



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

SUMMER 2022

SOMETIMES AN INTERVIEW IS AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY

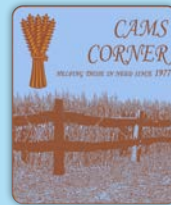
Most recently a CAM volunteer interviewer, shared how a young mom came to CAM to request emergency assistance to pay for her ID to be re-issued (ID recovery is one of CAM's important services). She had a current one but had lost it and she was getting ready to start a new job and needed it asap. She arrived with this request in mind and while she sat there with her 2 elementary school boys, she began chatting about this new job and how she is helping her little family get back on their feet. Our volunteer interviewer asked if CAM could provide the family with some groceries too; just to help with expenses and the mother smiled and quickly said "Oh yes, groceries are getting so expensive".



Our volunteer also shared that CAM was signing children up for our personalized "Adopt a Child for Back to School" program. This would supply the children with school uniforms, socks, underwear, and a back pack full of all of their school supplies specifically required by their school and grade. They could sign up today and then pick up their items in early August. This is a savings of \$150 per child. In her case, this could

cost her closer to \$300 dollars. The young mom, came to CAM to resolve one issue and that would have been a great help (getting her ID in order to be eligible to start working) but CAM's process of meeting with those we serve, hearing their story, and guiding them to resources we can provide or resources in community has an amazing impact on the lives of those we serve. Sometimes people don't even know to ask for things and we make it possible to have a need met that they couldn't imagine receiving.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT CAM: AUTOMATIC MONTHLY GIVING



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.**

LEAVE A LEGACY

CAM has what's called a **Planned Giving Program** — sometimes called gift planning, deferred giving, or legacy giving, which helps our donors make plans to leave money or assets to CAM at a future date, both during their lifetimes and after death. There are many forms of planned giving, but the most common are bequests, charitable gift annuities, and charitable remainder trusts. Many of our supporters who have been with CAM from the start have already started planning their giving for when they pass on.



We know, this may sound incredibly grim, but quite the contrary. Imagine leaving a legacy behind even after you've passed on that continues to help those in need in the San Antonio community? It's quite powerful and incredibly needed. Many donors from our member churches have left legacy gifts that help CAM continue operating on a day-to-day basis, and that's been the biggest blessing for us. If you're interested in planned giving, please contact Dawn at dwhite@cam-sa.org.



cam

christian
assistance
ministry

FOLLOW US ON



WWW.CAM-SA.ORG

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210.223.4099

ON PROPERTY OF
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

CAM NORTHWEST
5084 DeZavala
210.697.5771

ON UNIV. UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH CAMPUS

CEO'S CORNER

I find that more people are asking us about who we serve. Someone recently said that they see more stories about those experiencing homelessness on our social media and is that who we are mostly serving now. Others ask how things are going with people who aren't homeless; especially with the current state of the economy. CAM still serves all people; we are still the emergency room of social services providing for important needs and then guiding people to other community resources. This means we serve those in poverty, the working poor, individuals who have never needed help but may have had a life crisis, those with homes and those without homes. We serve people with serious medical issues both physically and mentally, as well as senior citizens, youth, children, the recently incarcerated, and folks that may be your neighbor. However, things are different. When I pay my grocery bill or put gas in my car, I am worried and reminded of what this must be doing to families that were already living pay check to pay check. Things have changed over the past couple of years at CAM. We are more engaged with and do see more of the unsheltered street homeless; people that can't seem to overcome barriers in order to seek shelter or get off the street. There are more people like that suffering with serious mental health issues and it is concerning. Our established services for anyone that include financial assistance for prescriptions, ID's, utility assistance, clothing, groceries for people who have a home, or daily sack lunches for those experiencing homelessness are needed now more than ever. Over the past two years we have increased our established services to allow people to access groceries and clothing every 30 days, increased the amount of financial assistance, and now 6 days a week, provide showers and sack lunches for our unsheltered homeless. Most importantly we hope that our help allows for people to see that God is working in their lives and that our services provide much needed help and hope. CAM was needed 45 years ago and today it is needed now more than ever.



Dawn White-Fosdick

TEXT 'CAMNEWS'
TO (833) 918-2639

STAY
UP TO
DATE!!

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 Manager, Mary to learn about a variety of weekly or one time volunteer opportunities.

 mhenderson@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!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

We are very much in need of volunteers to help us at our Downtown campus! We have several areas to volunteer, something for every personality! Are you more introverted? Not to worry, we've got volunteer roles that are more behind the scenes. Are you more extroverted and love talking with people? Awesome, we have tons of areas that are client-facing where you can interact with all of our clients. And if you're wondering about your busy schedule, not to worry, we're flexible and work with everyone's schedules! Come be part of our CAM Fam and learn what it's like to serve the San Antonio community one life at a time. To volunteer, email our Volunteer Manager, Mary Henderson, at mhenderson@cam-sa.org today!



CAM's mission is to share the love of Christ by providing immediate assistance and encouragement to people in crisis. All are welcome. CAM is a San Antonio-based nonprofit providing services to 60,000 people annually. CAM helps working poor families, children, elderly, homeless, veterans etc. by providing food, clothing, and financial assistance to help people through a crisis or avoid a more serious crisis.