GREENSBORO U R B A N M I N I S T R Y

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Greensboro Urban Ministry 305 W. Gate City Blvd. Greensboro, NC 27406

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# THANK YOU for your support of our mission.





## Greensboro Urban Ministry Newsletter

# **Thank You to Our Volunteers**

Our volunteers are the heart of our organization, and we appreciate the services of each person that donates their time to serve our clients. Whether it is serving meals, filling the pantry shelves, providing fun and games for the children at Pathways, or a Stephen Ministry volunteer providing a listening ear to our residents in the Weaver House; Our volunteers provide the many hands and hearts it takes to support our program areas. As we enter the season of giving, we want to thank our many volunteers who share their time and a helping hand to our mission. Wishing each of you a blessed holiday season.



#### A Year Complete, a New Season Ahead.

It is hard to believe as the winter season fast approaches that I have completed my first year as the CEO of Greensboro Urban Ministry. It has been an absolute delight to witness the great work of our mission and ministry as we extend food, shelter, and support to our neighbors in need.

When people ask why I felt compelled to join this organization, it is always an easy answer: vocation, vocation, vocation. My early years of faith-based ministry experience and more recent journey of non-profit leadership have come into alignment for a purpose. Each day knowing I have the privilege to work alongside a committed network of volunteers, staff, board members, and a generous community who love and value this organization with deep conviction.

You too are making an impact! Your prayers, your empathy, your advocacy, your advice, your ideas, your resources, and your generosity do not go unnoticed. You are a part of this collective endeavor with us no matter what role you play.

Earlier this fall, I visited and thanked a chain of 25 grocery stores and countless volunteers that came out to help us with our annual fall food drive. As I approached one store on a brisk Saturday morning, I met a mother and her teenage daughter. I was curious to learn more of their story and this kind mother quickly shared with me that Greensboro Urban Ministry was the first place she could count on in a moment of crisis. Our Client Choice Food Pantry was able to meet her needs when her family was hungry as the prices of food continued to climb. And our Emergency Assistance Program covered the cost of rent for one month so they would not be without safe housing. She looked at me in the eyes with complete sincerity and said, "The least my daughter and I could do is come help and give back to the organization that has given us so much in a critical time of need."

Friends, that is the type of kindness, generosity, and help that is coming from us to our neighbors throughout greater Greensboro. And they in turn want to extend that same kindness to others because of the generosity they have experienced. Stories such as these happen daily because of your generous support and belief in our mission. *Thank you for sharing your bounty with us so we might extend help to those in need that might have less.* 

And as this year draws to a close, thank you for your kind welcome and hospitality. I love participating in the great work of our ministry and sharing our story throughout the community. I am excited about the year ahead and look forward to starting a new season with you as we express the love of God to our neighbors by offering food, shelter and solutions.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Vian

**Stay Connected** 



### **2024 UPCOMING EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES!**

Each year, Greensboro Urban Ministry (GUM) hosts our signature events such as Serving Greensboro Together, CROP Hunger Walk, Feast of Caring, and the annual Holiday Honor Card. We also are blessed by many community partners who hold special events, such as Groove Jam, Hope Fest, and PTI's Run on the Runway. These events help raise vital funds and bring awareness for our program areas.



For more information on our upcoming events and how you can participate, please visit our website's event page at https://www.GreensboroUrbanMinistry.org/events