of Hope 316 audience. Friday afternoon. (Nanci Hutson/Courier)

On a sunny Friday afternoon, a group of about 15 House of Hope 316 senior homeless clients and a handful of agency friends gathered in the Mountain Valley Church of God sanctuary in Prescott Valley for a special, half-hour concert by modern country artist Steven Cade as part of his "Giving Guitars" tour.

The Nashville, Tennessee singer, accompanied by his family, wife, Kellee, his manager, and children Levi and Eliana, and tour sponsor/entrepreneur Brent Yates of the Restore Us Foundation, shared three original songs written with friends that evoke hope amid the strife of homelessness, anxiety and despair. This was the 29th homeless shelter program out of 100 he has planned to visit as part of his tour.

Cade and his family understand a bit of the plight after experiencing a brief stint of homelessness four years ago.



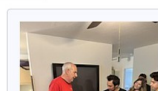
Nashville, Tennessee modern country artist Steven Cade signs one of two guitars he donated to House of Hope during a stop on his "Giving Guitars" tour. (Nanci Hutson/Courier)

In his recently released song, "Better Me," the second in his repertoire on Friday afternoon, Cade sings of handing a dollar bill to a man with a "homeless" sign that "could have been mine."

In the first song he performed, "You Ain't Over Yet," Cade sings of unseen blessings that rise from the obstacles and challenges of life. He then finished his prepared program with a song he has yet to record, titled, "Big Picture Thinker." Then he added a treat for the audience — a song inspired by his daughter that earned him a Grammy nomination titled "Pinky Promise."

Asked about arranging this tour amid a busy songwriting and concert schedule, Cade said he is a Christian inspired by his faith to give back to others. He said he wants to use his talents to God's glory and be an entertainer who leads by example. On his visit in this area, Cade performed last week for the Agape House transitional housing program for homeless families in Prescott.

Before Cade and his family departed the church on Friday afternoon — they were scheduled to perform a final, open-to-the-public concert at Founding Fathers Collective in Prescott — Cade autographed two, Taylor acoustic guitars donated to House of Hope 316



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clients who expressed in interest in learning to play. Taylor Guitars is one of the tour sponsors.

House of Hope 316 Founder and Director Bert Hunt said the recipients of the guitars will be client/house manager Sheree Garrison and Bruce Arehart. Cade encouraged the new guitarists to videotape their performances as he hopes that he can arrange in the future to share a Nashville stage with some of the up-and-coming performers his tour has inspired.

"Everyone has a platform, and a voice," Cade declared.



Steven Cade gives a guitar to Agape House Executive Director Michael Kimmel. (Agape House/Courtesy)

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