



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

"When you harvest the crops on your land, do not cut all the way to the corners of your field. Don't pick up the grain that falls on the ground. Leave it for the poor..." Leviticus 23:22

CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2021

A FULL CIRCLE MOMENT

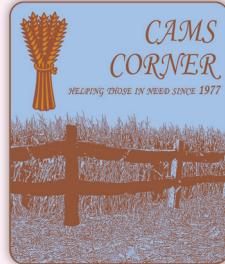
A gentleman dressed in medical scrubs came into CAM with some items he wanted to donate. As we helped him unload the items, he started to share why he was donating to CAM. He, his wife and two children had been forced to relocate to San Antonio because of a hurricane a few years ago. They soon found themselves homeless, living out of their car and at their wits end. He had nothing and came to CAM for assistance. He said CAM helped him and his family for about two years before the storms of life lifted.



During this time, he was going to school to be an EKG technician. He said it had been about a year since they needed assistance from CAM. He and his family are doing so well now that he can donate back to CAM. He was so grateful! Often times, we aren't able to track our client's whereabouts after they receive services from us. So, when they come back to CAM to help us instead of asking us to help them, it's a true full circle moment for us and for the client. God continues to bless CAM over and over again. He wants CAM open and operating and He continues to give us the tools and resources needed to make a difference in the lives of so many.

How CAN I MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Sometimes it can feel impossible; especially when we read reports about 300,000 San Antonio citizens living at or below the poverty level. We don't have to be independently wealthy, a CEO or in retirement to do so. Each gift of \$10, \$20 or \$50 given monthly can add up. When you give to CAM you stand in our corner, like the uncut wheat of a harvest left to remind those in need that they have been provided for by God through our obedience. In other words when you join CAM's corner, you have our back and you have the backs of people like John who is starting over and getting back to work or Kelly working hard to feed her children while working and going to school. We hope you will join us this year by making an ongoing monthly gift.



13YR OLD RESCUED AT CAM

CAM was able to help a family rescue and reunite with a 13 year old run away. The young girl had been on the streets when her family approached our incredible security officer Mark Crosson. The parents showed him a picture one Saturday in January and 10 minutes later, he saw her step off the bus with one of our clients. The client had brought her to CAM to get food and to also seek help. He and a few other clients on the streets knew she shouldn't be out there and felt safe enough to bring her to CAM to get her help. Mark was wise enough to detain her with conversation and food so she wouldn't run off in time for the parents to arrive. We believe being here ready to help is part of our purpose. So much of this is a miracle and we see God in the work we do.



SOLES4SOULS

Your old shoes provide new opportunities in your hometown. Did you know there are 46.5 million people living in poverty right here in the United States? Did you know that 16.1 million of these are children? CAM helps people living in poverty gain new dignity, courage and hope. When you donate your used shoes you are helping people get back on their feet...literally! Donate Your Gently Used Shoes during our Soles4Souls Drive February-March. Contact Nora at noyler@cam-sa.org for more information.



YOUR MONTHLY \$10 GIFT COULD TURN INTO \$10,000

A MONTH IF WE ALL PARTICIPATED!



cam

christian
assistance
ministry

FOLLOW US ON



WWW.CAM-SA.ORG

CAM DOWNTOWN
110 McCullough
210.223.4099

CAM NORTHWEST
5048 DeZavala
210.697.5771

CARING AT CAM DURING COVID

I am not sure we thought almost a year ago, that we would still be talking about operating during COVID. When it first happened, we all thought it might be a temporary crisis. We jumped into action, stayed open, offered new services, more services, and figured out a way to fulfill our mission with new rules and new needs. Today almost a year later, we don't see being able to return to normal for quite some time and in some ways maybe never. What I want to share are some of the good things that are occurring because of this crisis, all good things.

CAM is using a debit/credit card to help folks get their ID renewed, or purchase a birth certificate. This is major for people who are trying to get a job, get off the streets, or get into a shelter. This new process is much more efficient. We have more community partners helping with ID recovery (doing the interview process while we fund it). We are having a significant impact on helping the unsheltered street homeless and forming relationships. Not only providing impactful services by offering food, shower, a free mail box, clothing but also linking our relationships with these folks to the street outreach workers trying to help people get into housing. Most recently we made the decision to hire a team member to focus on our homeless population as a means to be part of a community wide system to help folks get off the streets. Valerie Salas started at the end of December and has helped us to round out an incredible CAM team that serves a wide range of folks in need.



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

How CAN YOU HELP

CAM needs help on a weekly basis, so check out our website (cam-sa.org) for ways you can help at home.

You can also contact our Volunteer Director to learn about a variety of weekly or one time volunteer opportunities.



ekirtner@cam-sa.org

DONATE INTENTIONALLY

- Sort through all of your donations first and separate by men's, women's, and children's items
- Label all of the bags/boxes you bring to CAM
- Only donate comfortable clothing

Help us get necessary items into the hands of those that need it most in an efficient manner!

CEO's CORNER



Valerie Salas, Director of Homeless Services

Most recently we sent out a community-wide email about the "tent city" that had grown over the past few months. Our purpose for this explanation was to share how difficult this situation was for those we serve and for the neighborhood. While this occurred and wasn't under our leadership, we did support the effort to create a safe and healthy space for our clients. In addition, we supported clients with help to gather their items and clean up, and during this time we discovered a baby in a tent. This was reported in the newspaper, otherwise, we would likely not be mentioning it.

What I want to share is that we support any mother in this situation, but our first priority is the baby. We hope people will understand that we view this as a miracle for both mom and baby to get help. While we can't share personal information, great effort and resources are being provided to the mother, while the baby is being cared for and kept safe. We hope you will pray for mom and baby and know that we care deeply for all of those we serve.



Dawn White-Fosdick