

Impact Report

July 2021 to
June 2022



Western Wake
CRISIS MINISTRY



Community » Compassion » Equity
Impact » Optimism » Relationship » Vision

From the Executive Director

It was exciting to join the Western Wake Crisis Ministry team as we ended the 2021-2022 fiscal year! Our Board and staff members have given great attention to how changes in pandemic conditions and other community changes should influence our work to partner with people in crisis to help them gain stability.

In April 2022, we began receiving clients again in the Food Pantry for in-person selection of food for themselves, while we've also continued offering volunteer-assembled bags of food for outdoor curbside distribution to clients who prefer that. For some homebound seniors, volunteers continue to provide home delivery of groceries. Our partnership with Fiesta Cristiana & The Family Resource Center has enabled us to extend our reach to more Spanish-speaking clients each month. Dozens of volunteers received and sorted more than 175 tons of donated food, and an average of 252 households each month received bags full of groceries. Most of our clients came just once or twice in crisis circumstances for food, but a third of them struggle with longer-term, low-income situations for which more frequent visits during the year helped relieve their needs. In 2022-2023, we'll be working to grow our presence and expand our accessibility even more for neighbors living with food insecurity.

Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to assist 401 area families with their rent and utility bills, averaging more than \$700 per household. The economic impact of unemployment during the pandemic dragged on with debt for those trying to get back on their feet, and households of senior citizens and disabled neighbors joined them in trying to keep their homes while rent and other necessities escalated in cost. In 2021-2022, we almost doubled the amount we spent on rent assistance, and increased our utilities assistance by 36%. Still, as median rent in our community has shot up 20% this year compared to last, wage-growth has fallen far behind that, and the households spending half or more of their income on housing and utilities continues to grow in number and they find their way to our door when other solutions run out.

These challenges in our community are real, but I'm inspired by the determination and resiliency of the neighbors we serve. I'm inspired by the care and conscientiousness of our volunteers among our clients. I'm inspired by the opportunities our staff and Board are pursuing for growing our impact in the coming year. And I'm grateful for the partnership of our donors, civic leaders, and other community organizations in shared work for a healthier, hunger-free and housing-stable community.

Thank you.



Spencer Bradford, Executive Director



I am so grateful to WWCM for helping me pay my rent when I lost wages due to an extended health issue. I was treated with respect and left feeling hopeful.

-Carly, mother of 2 & WWCM Client



401

Families Helped with Rent or utilities



\$700

Average Amount Spent per Household

Our Vision: A brighter future for all by cultivating a healthy, hunger-free and housing-stable community.

Our Mission: Partnering with those in crisis, helping them gain stability through basic supports for food, financial/housing assistance, education, and opportunity.

From the Board President

I want to open this message with special thanks to everyone involved in Western Wake Crisis Ministry. Many of us hoped 2021 & 2022 were going to bring a winding down of Covid-related difficulties. And while much of life has returned to normal, the economic effects of the pandemic are still being felt by our most vulnerable neighbors.

With your compassionate support, Western Wake Crisis Ministry has been at the forefront of our community's pandemic response and plays a pivotal role in ensuring our neighbors continue to keep nutritious food in their kitchens and a roof over their heads.

Tackling hunger & housing insecurity is a daunting task and we're so grateful for every contributor of food, funds, and time. We take food & housing insecurity seriously and we're grateful you're here to help us meet the needs of far too many Apex, Holly Springs, Fuquay Varina & New Hill families who face difficult choices.

Because you care, we've reached milestones that were unimaginable 39 years ago when WWCM was just getting started in the basement of a local Apex church. Through your generosity, we have been able to respond to the increasing challenges. Here are a few accomplishments that we are especially proud of:

- Ensuring over 100 local senior citizens are enrolled in the Senior Box Program for monthly supplemental food support.
- Partnering with Fiesta Christiana and the Family Resource Center to provide monthly food assistance to our Latinx neighbors in need.
- Collaboration with the Town of Apex to ensure hundreds of families kept their power on through our administration of the Town's Utilities Customer Assistance Program (UCAP).
- Collaboration with the Town of Apex to assist 287 of their utilities customers with a total of \$131,642 in Town assistance for past-due bills.
- Partnership with The Christmas Store to provide groceries and resource support alongside Christmas presents to families in Southwestern Wake County.

Our accomplishments have been a reflection of everyone who plays a role in our mission, including our staff, volunteers, and donors. Thanks to you we are moving the needle on food & housing insecurity in Western Wake County. We look forward to working with you as we care for the less fortunate in our community.

Thank you.


Jim Ahler
President



When we heard about the need for grocery deliveries to our neighbors we felt it would be a win-win situation for our church to stay involved with WWCM and help others. We couldn't be happier to continue growing our relationship with WWCM.

- Bob Jongleux,
Woodhaven Baptist Church &
WWCM Home Delivery Leader

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Impact At-A-Glance



5619

Individuals Served



1329

Unique Households Served



5,187

Visits to WWCM
For Any Service



353,692

Pounds of Food Received



\$968,036

Direct Client Assistance
for Food, Rent & Utilities



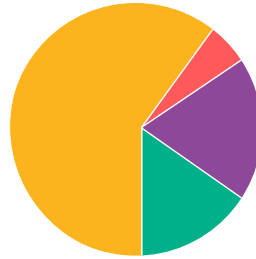
10,395

Volunteer Hours

Financials: July 2021 - June 2022

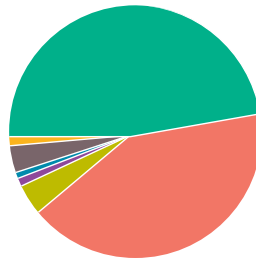
Expense

● Client Assistance (including Food)	\$ 968,036
● Facilities & Equipment	\$ 86,684
● Operations	\$ 309,327
● Future Use	\$ 242,426
Total Expenses	\$ 1,606,473



Income

● In-Kind	\$ 758,878
● Individual	\$ 669,107
● Faith Communities/Civic Groups	\$ 69,069
● Foundations/Grants	\$ 18,408
● Government	\$ 14,250
● Corporate	\$ 56,963
● Interest, Indirect, Other	\$ 19,798
Total Income	\$ 1,606,473



Board of Directors:

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Tom Gebbia
Vice President

Michelle Duffy, *CPA, CGMA*
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Julanne Kalin, *MCom*

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BA, MDiv

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Sue Stevens

David Brown
Immediate Past President



The “no strings attached” food pantry is a surprise to many, but the straightforward mission to feed people is being accomplished with respect. We enable clients to care for themselves and their families as they think best.

- Donna Scott, *WWCM Volunteer*



Western Wake
CRISIS MINISTRY

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wwcm.org