

Helping Hands Ministry

2210 HOLLAND ROAD, BELTON, TX 76513 | 254-939-7355

December 11, 2019

Dear Neighbor of Helping Hands Ministry,

The most sacred moments I have experienced at Helping Hands Ministry are when I have had the opportunity to meet our neighbors and hear their stories. In the enclosed 2019 Community Impact Report, I shared one of the stories that impacted me most this year from Julie. Julie's unshaking faith in the God who sees her and loves her made a permanent impression on my heart.

In 2019, you joined with our community to share Christ's love with approximately 5,900 of our neighbors who, like Julie, have faced needs this year that looked overwhelming. You provided groceries when our neighbors would not otherwise be able to eat healthy, nutritious food. You paid utility bills and rent for families in crisis, so they could keep their children safe and healthy. You brought in local professionals to share information with our neighbors about how to live healthy lifestyles, how to identify unhealthy relationships, and how to manage their household finances. You also provided clothes, hygiene products, household necessities, and infant items for families in our community facing financial hardships.

Your year-end gift will allow Helping Hands to continue to minister to local families in 2020. Your gifts have a direct impact on the lives of the families we serve:

- \$50 pays the utility bill for family in crisis
- \$100 buys 5 heaters for our elderly neighbors
- \$500 provides a week's worth of groceries for 20 local families

Please consider returning a year-end gift to Helping Hands in the enclosed envelope or making your gift online at helpinghandsbelton.org. With your gift, local families facing financial hardships will continue to have a place to go to find groceries, clothing, financial assistance, and most importantly, love and support.

Thank you for continuing to love our neighbors this year.

Sincerely,

Tasha Roberts
Executive Director

Jusha Rebuts





WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

This year, I met Julie while she was at Helping Hands Ministry getting groceries. Julie is quiet and earnest, and her smile radiates her warm and peaceful spirit.

Julie lives in Belton with her mother, who has Alzheimer's. Julie completed her certificate as a Certified Nursing Assistant a few years ago and works with elderly patients. Prior to that, she worked as a Certified Medical Assistant before she decided to continue her education. Julie wants to go on to nursing school, but she is unsure if she can handle the load, both financially and mentally, while taking care of her mother. She lights up when she talks about her job and says her patients give her a feeling of purpose.

I met Julie because some of our longest-serving volunteers have known Julie for awhile. When Julie first came to Helping Hands Ministry several years ago, her smile did not radiate warmth and peace; in fact, she rarely smiled at all. Julie came to Helping Hands Ministry back then with an abusive boyfriend, and she was addicted to drugs. Julie shared with me that her boyfriend told her that if she left, no one else would ever love her. Eventually, his abuse got so bad that Julie realized that if she didn't leave, he might eventually end her life. "I thought what he said was true. I thought if I left, no one else could ever love me," she said.

Julie reached out for help on her own and got into a rehab facility, and she has been clean and sober for over six years. After coming home from rehab, she found a church that loved and supported her. She went back to school, and now she juggles her job, taking care of her mom, and worrying about her adult son.

By the world's standards, Julie's life has not been a success. She does not live in a large house or drive a nice car or have a degree from a prestigious school. She works hard but still struggles to make ends meet in a job that does not pay her enough to survive. But, Julie has already faced and overcome more challenges in her life than many of us will ever encounter. She has more wisdom, faith, and courage than most "successful" people I've ever met. It is a privilege to be Julie's neighbor.

In 2019, you have provided a helping hand to over 5,700 of our neighbors. Our neighbors have fed their kids, kept their lights on, and had access to community resources because you have heeded Jesus' command to love your neighbors. As we look toward the future, may we continue to be a community that loves each of our neighbors and strives to walk in obedience to Jesus' call.

Sincerely,

Tasha Roberts
Executive Director

2019 IMPACT

5,700

MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN

Received non-perishable food, fresh produce, meat, bread, personal hygiene products, and clothes

152

FAMILIES

Received help paying their rent or utility bills

95

GRADUATES

Completed education courses taught by professionals on topics including household finance, avoiding scams and repairing credit, healthy living, and healthy relationships

10+

NEW OR EXPECTANT PARENTS

Completed a class taught by professionals on infant safety and care and received a bundle of infant care items

1,500

HOLIDAY MEALS

Were provided to local families through the Thanksgiving and Christmas food pantries

888

STUDENTS

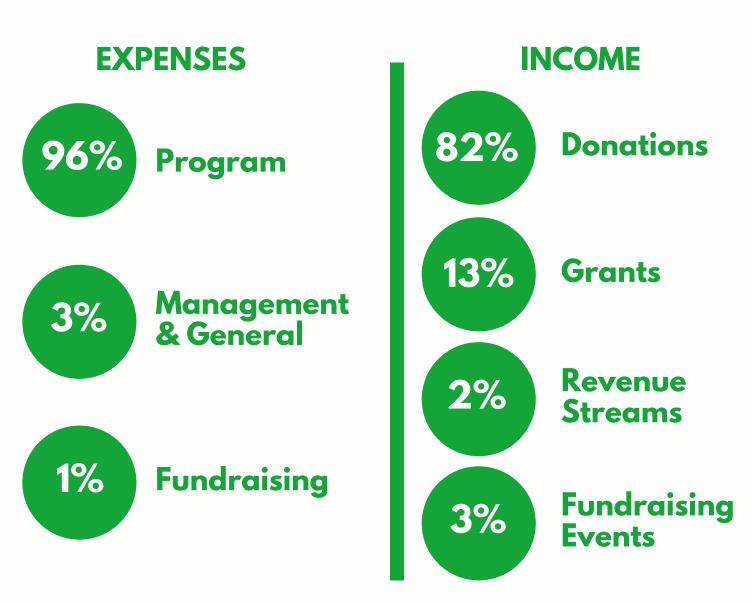
Received school supplies and a new set of clothes purchased for them by their parents through Project Apple Tree

62

PATIENTS

Were given transportation assistance for confirmed medical appointments

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

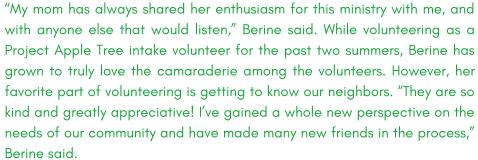


Current audited financial statements and IRS 990 forms are available at www.helpinghandsbelton.org/financial-stewardship.

MAKING AN IMPACT



Margie Holmes started volunteering at Helping Hands Ministry more than ten years ago. Shortly thereafter, her daughter, Janet Leigh, joined her as a volunteer in the front office. Eventually, Margie also recruited her daughter, Berine Coleman, to join the Helping Hands Ministry volunteer team as well.





April 26, 2019

Janet also loves volunteering at Helping Hands because it has not only taught her about the people in our community, but has challenged her to grow personally as well. "Volunteering at Helping Hands has taught me to remember we are all fellow travelers in this life. I believe that volunteering is not about making ourselves feel good but rather understanding that we all need a helping hand sometimes, and we are all loved by our creator regardless of our circumstances. So let's be there for each other."

Margie's natural organization skills and love of staying busy were a perfect fit for working in the front office and coordinating Kim's Closet. "My prayer is that I can continue to serve our neighbors at Helping Hands for a long time," Margie said. For her commitment to loving our neighbors, Margie was selected as Helping Hands Ministry's 2018 Volunteer of the Year by her

fellow volunteers.

Top (L-R): Berine Coleman, Janet Leigh, and Margie Holmes. Bottom left: Margie receives the 2018 Volunteer of the Year award. Bottom right: Margie and Janet serving together at Helping Hands Ministry.



COMMUNITY OF IMPACT

Amity Brush Arbor Church
Belton Church of Christ
Belton Nazarene Church
Christ the King Catholic Church
Church of Jesus Christ
Crossroads Church
Fellowship Baptist Church
First Baptist Church of Belton
First Baptist Church of Temple

Supporting Churches

First Christian Church of Belton
First United Methodist Church of Belton
Foundation United Methodist Church
Harvest Church
Immanuel Lutheran Ministries
Keys Valley Baptist Church
Lakeview Baptist Church
Meadow Oaks Baptist Church
Miller Heights Baptist Church

Nolan Valley Baptist Church
River Church
Shiloh Worship Center
Stillhouse Baptist Church
Taylor's Valley Baptist Church
Temple Bible Church
Trinity Full Gospel
Vista Community Church
Youngsport Baptist Church

Board of Directors

Ron Emerson - President Linda Atkins Lori Luppino Lynn Sheridan-Welch Roy Highsmith - Vice President Teon Bass Claudette Morgan-Scott Emily Steele

Chad McAninch - Secretary
Mike Bergman
Marty Seger
Mike Thompson

Ministry Directors

Mary Anderson Volunteer Director of Food Pantry

Marylyn Douthit Volunteer Co-Director of Project Apple Tree

Kimberly Pointer

Volunteer Director of

Client Care

Ana Rodriguez Warehouse Supervisor

Glenda Cosper Volunteer Co-Director of Project Apple Tree

Bart and Joan Meharg Volunteer Co-Directors of Records & Statistics Don Disler Volunteer Director of Clothing

Sara Hector Volunteer Co-Director of Project Apple Tree

Tom Wicker Volunteer Director of Chapel Ministry

Staff

Tasha Roberts

Executive Director

Miles O'Neill Program Director

Sarah Achée Business Manager

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