

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026

*"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*

## SUCCESS IN NUMBERS

CAM saw its **100th client** through our CAMpassion mental health clinic at the end of December 2025. This program is seeing incredible results for our chronically unhoused clients. CAM was able to help over 600 people get off the streets in 2025; almost 25% more than last year, largely due to this number.



Featured here, we have our client, "Jerry", who shared that if it were not for this program, he didn't think there was any hope of getting off the streets.

He is now housed and working with a veteran's program to help him get a job. Jerry is standing between the CAM team members Roger and Tarvis, and our Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, Jonathon.

## LOVE DOES AT CAM - 2025

- 1307 families received **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** for utility bills to prevent service disconnection
- 19,450 households received **GROCERIES** to help bridge the gap until the next paycheck
- 20,168 individuals received **CLOTHING**, shoes, and winter coats
- 304 individuals received financial assistance for essential **PRESCRIPTIONS** and medical visits
- 2,526 individuals received guidance and financial help to obtain **IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS** needed for employment, school enrollment, health care, or housing
- 650 children received **BACK TO SCHOOL** supplies and uniforms so they can begin the school year prepared to learn
- Parents of 1,745 children had access to CAM's Emergency Christmas Store, allowing them to select **CHRISTMAS GIFTS** and brighten their holiday season
- Through compassionate, individualized support, as staff listen, assess each situation, and connect 9,250 clients to long-term solutions through **REFERRALS** to partner organizations and government programs
- Helping to ensure that the chronically homeless had consistent access to food by providing 81,676 daily **SACK LUNCHES**



## SOLES4SOULS SHOE DRIVE

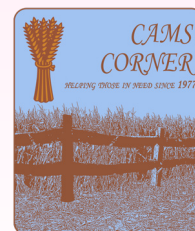


CAM is gearing up for our annual Soles4Souls Shoe Drive occurring February-March! During these months, we ask individuals, families, churches, businesses, etc., to consider hosting shoe drives, collecting shoes for men, women, and children of all sizes, and donating them to CAM for the people we serve daily. Shoes can be new

or gently used and can consist of tennis shoes, running shoes, or boots/work boots. We aren't able to take things like heels or flip flops, as these shoes go to working poor families who need something to protect their feet. You can drop off your donations any time during our hours of operation – Mon.-Thurs. 8 am to 3:30 pm or Fri. 8 am to 11:30 am at our downtown campus: 110 McCullough Ave. Please know, we accept shoe donations all year long, and we host this fun drive during the months of February-March as a means to gather folks together to help the community.

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT CAM

Sometimes it can feel impossible to make a difference; 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 Liz, working hard to feed her children while working and going to school. Consider being in CAM's Corner by making an automatic, recurring donation today. For questions about how to do this, please contact Sarah Sutton at [skory@cam-sa.org](mailto:skory@cam-sa.org).





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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 PROPERTY OF  
UNIVERSITY METHODIST CHURCH

## LEGACY GIVING

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 been planning their giving for when they pass on. We know this may sound 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](mailto:dwhite@cam-sa.org).

## CEO's CORNER

As we move into our first quarter of 2026 and begin to see the end of winter on the horizon, we felt it was important to pause and reflect on a word that sits at the very center of who we are at Christian Assistance Ministry: **love**. More specifically, a phrase that has deeply shaped our thinking and our work — **Love Does**. Love is a word we hear often. We use it casually and sometimes carelessly — I'll be the first to admit I say things like, "I love tacos!" But the kind of love that fuels the mission of CAM is something far deeper and far more demanding. As Bob Goff reminds us in his book *Love Does*, love is not just something we feel or talk about. **Love is an action**. It moves. It shows up. It takes risks. It gets its hands dirty. And sometimes, it simply stays. At CAM, we couldn't do what we do without love being at the center of our purpose. Love motivates us, stretches us, and at times even breaks our hearts — but it also heals, restores, and transforms lives. Love is expressed daily in the most practical and sometimes overlooked ways: a pair of clean socks, fresh underwear, a safe restroom, a warm cup of coffee, or simply a place where someone is greeted with dignity and respect.

As a team, we recently reflected on what love looks like in our everyday work, and we realized something powerful: **Love at CAM is often quiet and consistent**. It looks like opening our doors every single day with no expectations and no assumptions about who will walk in. It looks like offering a warm hello, a thoughtful smile, and grace — even on the hard days. It looks like sweeping the porch, emptying trash cans, sorting clothes, and filling grocery bags. These tasks may seem small, but together they form the steady rhythm of love in action. Of course, we celebrate the big moments — when someone avoids eviction, secures housing, finds stability, or takes a step off the streets. These moments feel miraculous, and they truly keep us going. But those outcomes are only possible because of the faithful, daily "yes" that happens long before the breakthrough. **Love does the ordinary long enough for the extraordinary to happen**.

Bob Goff writes that love doesn't sit still, and neither do we. Love walks toward people. Love notices. Love chooses compassion over convenience. And at CAM, love shows up day after day — through our staff, our volunteers, our donors, and our community partners — all choosing to act on behalf of others. As we step into a new season, I hope that we are a place where love is not just spoken, but lived. Where love looks like consistency, dignity, and presence. Where love does. Thank you for being part of this mission, for believing in the power of love in action, and for helping CAM continue to serve our neighbors with compassion and grace.

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 70,000 people annually. CAM helps working poor families, children, the elderly, homeless, veterans, etc. by providing food, clothing, and financial assistance to help people through a crisis or avoid a more serious crisis.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP

CAM needs help every week. Check out our website ([cam-sa.org](http://cam-sa.org)) for ways you can help at home.

You can also contact our Director of Operations and Volunteers, Mary to learn about a variety of weekly or one time volunteer opportunities.



[mhenderson@cam-sa.org](mailto: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 the necessary items into the hands of those who need it most in an efficient manner!*



**Dawn White-Fosdick**