

WHEN PEOPLE FALL INTO CRISIS DUE TO FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES  
OR HOMELESSNESS, THERE'S A SAFETY NET TO CATCH THEM...

## *CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY*



**cam**  
christian  
assistance  
ministry

# ANNUAL REPORT

\*REFLECTS SERVICES & FINANCIALS FROM 2023

# 2024

HELPING THOSE IN NEED SINCE 1977

# Who is CAM?








CAM is a non-profit organization that serves as an “emergency room of social services.” No appointment is required; we serve anyone in need, regardless of who they are or where they live, including people experiencing homelessness, low-income families, senior citizens, single parents, and children. For the working poor, a few missed days of work due to injury or illness can make a big difference in being able to pay a utility bill or buy food. For those experiencing homelessness, who may not know where their next meal will come from, CAM is a dependable, compassionate source of food and other necessities, such as restrooms, showers, and clothing.







As part of our mission to **provide immediate assistance and encouragement to people in crisis**, CAM addresses problems that require immediate assistance, including help securing the identification needed to apply for a job or benefits, transportation to medical appointments, a free mailbox service, prescription assistance, and utility assistance. We ensure people have what they need to survive, meeting immediate needs while also building a bridge to self-sufficiency. CAM strives to be the “first step” out of urgent situations by providing emergency assistance and stabilization. Each client that comes to us for help leaves with the customized, one-on-one support CAM provides along with referrals to other agencies that can address the systemic issues.

## How CAM HELPS



-  18,595 with groceries (1x each month)
-  19,511 clothing (2 outfits each month and socks, underwear, diapers, and specialty items)
-  10,000 served through information and referral (phone calls to CAM seeking help and advice)
-  6,736 received a total of \$302,022\* worth of financial help for utilities, ID recovery, prescriptions, bus tickets/bus passes for work or medical appointments, or specialized homeless help
-  2,234 people picked up their mail at CAM (typically homeless)
-  1,627 children provided gifts for Christmas (2 brand new gifts, 2 books, stocking stuffer, stuffed animals for ages 0-18)
-  624 children provided their specific school supplies, backpack, uniform, underwear, socks, and shoe voucher

## HOMELESS SPECIFIC SERVICES

-  69,900 sack lunches total serving 6 days a week every morning
-  3,833 showers including new socks and underwear
-  6,325 engagements with people experiencing homelessness and 800 housing or shelter placements and/or police assists
-  280 people experiencing homelessness provided special financial help to return home and or provided hotel stay, cell phones, shoes, or medication etc.

*\*CAM's financial assistance is always paid to the vendor or associated with a case manager who is helping a client from another nonprofit. No cash is given directly to clients.*

## FINANCIALS

**CAM OPERATES ON DONATED PROPERTY  
WITH ONLY 23 PAID STAFF AND OVER 200 VOLUTEERS**

### THE BUDGET

CAM managed a budget totaling: **\$3,499,583**

- Cash Revenue: **\$2,611,583**
- “In-Kind” Revenue: **\$888,000**



### SUPPORTED BY

DIVERSIFIED CASH FUNDING

- 100 Local churches **\$228,763**
- Foundations/Grants/United Way **\$1,261,852**
- Individuals/Bequest/Wills **\$811,179**
- Fundraisers **\$315,592**



## CAM FIRE

CAM experienced an accidental fire in our warehouse in August of 2023. This catastrophic event impacted how we serve as the warehouse is a vital component to providing important items to people in need. CAM never shut down and set up pods to store items and worked the rest of the year to resolve this issue. Financial support from the community and insurance has enabled us to have what we needed in order to continue important work. In addition, it represents much of the revenue financial overage this year as a result of dollars provided to replace items and repair the building.

# WHO DOES CAM SERVE?

CAM clients are as varied as the population in San Antonio, young and old, people with short term or emergency problems or those with systemic issues such as a fixed income due to age, disability, lack of education or systemic poverty. Many are working poor individuals who might be a paycheck away from a serious crisis. Those we help may have a home and others may be experiencing homelessness. CAM can provide immediate help and looks to fill in the gaps where they are most needed. Each day we open our doors to listen to those in need, hear their situation, and work with them to solve the issue that moment and make important referrals to other organizations or government programs that may resolve the problem long term.



## INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE A HOME

Individuals who have a home may need our help to pay a utility bill that, if not paid, could be disconnected. They may need groceries until they get their next paycheck. Sometimes they need school clothes or winter coats for their kids. In addition, they may need financial help to fill an important prescription or need guidance and financial help to get their ID (needed for work, health care and or housing). Typically individuals seeking this help and have a home may only come to CAM once or twice a year. There are some (especially elderly or disabled) that simply need mercy and may use our resources monthly to make ends meet too. Not only do we help them immediately but we provide access to other community resources. We were able to help Ms. Thompson obtain birth certificates for her grandchildren (who needed to enroll in school) when she had just been given custody of after their mother passed away. Not only did we pay for 5 birth certificates (totaling a little over \$100), but we were able to provide socks, underwear and two sets of clothing for each child, groceries for the family, signed the children up for the CAM Christmas store and then provided a resource guide for other community help including a program called Grandparents as Parents. Most importantly we provided care, concern, love, and a listening ear to give her hope and encouragement during this difficult time.

## INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Individuals experiencing homelessness who come to CAM are typically the chronically homeless who may face many barriers to getting off the streets due to mental health issues, physical health, developmental delays, substance use, and/or a combination of things. This combined with a shortage in shelters, housing, detox, lack of health insurance, and systemic trauma makes it very hard to help this population move off the street. CAM is devoted to providing daily services that meet their health and well being needs while establishing a long term relationship to build trust for them to be able to access the resource that they individually need. There is no silver bullet and we work with many community providers like the City of San Antonio, local shelters, the medical community, churches, and SAPD to care for them. Through this intentional, daily, and often slow work, we can help 25 people get off the streets each month. People like Kevin, whom we have known for 14 years on the streets, who finally moved into his very own tiny home. We helped people like "Princess" reunite with her family in another city. We helped people like "Teresa" reunite with her mother and rescued her from a dangerous trafficking situation. We continue to help individuals like Paul by getting him into detox, then rehab, and now into a sober living facility (no longer on the streets).



**OUR MOTTO IS "ONE LIFE AT A TIME!"**

## OUTCOMES

- CAM brings those who have, to those who need, and can organize and disseminate this excess of clothing, food, time, and dollars; putting close to a million dollars worth of "in-kind" resources into the community annually.
- People are helped before having to turn to government support; saving the community important resources and dollars.
- People's needs are met immediately with more than 70,000 served annually who may avoid crisis or, in the short term, are helped until they can gain access to programs and solutions.
- CAM provides daily services to the hardest to serve homeless by creating a space for entry that is free from barriers and demands. We then build trust and a means for the homeless client to begin working out of their situation through incentives and resources. All services and requirements to be served are intentional and are meant to lead to self-sufficiency.
- Mercy to those who may never be able to help themselves due to mental and physical illness. Some simply need help with food and clothing.
- CAM has served over 1 million citizens in the past 46 years since opening in 1977.

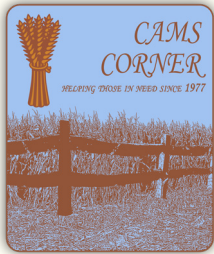
## CAMs MISSION

CAM's mission is to share the love of Christ by providing immediate assistance and encouragement to people in crisis.

## CAMs PURPOSE

To be a place that provides us with a means to share God's love by being proximate with those who need it. To walk in their shoes, to hold their hand, to experience their need. We can only make a difference by knowing the people who need help.

## CAMs CORNER



CAM's Corner is the fulfillment of God's command to leave the uncut corners of our harvest as a visible sign that we have saved part of our harvest to help those in need. We believe it is no coincidence that our downtown location is on the very visible CORNER of Hwy 281 and McCullough Ave.

If enough people commit to giving "smaller" amounts such as \$5, \$10, or \$15 a month, think about the HUGE impact that would make at CAM! Those amounts add up quickly at the end of the year. Just think about how many more people we could be serving daily! Come be in CAM's Corner and help families, those in the military and veterans, senior citizens, who are homeless, and so many more, get back on their feet.

## CAM VALUES

**CAM**passion

**Hope**

**Respect**

**Integrity**

**Service**

**Trust**



## WHEAT LOGO

CAM's wheat logo references the idea that we all have a harvest to share. Not just the things that are leftover but that we should also plan for sharing our harvest by not cutting the corners; giving part of our harvest to those in need. We hope that CAM's Corner is just like the uncut corners of a wheat field; the visible display of our commitment to God's commandment and a source of hope for those in need.

*"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**

## 2024 BOD Members

President

**Michele Camp**

Vice President

**Andrew Barton**

Treasurer

**Charles Stockton**

Secretary

**Brian Biggs**

Past President

**Judy Zimmerman**

### Members At Large

Joseph (Joey) Bonugli

John Brooks

John Culp

April Gates

Chad Gunter

Susan Kerr

Sandy Leibold

Heather Lopez

Victor (Vic) Malloy

Karen McCulloch

Albert McNeel, II

Roman Medina, Jr.

Mark Melcher

Jacqueline Roberts

David Schwab

Bethany Somers Hull

Tricia Tobin

CAM HAS 2 LOCATIONS DONATED BY CHURCHES

FOLLOW US ON



WWW.CAM-SA.ORG

**CAM DOWNTOWN**  
110 McCullough  
210.223.4099

ON PROPERTY OF  
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**CAM NORTHWEST**  
5084 DeZavala  
210.697.5771

ON UNIVERSITY METHODIST  
CHURCH CAMPUS



**cam**  
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assistance  
ministry