Volume 29 - Issue 1

A PUBLICATION OF GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRIES, INC.

March 2014

### BENEVOLENCE STATISTICS for Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2013

#### **Individuals Served:**

158,332 Men, Women and Children served

Homeless Contacts: 1,091

Total Benevolence Value \$3,998,662.31

**95.6 cents** out of every donated dollar goes to Benevolence to help those hurting.

Only 4.4 cents out of every donated dollar goes to Operational!

## How you can help

As this chilly winter draws to a close, Good Samaritan is already looking ahead to the coming year. Right now, many area stores are putting winter items on deep discount. Items such as warm clothes and shoes of all sizes, toiletries, and holiday gifts for teens and seniors are much needed, and are more affordable right now than all year long.

You can help Good Samaritan get a head start on *next* winter by purchasing and donating these seasonal goods at their current low prices. Please consider these donations the next time you shop!

### A Note From Sarah

Dear Friends,

What a joy it has been to serve as the Executive Director of Good Samaritan Ministries. On January 1, 2014, I celebrated my 20th year working for the greatest ministry. You and your kindness have allowed me to continue to serve. Thanksgiving and Christmas came in what seemed like a whirlwind. I wanted to say thank you to all that helped with packing boxes, collecting food, delivering boxes, wrapping gifts, collecting gifts for the elderly, teenagers, and inmates' children. You did an outstanding job in seeing that the children were taken care of for Christmas. May God richly bless you.

Over the holidays I had seven families displaced from homes and living in the reality of homelessness. On Christmas Day alone I had six adults and



Sarah C. Wells

seventeen children and two children on the way into this world. It over-whelmed me that one baby was born and was born into homelessness, no fault of the parents or that little one.

Last week we moved one mother and her five children into housing. It cost Good Samaritan Ministries \$290.00 per week for each family from Thanksgiving until the present. All families are waiting on public housing. Tomorrow we move another mother and her five children into their home. To move everyone into housing, all of the items needed to set up a home are needed for them.

I want to thank Sleep Zone and Mark Matteau, for providing five twin sets of bedding, along with the rails, plus one full-sized mattress set for the mother. Folks, that is a lot of money! We all need to shop where the owners invest in our community's neighbors in need. May God richly bless you Mark and Emily Matteau for living your faith through your Christian action.

If you have items to donate to our families, please call the Heaven Sent Family Outlet at Good Samaritan Ministries, 423-928-1116 or Good Samaritan Ministries, 423-928-1958. Our families do not have to pay for anything. This is a gift from God to their family. The items are also delivered and set up free of charge.

In service to others,

Sarah C. Wells

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# Christmas programs serve over 5,600 people

### Good Samaritan Ministries meets ever greater need with 2013 Christmas programs

The Holidays are a busy time for many of us, and the same is true here at Good Samaritan Ministries. In 2013, Good Samaritan saw an increased need for holiday food and gift assistance, and we are confident that need will continue to increase throughout the new year.

For the 2013 Christmas season, our staff and volunteers were hard at work, ensuring that families and individuals in our community saw the love of Jesus through our ministry. Through your prayers, support and donations, Good Samaritan Ministries served 5,624 people at a value of \$1,100,625!

We were able to assist area families by providing Christmas gift boxes to local children and teens, as well as the children of parents who were incarcerated during the holidays. Each gift box included age-appropriate gifts and clothing items.



Volunteers make all the difference in our Christmas programs. Here, volunteer Abigail Johnson readies Christmas gift boxes for delivery.

In addition, Good Samaritan was able to share a holiday meal with area families in need. 600 boxes of food were distributed, and 240 prepared holiday meals were delivered to those who were not able to leave their homes.

We could not have accomplished this without our faithful volunteers, food drives and toy drives from many businesses, churches and religious organizations in the area. We thank you for your donations and especially for your prayers. We appreciate your support during the 2013 Christmas season!

At Good Samaritan, we know our neighbors have needs that extend beyond the holidays. We are happy to provide opportunities to volunteer and to donate all year long. Please read below to learn about the great programs we've got coming up for Spring & Summer!

# **GSM** provides Resurrection Baskets for local children, meals for elderly, disabled

Many children in our community are in danger of being raised with no knowledge of the word of God. As they grow into adulthood, they may never have the opportunity to hear the Good News that Jesus loves them.

This spring, Good Samaritan Ministries hopes to provide 1,000 Resurrection Baskets to local children, the children of veterans and the children of inmates in Johnson City and Carter County jails. These baskets contain age and genderappropriate devotionals, Bibles, treats and an assortment of Christian-themed books, games and crossword puzzles.

Donations of items such as candy, baskets, grass, and Christian-themed items such as pencils, books, Bibles, notebooks and games are greatly appreciated.

A complete Resurrection basket may be sponsored for \$15.00. This will help cover the cost of the basket and help Good Samaritan Ministries share the love of Jesus with a child in our area.

In addition to resurrection baskets, Good Samaritan Ministries will also provide fully-prepared Easter meals for the disabled and elderly. Delivering these meals is a wonderful way to spread the love of Jesus to those who might not have anyone with whom to share Easter dinner. Your gift of \$35.00 will assist us in providing this meal for a senior or disabled person in need.

# We have several families in need of reliable transportation. Do you have a car you'd like to donate? Remember, each donation is 100% tax-deductible! Please call 423-928-0288 or email sarah@goodsamjc.org for more information.



# Summer food program helps families in need

For many children in our area, Summer is more complicated than simply playing outside. Many local families are dependent on free or reduced school breakfast and lunch to help stretch their budget. When school is not in session, these families often struggle to provide adequate meals for their children.

Last year, Good Samaritan Ministries helped bridge the summer meal gap by providing regular meals for 1,740 individuals. This year, we plan to feed even more. Throughout June, July and August, Good Samaritan will provide area families with much-needed food and household supplies.

For a one-time gift of \$35.00, you can support a local child for one month. For \$105.00, you can support that child all summer long. Please look into your heart and feed a hungry child in our area. Become a Good Samaritan today!

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YES! We'd love to help with Spring and Summer programs! (Please indicate quantity of gifts)						
Sponsor a Resurrection Basket (\$15) Sponsor a child for a month of Summer Food Program(\$35 Sponsor an Easter Food Basket (Elderly/Disabled) (\$35) Sponsor a full summer of Summer Food Program (\$105) Money for benevolence, food or rent for those in need						
I'd like to know more about volunteer opportunities.						
Name:						
Address:						
City: State: ZIP:						
Contact person: Phone Number:						
E-mail: Fax:						
In Memory of / In Honor of (Please circle one. A card will be sent.)  Name:						
Address:						
City: State: ZIP:						
Please clip out and mail to:						
Good Samaritan Ministries P.O. Box 2441, Johnson City, TN 37605						
Phone: 423-928-0288 / E-mail: Kristen@goodsamjc.org						

## Jammin Butter provides exciting new ways to donate

Our good friends at Jammin Butter, a successful online retailer based right here in Johnson City, have been providing new ways for you to lend a helping hand to our neighbors in need.



Through their various e-commerce websites, found at www.jamminbutter.com, the company has been offering an upsale option in their online shopping cart. This option allows shoppers to add additional items to their purchases (at a low cost to the buyer) each of which will then be donated to local charities.

This initiative has met with great success, and as a result, Jammin Butter has been able to donate several thousand dollars worth of warm clothing, gifts and other useful items to Good Samaritan Ministries over the past few months.

For Good Samaritan's 2013 winter and Christmas programs, Jammin Butter and its customers donated \$2,137 worth of books, toys and other gifts to our community's youth in need.

In addition, the company and its customers donated \$7499 worth of winter items, such as thermal socks, knit caps, hooded sweatshirts, winter gloves and warm winter blankets for Good Samaritan to redistribute to those who might not have access to adequate cold-weather gear.

These two major donations combined bring the value of donated goods from Jammin Butter to \$9,636.00!

Jammin Butter Co-Founders, Vantha Chhoun and Chad Biggs, explain: "With



The great staff at JamminButter.com

an overwhelming response, we are proud to commit to this program for as long as we can find the products that will serve your project needs."

Thank you, Jammin Butter, for your amazing efforts to help our community's neighbors in need!



P.O. Box 2441 Johnson City, TN 37605

Phone: 423-928-0288 Fax: 423-928-6685 www.goodsamjc.org



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### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

# Melting Pot Serving Schedule - March 2014

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st	3 Covenant Presbyterian	4 Cornerstone	5 Jonesboro UMC	6 Thankful Baptist	7 St. Mary's Catholic Church
2nd	10 Cherokee UMC	J.C. Ward LDS	12 Our Savior Lutheran	13 Phillipi Baptist	14 Harrison Christian
3rd	17 First Presbyterian	18 Marvin's Chapel UMC	19 Gray UMC (Birthday Cake)	20 First Christian JC	21 First UMC
4th	24 Grace Fellowship	25 Westminster Presbyterian	26 Hosanna Fellowship	27 St. Mary's Catholic Church	28 Bethlehem Lutheran
5th	31 Jubilee World Outreach				