Greensboro Urban Ministry began as a grassroots effort when leaders from a handful of downtown congregations noticed the great disparity and need in our community. Their goal was simple - to provide the most basic needs of a human being; food and shelter.

Now, more than 50 years later, GUM relies on the kindness and generosity of thousands of supporters to make its services successful.

Over the course of last year, more than 45,000 lives were impacted through the delivery of our community programs and services. It’s not enough to calculate the food served, beds slept in, and assistance distributed. The impact comes in the lives we have touched. By meeting our clients where they are and providing access to a variety of services, they can begin to move toward long-term solutions.

It’s through you, our donors, volunteers, staff and community partners that we are able to fulfill our mission each and every day. We invite you to read Beverly’s story and see how her journey with Greensboro Urban Ministry has allowed her to find the courage to regain independence. Your gifts bring added relief from the challenges and social indignities that many who come to our door struggle with each and every day.

Thank you for walking with us!

Myron Wilkins
President & Executive Director
Courage Within

“Peace of mind is a great thing,” Beverly shared. “Now I wake up in the morning and don’t dread seeing it.” Beverly came to Partnership Village after transitioning from Mary’s House, which supports women experiencing homelessness while in recovery from substance abuse.

“I had never been without a man my whole life. I was scared, but at Partnership Village I had guidance. The team opened so many different avenues for me. I had access to parenting classes, housing programs, support groups, nutrition and even tutoring for my kids. My motto is to take the things I need but leave the things I don’t.”

The guidance also came with accountability. “I pay rent. I am ready for inspections. I take care of my kids. I learned how to take care of someone else’s property. I needed that help to show me how to do that, and I am so very grateful for the support.”

“I started with a 9th grade education. The career counseling helped me learn how to divide my time and to set realistic goals.” Beverly came to Partnership Village as a certified nurse assistant (CNA), but was able to acquire a new position that ultimately increased her income. She also went back to school at Guildford Technical Community College, and will secure her Licensed Practical Nurse degree next year with the future dream of becoming a Registered Nurse.

Like everyone else, Beverly’s path was not always straight. Different options were needed at different points in time. “There were times when I was worried about paying my rent. Once I had car trouble and had to make some decisions.” Financial assistance was made available to help bridge the gap. “I have also used the food pantry. I like knowing that those resources are available as I move forward.”

“The best part is knowing my kids can depend on me now. They trust me. They see me working hard, making changes. I can also depend on them. God has blessed me so much. I am so humble and thankful.”

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“But I know we can’t stay here forever. The goal is to live on your own.” Larry King, Case Manager for Partnership Village, has helped Beverly find housing options, and she is now making plans to move out of Partnership Village this spring. “He (Larry) really keeps you on track.”

Thinking about the next transition, Beverly is nervous but knows it is different now. “I will be on my own and that’s scary, but I have new habits now, and I need to keep going. There is no going back to not knowing. Originally, I was coming out of a bad marriage and did not think I could live on my own. I thought no one wanted me. Now, I want me! I am simply enjoying my kids and who I am now.”
2018 Investment by Program Service

We are indeed grateful for you choosing to be a part of Greensboro Urban Ministry. By presenting a variety of programs and services touching on many barriers, we represent hope to our neighbors. Together, we are building a stronger community.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Please like our Facebook page and find us on Twitter and Instagram (@gsourbanmin) to get the latest updates on the work that you make possible through your support of GUM.