



Spring 2021

## Serving in Rough Times

### Notes from the Food Pantry:

Since the pandemic began, SAM has been open and we have not turned any client away for food, regardless of zip code or circumstance. We are continuously blessed by donations for our pantry. When COVID first hit, many folks stopped going to the store due to virus concerns, lack of transportation, or both. Ordering groceries online was not always a good solution and many households don't have internet access. We had seniors who were afraid to go to stores early on in pandemic but came to the ministry and felt safe due to our protocols. We followed all guidelines to create a safe environment for our clients and for our volunteers.

Peanut butter is household staple for many of our clients (and many of us, too!) We have been blessed to add extra peanut butter to all our food orders thanks to Algood Foods' generous peanut butter donation. This enabled us to also add extra peanut butter to households with several children. The Kentucky Colonels provided emergency funding that allowed us to buy staples for clients to allow the food order to stretch further into the month. We have clients who told us that they had nothing to eat for a few days between pay checks, except for the beans and cereal that we provided in our monthly bags. It is a good reminder that while we may not think twice about these shelf stable foods, they make a huge difference in the lives of those facing food insecurity.

### Connecting in a time of crisis

During the pandemic we have continued to see many of the same clients we normally see, but we have also helped people who never thought they would need help and who have had varied and complicated experiences. The pandemic has caused many of us to adjust our lives, including how often we socialize. Many of our clients have been staying at home, often alone, and seeing others



Boy Scouts delivering food from their annual food drive.



Samella Thompson with Kingdom Building Ministries delivering personal care items to Pantry Joe.

very infrequently. While this does help keep people safe, it has created a lot of loneliness. While SAM has remained open, some of our procedures have changed. We still talk with clients over the phone and outside when coming to sign paperwork.

Earlier this year, we had a client come to sign paperwork. They had lost their job due to the pandemic and were really feeling stuck in their house. While visiting for their LG&E support plan, a client shared that it was nice to have someone to talk to. It been a while since they had spoken with someone. It was a good reminder that even the smallest interactions can have such a lasting positive impact on others.

### Rent relief

With most schools in our area switching to NTI, many families found themselves having to adjust their daily lives. A client shared with us that normally they are working at a full-time position, but after schools closed, they had to quit to be home with their three school-aged children. When they were able to work, the children attended childcare, but that was no longer affordable with their income. They shared how stressful everything has been, and how tough it has been on their kids to be stuck at home and adjusting to online school. Money has been tight. They shared with us how thankful they were and what a relief it was that we were able to assist with rent and help keep a roof above their heads.

### Needed services

While visiting for food, a client inquired about what other services we provide. We let them know that we also do financial assistance to for those who qualify. The client stated that they were behind on their water and electricity bill. They didn't know if they would qualify, but we were able to check and make the appointment to help pay these bills. This allowed them to pay on other bills, including credit cards and a cable/internet bill. The internet has become a need due their children being home with NTI and they were able to keep their kids on track with their studies.

## Letter From the Director

Dear Friends,

What a year it was. The tragedy of lost loved ones and the struggles to heal for those seriously afflicted. The struggle to keep a roof overhead and bills paid. Finding safe and reliable places to find food. Missed human connections and holding church via laptop.

At Shively Area Ministries, we are essential workers – officially, and in practice. We never missed a day. We had hungry people show up every day. We constantly talked to people in fear of losing their home. We talked to people trying to decide if they could leave their young children at home to go to work. We served in the presence of desperate people.

Over the year, we went from a skeleton crew to adding new hires and to consistently bringing in more volunteers. The staff and volunteers have served this community with courage, love, dedication, and through physical, mental, and emotional exhaustion. Honestly, this community can never adequately thank them for what they have done.

What SAM did was not a lonely endeavor. The number of people who joined our team one way or another is amazing. When we were stretched a new volunteer stepped up. When we worried about how to help with rent, a check came in. When we (like everyone else) ran out of toilet paper, a delivery was made. When morale dropped, donuts and gifts were brought to our door.

In this newsletter, we share some of the stories of how helping our neighbors was an effort that included all the Shively Area Ministries community. We can't begin to tell all the stories, but we do want to say thank you to all of you who walked a part of the path with us last year.

Bless you all,

**Gary Copeland** – Executive Director



*Carol and Frankie showing a chicken and other food that helped provide a Christmas meal to our neighbors in need.*

## Meals on Wheels and Other Volunteers Needed

Shively Area Ministries is using more volunteers again, so we are reaching out to those who might be interested in lending a hand to our neighbors.

We continue to engage in safe COVID-19 prevention practices and expect our volunteers to do the same.

We rely heavily on volunteers to help our neighbors in need. We need volunteers for all the services we provide, but we have an especially strong need for Meals on Wheels drivers. These drivers provide the food our clients need, provide a welfare check, and are a significant source of human interaction. Our drivers generally deliver once a week and it takes about two hours (about 3:30-5:30 p.m.).

Anyone interested in this, or any volunteer activity, please contact Angie at (502) 447-4330, ext. 25.



*Alan Vannatta delivering Christmas bags for our Meals on Wheels clients made by his wife, Maureen, and others at Chapel Hill United Church of Christ.*

## Welcome, Leah Fulner

Leah Fulner is the new Development Coordinator at Shively Area Ministries. Leah is a Louisville native and graduate of PRP High School. She earned her B.A. in Public Communication from American University, and her MBA in 2016 from Bellarmine University. She also currently serves as the Director of Children's Ministry at her home church. Prior to joining Shively Area Ministries, Leah worked in office administration at a local manufacturing plant and has a background in marketing and business.

She is excited to be part of the vital work being done at SAM and to build on the incredible foundation set by her predecessor, Sister Jean Anne Zappa. "The past year was tough for a lot of people and I know that the services provided by SAM are needed now more than ever," said Leah. "I am so grateful to all of our generous donors and I look forward to continuing to grow the community partnerships with SAM."

## 2020 Banquet: A moment of thanks

One of our favorite parts of SAM's annual banquet is the opportunity to say "thank you" to so many people who supported us over the previous year. Before cancelling our event last year, we had picked our award winners but have not had the opportunity to publicly thank them. We will recognize them (along with a new set of award recipients) at the banquet in September, but we want to recognize them here now:

**The Roxanna Trivitt Enthusiasm for the Mission Award:** Given in honor of former executive director Roxanna for her 20 years of commitment, love, and enthusiasm for the mission of SAM. Recipients: The Entire SAM staff for service during the pandemic.

**The Sister Darlene Make a Difference Award:** Given in honor of Sister Darlene for her deep commitment to SAM and its mission. Recipients: The Daunhauer Family/Byerly Auto Group.

**Partners in Ministry:** Partners in Ministry awards recognize individuals and organizations that make regular donations to SAM and its mission.

**Business Winners:** Atlas Machine and Supply Company and Monroe Shine

**Church Organizations:** Ralph Avenue Baptist Church and St. Vincent DePaul chapter of Mary Queen of Peace

**Individuals:** Kim Alexander, Rishi Kumar, and Lisa Puccetti and Gary Copeland



*Award Recipients: The Daunhauers (brothers John and Greg and sister Carol Melikian)*



*Award Recipient: Kim Alexander with our Trustee, Dawne Gee.*

## Our Food Pantry needs: Toiletries, crackers, soups and cereal

To deliver donations, call Joe at (502) 447-4330 x27  
Or drop by  
Mon-Thurs 9:00am – 12:30pm and Tues 1:30pm - 4:00pm  
Closed first Monday of each month and every Friday

### Shively Area Ministries Donation Form

- Please contact me about volunteering for SAM
- Please use my gift to improve lives.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Check enclosed. (Made payable to Shively Area Ministries) in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Please send me information about becoming a faithful donor through the **Good SAMaritan Society**.

Please fill out this form and mail to:

**Shively Area Ministries, 4415 Dixie Hwy. Shively, KY 40216**

Thank you! Questions? Please call Angie at (502) 447-4330 x25.

## Estate Planning "The gift of a lifetime: Planned Giving"

Planned giving uses tax, financial and estate planning techniques to enable a donor to make a gift that may have substantial benefits for both the donor and the receiving organization. Gifts can be cash, marketable securities, real estate, life insurance, or IRAs. Please contact Leah Fulmer at (502) 447-4330, ext. 23.



## SAM's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Banquet Sept. 23, 2021 with the Monarchs!

We hope that you will continue to support our ministry through this event and are so thankful for those who gave so generously last year. If you are interested in being a sponsor or for more information, please email Leah Fulner, Development Coordinator at [leah.fulner@shivelyareaministries.com](mailto:leah.fulner@shivelyareaministries.com) or call at 502-447-4430, ext. 23.

Admission includes banquet and concert  
Crowne Plaza, 830 Phillips Lane, Lou. Ky 40209  
Doors open at 6:00 p.m. with dinner served at 6:30 p.m.  
\$55.00 – single ticket; Table of 10 \$475 (save \$75.00)  
Advance tickets only, by Sept. 14, call 502 447-4330, ext. 23

50/50 raffle – \$10 each (Lic. #EXE0001563) you may buy tickets in advance by calling 447-4330, ext. 23. Keep an eye out for an enhanced auction online.

*This is our only special event each year, so if you are unable to attend, please donate to Shively Area Ministries.*

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**Vision** | To offer immediate care and reassurance to those in crisis and to offer hope through empowerment while striving for financial stability for clients and for the organization.

#### To volunteer or make a donation

please contact Leah Fulner (502) 447-4330 x23

#### If you are in need of our services

please contact Susie (502) 447-4330 x24

[www.shivelyareaministries.com](http://www.shivelyareaministries.com)

Please follow us on Facebook! 



*Kosair delivering gifts for some of our Christmas families.*

