



# MAY NEWSLETTER 2023

United Ministries serves and empowers those on the transformative journey to self-sufficiency. Our vision is a community working together to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to thrive in Greenville.

## Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,



2023 Transformation Sponsor:

2023 Empowerment Sponsors:

# UNITING FOR CHANGE *Luncheon*

On April 12th, we welcomed Stephanie Land, author of *Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay and a Mother's Will to Survive* as our keynote speaker for the 2023 Uniting for Change Luncheon. An audience of approximately 1,200 listened as she shared her own experience as a single, homeless mother, and called us to "look marginalized people in our community in the eye and listen to their stories of struggle, heartache, and impossibility".



We were also fortunate to hear UM participant Amber's story of courage, determination and strength. In her words, "having people treat you with dignity and respect while believing in you means so much when you're in such a vulnerable state and situation like homelessness...".



Many thanks to all who supported us! In addition to our Empowerment Sponsor, **Bon Secours St. Francis Health System**, and two Transformation Sponsors, **CapTrust** and **Community Foundation of Greenville**, we'd like to thank our valued Supporter Sponsors: **Buncombe Street United Methodist Church**, **Catherine & Matt Puckett**, **Colonial Trust**, **Furman University**, **Michelin**, and **Southern First Bank**.



## Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

On Wednesday, May 3, our volunteers gathered with staff to celebrate another wonderful year of volunteerism at United Ministries. The catered luncheon was provided by Tony Pepper and held at Fourth Presbyterian Church. Speakers included volunteer Minnie Thomas and Volunteer Manager Susan Midgett, who shared their stories of why they became involved in volunteering and non-profit work. Collectively, our volunteers worked a total of 9,778 hours in 2022, which is the monetary equivalent of \$292,851, according to the Independent Sector. Volunteers serve in all areas of United Ministries, and we could not fulfill our mission without their dedication and passion!

**Interested in joining our volunteer team?**

**Please visit [www.united-ministries.org/volunteer](http://www.united-ministries.org/volunteer) or scan the code to the right!**



# Program Updates

A UM participant recently shared: *"I am truly blessed to have United Ministries for support. [They have] offered several areas of assistance for me and my family."* We're excited to share the impact of your donations with these highlights from January through March 2023:

- Our **Housing** program served 22 families including 33 adults and 52 children
- Three of those families moved into interim housing from emergency shelter
- Four families moved into permanent housing



- 267 individuals participated in financial coaching sessions in **Striving to Thrive**
- 11 participants obtained jobs
- **Mental Health Counseling** conducted 96 sessions



- 577 families received \$29,293 worth of food from **Emergency Assistance**
- 425 families received assistance with utilities or rent, totaling over \$58,160
- 11 participants received essential medications



- **Adult Education** served 157 students from January-March
- 650 academic sessions were conducted
- 46 Subject Tests were passed, with 5 students passing the GED test

- 2,190 visits were made to our **Place of Hope** day shelter, including 72 first-time visitors
- Case management services were provided to 92 individuals



## Recent Events



The annual **Hands On Greenville (HOG) Day** was held on May 6, and United Ministries was fortunate to have hard-working volunteers from **Augusta Heights Baptist Church** spread fresh mulch throughout our entire campus of 3 buildings! We thank them for helping to create a beautiful and welcoming environment for our participants.

In honor of Black History Month in February, two of our community partners, **Michelin** and **TD Bank**, joined forces to hold a Sneaker Ball fundraiser to benefit United Ministries. In addition to raising funds through ticket sales for the dance, both Michelin and TD Bank made financial gifts to support our mission. We are so grateful to these businesses who join us in our vision of a community working together to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to thrive in Greenville!





# United Ministries

606 Pendleton Street  
Greenville, SC 29601  
864-232-6463  
www.united-ministries.org



**United Ministries**

Transforming Lives Together

## UNITING FOR CHANGE *Campaign*

The primary goal is to double the capacity of our Emergency Shelter program by offering 10 additional apartments for families in need. These funds will also sustain our mission of supportive services including emergency assistance, mental health counseling, economic mobility coaching, and GED tutoring.

**Right now, we have over 150 homeless families with children on our waiting list for emergency shelter.**

As of May 8, we have reached 67.5% of our \$500,000 goal thanks to the generosity of our supporters! The campaign ends on June 30, the end of our fiscal year.

To make a donation, please scan the QR code, or visit [united-ministries.org](http://united-ministries.org). Your support will change lives!

*Scan Here  
to support our  
mission.  
Thank you!*



**SCAN ME**