

2023

Clemson Community Care Newsletter

*Neighbors
Helping
Neighbors
Help
Themselves.*

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Foothills Federally Qualified
Health Center
Safe Harbor
SC Works
School District of Anderson 4
School District of Pickens County
Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina
SHARE
Tri-County Technical College

*Note: All photos used in this publication
have been released for use by CCC
through a photo release statement.*

From the Director

Friends,

As you receive this newsletter, the year is coming to a close. It has been a special year because Clemson Community Care celebrates 35 years of service! We stand on the shoulders of the visionary and compassionate people who saw a need—a need for an agency to more comprehensively serve residents in our community who find themselves in difficult situations. From the beginning, in the basement of the First Baptist Church of Clemson, through location changes, economic ups and downs, and a pandemic, CCC has continued to do the work of serving those residents.

In these pages, you will see information and statistics. Please spend a few minutes studying them, as they tell our organization’s story for this year. It is a story of a generous and compassionate community caring for our neighbors, as well as a community in which there is still much need. It has been a year where our clients have continued to be challenged. Food, shelter, and utility bills remain high, while wages remain stagnant. Our clients face many barriers to a stable, sustainable situation, including lack of skills, education, transportation, and healthcare.

While statistics are our best way to share the story with you, these numbers represent real people and their lives and stories. Our staff and volunteers have the privilege of being a part of these stories, and we are grateful that our clients share with us and allow us to be a part of their lives.

We are also grateful that you are our partners in this work. We appreciate the trust you place in us to be good stewards of your gifts of time, food donations, and funds. We will continue to work diligently to maintain that trust. It is a joy to be the caretakers of this special place.

Please continue to be our partner as we journey together to care for all in our community and move into our next 35 years!

We wish you and your family a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.

With gratitude,

Karen Baker Carter, Executive Director

CCC Dates to Remember

November 6
Holiday Food Distribution Begins

November 23-24
Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays

December 1
TRIO Event

December 24–26
Closed for Christmas Holidays

December 27-29
Closed for Inventory Day

January 1, 2024
Closed for New Year’s Day

Did you know...

CCC has already used over \$64,000 of your donations to purchase food for distribution to supplement food donations?

To continue at our present daily average of distribution, we would need approximately 63,300 pounds of food donated?

Families Served by CCC First Three Quarters 2023 Compared to All of 2022

January–September 2023			All of 2022		
Number of Families Served	Service Provided	Dollar Amount	Number of Families Served	Service Provided	Dollar Amount
2,506	Food	\$455,480	3,041	Food	\$587,274
244	Rent	\$157,312	251	Rent	\$179,674
289	Utilities	\$73,682	396	Utilities	\$94,691

**3,552 Families Served
January–September 2023***

** Includes senior food boxes, school supplies and home repairs.*

**4,374 Families Served
January–December 2022***

** Includes holiday food, Christmas gift cards, senior food boxes, school supplies and home repairs.*

Back to School Program



Area school leaders give presentations during a back to school workshop.

For many years, CCC has partnered with the schools in our service area to offer back to school workshops for our client parents and children. School principals and guidance counselors share with our families and answer questions about bus routes, school feeding programs, attendance and scheduling. This program allows our families to begin school with all the information needed to get the year off to a great start.

We appreciate Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Central for hosting our Central and Clemson families, and the Pendleton

Community Center for sharing their space with our Pendleton families. A hotdog dinner with a visit from the 73 Ice Cream Truck completed the evening.

Participating families receive a backpack for each child filled with school supplies. Each backpack is individually packed based on the specific supply list provided by the child's grade and school. With your help, CCC was able to provide 195 backpacks for students in August. We appreciate school personnel taking time during a busy season to spend an evening with our families and share information.



Workshop attendees enjoyed ice cream after the presentations and dinner.

CCC in the Community

We are grateful for all the support we receive from community organizations. A few of these are highlighted below.

Clemson Sertoma Club

CCC was honored to be the recipient of a grant from the Sertoma Club of Clemson. Club President Donita Wagner stated, "The grant is given to an organization that is in good standing and the mission aligns with the Sertoma mission of Service to Mankind." CCC is grateful to the Sertoma Club for its donation and for the food collections taking place at regular meetings.

Clemson Sunrise Rotary Club

This growing season, the Sunrise Rotary Club has worked a plot in the Community Garden to donate food to CCC. This has allowed us to have beautiful, fresh produce all summer to distribute to our clients, along with other items in their food bags. The total donated amount has been 396 pounds. Thank you Sunrise Rotary Club for your hard work!

Rotary Club of Clemson

The Rotary Club of Clemson has for many years partnered with CCC for Operation School Supply. Members of the club provide funding to CCC to purchase some of the backpacks needed for our back to school program. The club also uses funds from a grant to provide a portion of the school supplies used to fill the backpacks. The Rotary Club of Clemson Foundation grant program also provided a donation to be used for direct client assistance. We are so thankful for the faithful support of the club and its members.

TRIO Event to Be Held December 1

On Friday, December 1, Clemson Community Care will join our friends at the Clemson Free Clinic for a holiday event focusing on those in need of services. The TRIO fund raiser supporting Hope, Health, and Community will be held from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and will include hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer, and an auction.

Our organizations work closely together to serve the residents of our community by providing basic needs—food, shelter, utilities, and medical care. The money raised from the event will help both organizations provide for our clients. We are so grateful to our sponsors and to all who purchase tickets. Thank you as well to those who serve on the planning committee for this event. Come join us on December 1 to begin the holiday season by helping others.



TRIO Tickets Order Form

TRIO tickets are \$50.00 each or four tickets for \$175.00.

Enclosed is my check for TRIO tickets payable to Clemson Community Care in the amount of \$ _____ Number of tickets: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail to Clemson Community Care, P.O. Box 271, Clemson, SC 29633.

NOTE: No paper tickets will be distributed. Ticket holder names will be on a list at the door the night of the event.

Volunteering

CCC could not operate without our volunteers. Our volunteers provide so much work and brighten our days. To date, volunteers have provided 5,720 hours this year working in the pantry, picking up donations, interviewing clients, and performing office work duties. Without our volunteers, we would need three full-time staff members to do this important work. And if these volunteer hours were paid according to the South Carolina minimum wage of \$7.25, that would amount to \$41,470. Our volunteers vary in age and life stage - children and youth, college students, employed and retired. We appreciate each one and what he or she brings to CCC every day.



Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about what kind of community you want to live in."

—Anonymous



A Fond Farewell

In January, CCC will bid a fond farewell to Elaine Laiewski, our longtime finance director. Elaine began working as a volunteer with CCC after she retired from Clemson University's computer center and Registrar's Office. She was hired as a staff member after several months, and for the past 17 years has been an integral part of our organization. We appreciate not only Elaine's professional knowledge and skill, but her willingness to participate in every aspect of making CCC successful, whether that means working in the food pantry or helping at an event or program. Elaine and her husband will move to Charleston to spend more time with their grandchildren.

We thank Elaine for her wonderful and dedicated service to CCC, and wish her well on her second retirement.

Did you know...

The average income of a CCC client is \$1,100 per month?

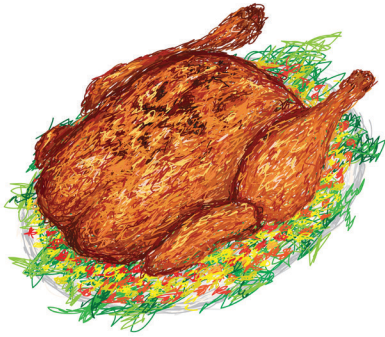
The average rent for a CCC client is \$683 per month?

On an average day, CCC distributes almost 1,500 pounds of food?

CCC's food inventory fell to 6,722 pounds in August? That is fewer than five days of inventory!

Holiday Programs

We have the opportunity to brighten the holidays for families in our area. Listed below are Clemson Community Care's holiday programs.



Holiday Turkeys

As in the past, a turkey will be included with holiday food items distributed to our clients. If you would like to donate a turkey, please pick one up for a neighbor as you shop. Turkeys may be delivered to the back door of CCC Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The Pendleton Food Lion, Clemson Publix, and Ingles on Highway 93 will allow you to leave turkeys after purchase to be picked up daily by CCC volunteers. Please keep in mind distribution begins on November 6.

Holiday Gift Assistance

For many years, we have provided gift cards for our families to assist with holiday gift purchases. Families will sign up to receive one gift card per child and after their information is confirmed, the cards will be given to the parents. Last holiday season, CCC provided a total of 374 cards for a total investment of \$14,960.

Thank you in advance for your generosity for our holiday food program and gift assistance program!



Food Pantry Needs

- 2 pound bags of flour
- 2 pound bags of sugar
- Canned fruit
- Canned meat and fish
- Canned vegetables
- Mixed beans
- Oatmeal/grits
- Pork and beans
- Rice
- Shelf stable milk
- Soup
- Tomato sauce

Any non-perishable, in-date items are needed and appreciated.



Can you help with the holiday programs or make a donation?

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Check here if this is a new address

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Designation: Food Gift Card No Preference

Tribute Information (if applicable):

In Honor of In Memory of

Name of the person you to honor/remember:

Name and address of person to be notified of this gift:

Please visit clemsoncommunitycare.org (or scan the QR code) to donate with Paypal or credit card, or mail this form with your donation in the envelope provided.



SCAN ME

Thank You to All Our Supporting Churches

Abel Baptist Church
ALIVE Wesleyan Church
Bethel United Methodist Church
Central United Methodist Church
Clemson Chinese Church
Clemson Community Church
Clemson Presbyterian Church
Clemson United Methodist Church
East Clemson Baptist Church
First Baptist Church–Central
First Baptist Church–Clemson
First Baptist Church–Pendleton
Fort Hill Presbyterian Church
Freedom Center
Freeway Church
Golden View Baptist Church
Greater Faith Baptist Church
Holy Trinity Episcopal Parish
Lawrence Chapel United
Methodist Church
Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church
Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
New Holly Light Missionary
Baptist Church
New Hope Baptist Church
Peace Congregational Church
Pendleton Presbyterian Church
Pendleton United Methodist Church
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
Refuge Baptist Church
St. Andrew Catholic Church
Trinity Wesleyan Church
Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Clemson
University Lutheran Church



About Clemson Community Care

Clemson Community Care was established in 1988 by ministers from various churches in Clemson, Central and Pendleton as a non-profit charitable corporation to serve the local community. The goal of CCC is to support low income families and individuals to overcome periods of financial crisis and become self-sufficient, contributing members of the community.

In cooperation with local religious, civic, educational and private agencies, staff and individual volunteers, Clemson Community Care supports a variety of basic human needs, emphasizing development of self-sufficiency. Services offered by CCC include:



- Food pantry
- SNAP application assistance
- Utility bill assistance
- Rental assistance
- Homeless support services
- Home Repair program
- Back to school assistance
- Holiday help for Thanksgiving and Christmas

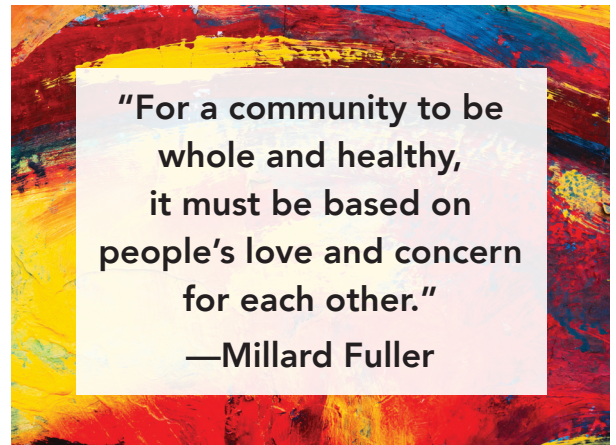
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Website: clemsoncommunitycare.org
FB: <https://www.facebook.com/clemsoncommunitycare>
Instagram: [@clemsonccc](https://www.instagram.com/clemsonccc)



SCAN ME

Scan this QR code to visit CCC's website: request help, donate, volunteer, or learn more.

"For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other."
—Millard Fuller



Being part of the community means caring

Clemson Community Care

Tommy Campbell

145 Thomas Green Blvd.
Suite 207
Clemson, SC
864-654-8634

Lance Durbin

501 Forest Lane
Suite C
Clemson, SC
864-654-5556

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Jim Hill

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Lee Woods

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For more information, contact your Edward Jones Financial Advisor

Edward Jones cannot accept gift cards, cash or checks as donations.

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