



Just in: Good News distributed 123 tons of food from Second Harvest of the Big Bend in 2020. "Absolutely amazing...especially considering that December contained holidays, the office was closed for a few days, and the staff shortage due to illness. And, there's only One author known for using undesirable circumstances to reach amazing accomplishments. Glory be to God," says board chair Linda Barineau.

Volunteers help people stay nourished and valued



Maggie Short — grocery route volunteer driver

Good News Outreach is excited about the New Year and ready, with the help of volunteers such as Maggie Short, to confront the challenges of 2021. Maybe it's time for you to join the mission.

Maggie Short has been involved for more than 25 years since friends from her church introduced her to GNO. She's been on the front line as GNO has grown from a small house off Meridian Road into an operation with 47 affordable housing units, an 11-bed prison transition house and a food operation that provided 9,115 bags of groceries for 19,664 people last year.

Maggie played an important role in the food service as a delivery driver for the Aeon Church route. Monthly, on the second Sunday, Maggie delivers groceries to people on her route. I rode

with her in December. She is much more than just a driver. She makes a lasting impact while building relationships.

People break into smiles and call her name when she arrives. Over the years, she and some friends have gathered Christmas gifts for some of the families with children under age 12.

Good News is grateful to have reliable volunteers such as Maggie.

More drivers, and volunteers in other areas, will be needed this year given the rising tide of requests for help experienced in 2020. Call or email volunteer coordinator Fundra Hart at 850-412-0016 or info@goodnewsoutreach.org to learn how you can become a volunteer.

Donors add cheer to the new year

Thanks to the generosity of several donors Good News Outreach zoomed past its fundraising goals for 2020. The final details and impacts of several large gifts are still being ironed out, but bode well for improvements to services provided by Good News Outreach. We'll share details later, once they are finalized, so stay tuned to our newsletters, social media and local news.

"This is a tribute to God's Providential Hand and the wonderful team of board and staff members that He is allowing us to be a part of. We have major challenges and opportunities as we enter 2021. While the New Year is fraught with economic and social uncertainty, we can be confident of God's Sovereign Hand and Plan," Executive Director Donald Parks said. He noted that gifts of any size help GNO carry out its missions.

Help Good News Outreach touch the lives of others by making a donation now. Call 850-412-0016 or send an email to

info@goodnewsoutreach.org for more information. Donations also can be mailed to Good News Outreach, 548 E. Bradford Road, Tallahassee, FL 32303 or made electronically through our website: goodnewsoutreach.org.

Grant cooking up some help for seniors

Director of Operations Rebecca Howard thanked the Florida Blue Foundation on behalf of people who cannot stand at their stoves to

prepare their meals. The expression of gratitude was to thank the Florida Blue Foundation for its grant of \$2,000 to help our Promise Zone program, according to Howard. The Promise Zone is an area with many low-income residents on the south side of Tallahassee.

"We have purchased 12 microwave



Microwaves purchased with Florida Blue Foundation's grant.

ovens which will be distributed to our senior clients who cannot stand at a stove to cook," Howard says.



Christmas communications

Good News Outreach Executive Director Donald Parks and ECHO Executive Director Freddy Branham talked about their organizations on Dec. 5 with people attending the Christmas Mission Market. at the Christ Presbyterian Church on Bannerman Road. The public learned about 11 different nonprofits and were encouraged to make donations or volunteer to support them.



Community day sheds light on services for Maryland Oaks

Service providers set up tables in early December in the Maryland Oaks Crossing community to meet with residents.

Among the agencies providing information were: Bond Community Health Care, She Academy Inc., Big Brothers & Big Sisters of the Big Bend, Capital Area Community Action Agency, Career Source, Peace House, Refuge House and ECHO.



Difficult fight ends for former housing director

Jeff Hornsby, 57, our housing director for nearly 10 years ending in 2019, passed away Dec. 3. He was known for his service to the homeless and poor.

His work was rooted in his faith and through Bible studies at Global University, an online Pentecostal, Christian college based in Springfield, Mo.

Good News Outreach noted his leadership with this Facebook post: "Jeff Hornsby faithfully served the families and children at Good News Outreach's Maryland Oaks Crossing Community for many years. He loved God and loved serving our clients, many of whom regarded Jeff as a father figure. Jeff was one of a kind and his memory is carried in the hearts of many of those he served. Jeff's contributions to Good News Outreach are immeasurable. We will forever

be grateful and he will be missed - but never forgotten."

Jeff's colleagues and friends were there for him, too, when he needed help. He was diagnosed with cancer in 2017.

Wade Case of the Chapman Community Health Program, which serves Maryland Oaks Crossing, set up a GoFundMe account to help with Jeff's medical and living expenses since he had no insurance. The fund quickly surpassed its \$5,000 goal. Upon his death, anything left in the account was to go to Chapman and Maryland Oaks Crossing.

Case said this in a message with the account: "I



am fortunate to have met such an advocate for humanism. Through his willingness and support, CCHP has accomplished insurmountable success at caring for the underserved. Every day, Jeff gives all his effort and all his love to the Maryland Oaks Crossing community, Good News Outreach, and beyond."

Jeff requested donations for The Blessing Cup of Tallahassee, Inc. 7970 Glenarbor Court, 32309-9221 to help the elderly poor.

Coordinator added for programs, volunteers

Fundra Hart joined Good News Outreach on Jan. 4 as coordinator of programs and volunteers. Fundra has extensive experience dating to 2000, when she started as a family development specialist for the City Rescue Mission in Jacksonville.



Fundra Hart

Most recently she was Family Services Program Director for ECHO Inc. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology awarded in 1985 by the University of North Florida in Jacksonville.

An easy-peasy resolution

Still looking for that elusive, easy-to-keep New Year's resolution? Try this:

I resolve to share the Good News Outreach website and Facebook links, by the end of this month, with five people under 40 to help build a network of support among college students and young adults for Good News Outreach's future.

goodnewsoutreach.org
www.facebook.com/GNOTallahassee