

**The Samaritan House of Orangeburg County, Incorporated**



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**January 1 – December 31, 2020**

Submitted – January 28, 2021

**Henry Miller, Executive Director**

**Brenda T. Jamerson, Board Chair**

# WHO WE ARE

The Samaritan House (TSH) of Orangeburg County, Incorporated is a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity registered in the state of South Carolina. TSH was organized in 2001 in response to the great need in the Orangeburg area, as was evident by the use of a now-defunct "shelter" that existed under deplorable conditions. Under the leadership of Ginger Jernigan, a group of community leaders saw the need and began serving the homeless in 2002. Since its inception, the organization's purpose has been to provide temporary housing, daily meals, and stabilization services to **homeless** adult men, women, and their children.

TSH is non-partisan and does not discriminate based on age, race, religion, color, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, or ability to pay. No part of the organization's contributions or earnings shall enrich its Board of Directors, officers, committee members, or volunteers.

TSH staff provides outreach services and available resources to neighborhoods primarily in Orangeburg County. However, if bed space is available, **homeless** individuals from any county who meet admission requirements will not be turned away.

## **Purpose**

TSH is organized exclusively for charitable purposes. The organization's purpose is to provide temporary housing and stabilization services to the homeless (men, women, and their children). Services to include, but not limited to, personal and professional development, vocational development, interpersonal skills development, community involvement, independent living preparation, educational assistance, health care, financial literacy, and spiritual enrichment

## **Mission**

- To transition and enhance the lives of residents of TSH and improve their quality of life.
- To help TSH residents obtain permanent housing, increase their personal and professional skills and income, and achieve greater self-sufficiency.

## **Objectives**

- To secure sufficient funding to sustain the facility's operation.
- To maintain a facility that provides temporary housing and stabilization services to support and guide residents to become productive, healthy community members with empowering skills.
- Develop a strong Board of Directors that can offer guidance, help with fundraising efforts, and govern the organization's efficient operation.

# PROGRAMS

We are the only temporary housing shelter in the Tri-County Area of Orangeburg, Calhoun, and Bamberg counties. We provide homeless men, women, and their children with access to temporary housing, hot meals, and stabilization services in an atmosphere that makes them feel at home.

**There are three types of Program Levels available:**

## **Program Levels**

- **Emergency Program: Up to 90 days stay**

An individual may stay in an Emergency Program (bed) for up to 90 days. During this time, they receive all services. By the end of the 90 days, the resident must decide if they are ready to move into another bed level and start stabilizing their lives.

- **Stabilization Program: Up to 6 months, including the previous three months (depending upon bed space)**

The program will provide case management services and short-term housing for up to 6 months, including the previous two months, to individuals. They must be motivated and ready to participate in a structured recovery program, including increasing their income and securing permanent housing. In this program, we provide services and housing that allow homeless people the opportunity to stabilize from their crisis and develop a plan to improve their employment, housing, health care, mental health, and addiction issues as needed.

- **Extended Program: Up to 8 months, including the last six months (depending upon bed space)**

The program provides services to address personal obstacles to achieve self-sufficiency, improve skills, increase knowledge, and change behaviors to maintain permanent housing. Residents must meet all program requirements and are expected to obtain and sustain income (from employment, benefits, or both) and save money once they have income. Clients will work more intensively with a Case Manager to improve skills and knowledge and change behaviors to attain and maintain appropriate permanent housing. Each need will be assessed, and a plan will be designed to assist in re-entering the workforce and budgeting.

## **HOUSING ASSISTANCE**

**Rapid Re-Housing Program:** This program provides housing relocation and stabilization services and short and/or medium-term rental assistance to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

## WHAT SERVICES DO WE OFFER!

Through Case Management and referrals, we offer the following services:

- ❖ Personal and Professional Development
- ❖ Educational Assistance
- ❖ Workforce Development
- ❖ Job Placement Counseling
- ❖ Mental Health Assistance
- ❖ Substance Abuse Assistance
- ❖ Counseling (individual and group)
- ❖ Housing Assistance Services
- ❖ Health Care Counseling Services
- ❖ Financial Literacy
- ❖ Mentoring
- ❖ Spiritual Enrichment
- ❖ Motivational Workshops
- ❖ Legal Services
- ❖ Rapid Re-housing Services

We also provide the following:

- ❖ Three (3) nutritious meals per day
- ❖ Clothing Closet
- ❖ Computer Room
- ❖ Laundry Facilities
- ❖ Transportation to appointments and providers
- ❖ Personal care items and toiletries

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Samaritan House of Orangeburg re-opened its doors on **September 1, 2020**, after being closed since 2016. We could not have accomplished this major endeavor without the Orangeburg Community's support and specifically our City and County governments.

Key accomplishments since re-opening:

- A renovated 40 unit facility providing a safe environment for individuals and families conducive to meeting the needs of staff, residents, and service providers;
- Increased membership on the Board of Directors from seven to 15 members;
- Development of a three to five-year Strategic Action Plan;
- The hiring of a dedicated Executive Director, Mr. Henry Miller, and staff;
- Developed and adopted with Board of Director's approval the following operational handbooks: Board of Directors Policies and Procedures and Governance Documents, Staff Human Resource Handbook, Residents Handbook, Volunteer Handbook, Finance Handbook, Case Management Handbook;
- Recognition in the tri-county area as the premier source of temporary housing and stabilization services to homeless men, women, and their children;
- Established collaborative and partnership relationships with local service agencies, providers, businesses, organizations, individuals, and churches to provide services (some on-site) for our residents;
- Enhanced technology and re-designed website;
- Community Volunteer Program enrolling 40+ individuals and organizations on;
- Completed applications for the following grants: CARES Act, Emergency Solutions Grant, Chick Fil A, Dominion Energy, Central Community Grant Foundation, Dick Horne Foundation, and Junior Service League; and
- Our most significant accomplishments are the services provided to our residents. We have a 40-bed facility that offers temporary housing for the homeless (men, women, and their children), food (3 meals per day), clothing and essential toiletries, and individualized Case Management Services. We have established partnering relationships assisting with resume writing, life skills training, job placement, medical care, counseling services, and spiritual enrichment. We also provide referral services to include but are not limited to vocational rehabilitation services, substance abuse and addictions, and mental health treatment. We have been awarded \$23,000 in grants and are awaiting consideration on three other significant grants.

## **Demographics of Clients**

Since re-opening in September 2020, we have housed a total of 58 homeless individuals. These included 31 men, 17 women, and ten children. Their ages have ranged from two to 68, with most residents in the 25 to 34 age range. Most residents, 43, have been Black or African American, while 14 were white and 1 was American Indian.

At re-opening 19, of these residents experienced mental health issues; five experienced drugs and/or alcohol abuse, 10 have chronic health conditions, three have developmental disabilities, and seven have physical disabilities. Many residents experience one or more of these challenges: 24 had one condition, 24 had two, and 9 had three or more. Six of the shelter's residents have experienced a history of domestic violence.

Several residents, 17, came to The Samaritan House because they had been living under bridges or in abandoned buildings that were not meant for habitation. One family of five came after they were burned out of their home and had nowhere else to live. Others came for various reasons, such as living with family or friends who could no longer provide them with living quarters; their homes were no longer livable; churches or organizations paid hotel stays, and funds had run out. Several residents came after being released from jail, prison, or a juvenile detention facility. Most had a history of criminal convictions that further impede their attempts to achieve self-sufficiency.

Even though most of our residents have been from Orangeburg County, we have also provided shelter for individuals from Calhoun, Bamberg, Charleston, Columbia, Walterboro, and Virginia who relocated to Orangeburg. The homeless see no boundary lines and seem to transition to whatever location suits them at the time.

## **Program Results**

In **education**, nine school-aged children who were residents of The Samaritan House were provided with internet service and online school assistance during their stay. One of them, a high school senior, is applying to attend Claflin University in Orangeburg. Two other adult residents of the shelter are also applying to attend college.

Four shelter residents have participated in a program through Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College called SNAP to Work, designed for SNAP recipients to learn job skills. Four other residents have received job training and job placement services through the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation program in Orangeburg.

In the area of **financial stability**, all 48 adults have made progress on their care plans, including all three households who have resided at the shelter. All 58 residents, which includes three families, have been provided with emergency shelter. One individual has moved from The

Samaritan House into transitional housing. Two individuals and two-family units (seven individuals) have been placed in permanent housing, where one of the families has been stable in permanent housing for three months.

Ten Samaritan House residents obtained jobs with Samaritan House staff's assistance, and two of those individuals have also transitioned into permanent housing. Two other residents who already had jobs when they came to The Samaritan House were able to save enough money to move into permanent housing. Two households have increased their income through employment. We are happy to report that all of our residents participate in assisting with various community projects as a means of "giving back."

Some residents of The Samaritan House come to the shelter with some existing benefits. Seven individuals have gained access to new or increased benefits. Ten residents have completed tax returns and have had them accepted by the IRS.

In the area of **health**, 20 individuals who did not have a medical home were assisted with finding medical coverage during their stay at The Samaritan House. Ten residents have seen improvement in their health in more than one area, including oral health, diabetes, or high blood pressure. Seven residents have completed a prescribed course of treatment while they were living at the shelter.

### **Self Sufficiency**

The Samaritan House has a goal of self-sufficiency and independent living for its residents. The Shelter Case Manager generates and uses each resident's Individual Treatment Plan to monitor progress toward the plan outlined through weekly reviews and consultations with residents. The Executive Director and Board Members review HMIS to measure each client's progress monthly. An Interagency Council of professionals in health care, human services, mental health, and substance abuse consults with the Shelter Case Manager monthly to discuss individual progress. The Shelter Case Manager maintains records of each resident's attendance in educational or job training classes and tutoring sessions. Keeping appointments at clinics, taking medications, and attending meetings with counselors and therapists is also tracked. Completing training programs and complying with various aspects of the treatment plan is an essential determinant of progress. Ultimate success is measured through residents' obtaining good-paying employment and moving out of the shelter into safe, affordable, and stable housing.

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We could not have accomplished this major endeavor without the generous support from Orangeburg and surrounding communities. The various entities listed below indicate only a portion of the support that we have received.

The following organizations, churches, and business provide various *monthly* activities for our residents:

## Served Meals on Site

- Mount Calvary Baptist Church – every fourth Thursday night
- Sisters of the Holy Cross – every second Monday of the month
- Marco's Pizza – every Wednesday night
- Starbucks (Orangeburg) – every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
- Williams Chapel AME Church – every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday night
- Good News Ministries – every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

## Student Interns

- South Carolina State University – two students every Tuesday and Thursday
- Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College – a total of 47 students (8 hours per day)

(These two groups have performed approximately 1000 service hours)

## Shelter Volunteers

- Enrolled and Trained Volunteers: 40 shelter volunteers
- Volunteer Hours Completed: around 2000 hours

## Major Food Pantry Donors/Food -Drive Organizers

- Orangeburg Cornerstone Community Church
- Wannamaker Insurance Agency
- Orangeburg Church of the Redeemer
- St. Matthews Christian Center
- Circle K Store
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
- Zeus
- Husqvarna
- Macedonia AME Church
- Prime Trucking Company
- Dukes Barbeque

## **COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS**

Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College  
South Carolina State University  
Claflin University  
Orangeburg Area Mental Health  
The Salvation Army  
Vocational Rehabilitation Department  
Orangeburg County Department of Social Services  
OCAB Community Action Agency  
Starbucks Food Share Program  
Tri-County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
Hope Health of Orangeburg  
Department of Employment and Workforce  
EmpowerHer Chapter of ABWA or Orangeburg  
Edisto Habitat for Humanity  
United Way of the Midlands  
Central Carolina Community Foundation  
Dominion Energy Foundation  
Jamison's Pharmacy  
Family Health Centers, Inc.  
Orangeburg, Calhoun Free Medical Clinic  
SC Works – Orangeburg  
DHEC (Orangeburg)  
Orangeburg Social Security Office  
Orangeburg County & City Law Enforcement Departments  
Rebound Behavior Health  
Orangeburg County School District  
Citizens Against Sexual Assault  
Transitions Homeless Center  
Regional Medical Center  
South Carolina Legal Services

**SAMARITAN HOUSE OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY, INCORPORATED  
2020 BUDGET INFORMATION**

**Bank Information:**

Bank Beginning Balance January 2020	\$270,471.32
Bank Ending Balance 12/31/2020	\$450,195.09

**2020 Revenue Sources:**

Businesses	\$ 80,675.00
Individuals	\$ 77,087.64
Churches	\$ 30,082.28
Organizations	\$ 8,000.00
Government	\$ 183,550.00
Grants	\$ 23,350.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$402,744.92</b>

**Note: We had a total of 348 donors in 2020**

**2020 Expenses**

Wages/Salaries	\$45,591.60
Insurances	\$12,074.17
Security	\$ 9,215.04
Utilities	\$ 7,200.00
Internet	\$ 1,600.00
Telephone	\$ 4,000.00
Office Supplies/Equip	\$ 5,100.00
Advertising	\$ 2,500.00
Gen Maintenance	\$27,000.00
Major Repairs	\$108,733.75 (Renovations to re-open facility)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$223,014.56</b>

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Brenda T. Jamerson, Chair

Brenda Williams, Vice-Chair

Karen Hay, Recording Secretary

Patricia Gibson-Haigler, Corresponding Secretary

Clarence Bonnette, Treasurer

Belinda Branch

Mary Brant

Karen Ford

Jerry French

Catherine Longshore

Mary Smalls

Paul Snyder

Demetra Williams

Whittaker Williams

Calvin Wright

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Henry Miller