Dear Friends,

We have been working over 50 years to help meet the needs of individuals in our community that are caught in the spiral of poverty. Our work is not easy. The problems we face each day are complex. Yet, at the end of each fiscal year, we are so inspired by how you, our supporters, continue to collaborate and participate in the work we do each day!

Every year we see more need. One area of increased demand is food assistance. To respond to this, we have to grow capacity in the management of food donations. We recognized this year that our ability to transport food was inhibited by the age and wear on our vehicles. In addition, the cost efficiency was decreasing due to the need for repairs and lower gas mileage. A new truck was purchased and delivered this summer. We are now better equipped to respond to the increase of grocery store partnerships and growth of weekly pick-ups!

Another highlight of the year was the launch of a Career Readiness Program in Partnership Village, thanks to United Way’s Strategic Partners grant. This program offers participants the opportunity to engage in short-term certifications, education, and/or training while providing funds to assist with childcare, transportation and other basic needs.

We are launching plans for the current year and have embarked on a $300,000 renovation project within Weaver House, our adult shelter. After 27 years of substantial use, 15 shower units must be completely removed and replaced. There is more information about this project in the shelter section of this newsletter.

As representatives of the GUM leadership team, we feel more confident than ever that Greensboro Urban Ministry is well prepared for what the future has in store. We are excited to work with you to create systematic change in our community.

We have several events over the next few months that provide an opportunity for you to be involved and show your support for our ministry. We invite you to join us so we can greet you personally and enjoy a time of fellowship together.

With warm regards,

Myron Wilkins,
Executive Director

Fritz Kreimer,
Board Chairman

Image: Every Monday morning before putting on the suit worn 9 to 5 as an Investment strategist, Board Chairman Fritz Kreimer can be found in Potter’s House Community Kitchen serving up the morning meal.
Out of Order
27 YEAR OLD SHOWERS MUST BE REPLACED

Our daily work revolves around improving the quality of life for our neighbors. This month we are facing an issue that impedes our mission. We want you to be informed and we also need your help. The showers in Weaver House shelter require significant capital improvements to provide a reliable way for us to meet our client’s needs.

A shower and clean clothes are more than a matter of hygiene. They are a matter of humanity. Cleaning up can dissolve the immediate barrier between a person experiencing homelessness and the rest of society. After 27 years of use, our best repairs will not bring our showers to a safe, functional level. Existing facilities must be completely demolished and 15 new units will be installed. Our goal is to have the project completed before winter.

The full scope of deterioration behind and under the showers was unknown a few months ago. The outdated waterproofing system failed significantly, causing leaks and water damage behind the showers. Due to the extent of the damage, the total cost of the project will be $300,000!

The case management staff is working with clients and community partners to ensure our guests have access to help with partner agencies during the construction period.

As a partner of GUM, we have a time-sensitive request, please consider a financial contribution to help fund this important project. If you have never donated to GUM, please donate for the first time or if you are already a donor, consider a gift above and beyond your current giving.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and for supporting our efforts to care for our neighbors in need.

To donate today, use the enclosed envelope and mail a check with SHOWER in the memo line or donate online by going to greensborourbanministry.org and choose “Weaver House Showers” from the designation options.

Feast of Caring

Local artists generously donate their time and talents by creating beautiful handmade bowls that will be available at the Feast of Caring on November 21st.

We invite the community to join us for lunch or dinner the Thursday before Thanksgiving. We will enjoy a simple meal of soup and bread to recognize there is no holiday from hunger and many in our community will go without this holiday season.

You can help by making a donation of $25 or more to Greensboro Urban Ministry’s programs that fight crisis, hunger and homelessness. To express our appreciation, donors will be able to select a handmade pottery piece of their choice or five William Mangum Holiday Honor Cards.

There will be a silent auction during dinner where “specialty pieces” of pottery are available. Guests of either meal will be entertained with live music. We welcome back Wally West at lunch and musicians Jim Carson, Bobby Doolittle and friends at dinner.

Today
Mark Your Calendar
and plan on joining us
November 21, 2019!

Lunch 11:30am – 1:30pm
Dinner 5:00pm - 7:00pm
First Baptist Church,
1000 W. Friendly Avenue, Greensboro

For questions, please call 336.553.2651 or email events@guministry.org.
A chance encounter in a local Hardee’s started it all. It was 1987, artist William (Bill) Mangum was having lunch with a friend when he noticed a disheveled man seated nearby. After his meal, Bill started a conversation with the stranger, whose name was Mike. Bill discovered he was living on the street and suffered from mental illness. This moment was the beginning of a very special friendship. Mike inspired Bill to advocate, raise awareness and funds for the homeless across North Carolina. As one of the most popular and respected North Carolina artists, Bill Mangum leveraged his talent to generate millions of dollars for the most vulnerable in our community by launching the Honor Card program. Each year, Bill paints a unique holiday winter image that is printed on the Honor Card for that year. With a donation of $5.00 or more, you receive a card that can be used to honor a client, employee, friend or family member during the holiday season.

You are invited to attend the 2019 Honor Card Luncheon where the original painting for this year’s card will be unveiled. You can also get a jump-start on your holiday gifts by making a donation at the luncheon and receive cards to give to those you wish to honor this season.

**Dish Duo**

Greensboro Urban Ministry likes to highlight volunteers who are passionate, inspiring and dedicated.

Deloris and Wes have demonstrated all 3 traits over the 13 years they have volunteered with GUM. However, if you ask the many volunteers, clients and staff at GUM that have met them, inspiring is the word you will hear most often. Deloris Williams met Wes Vaughn 18 years ago. He and his parents were looking for a new person to provide Wes with daily support services. They prayed for someone “he would click with” and would feel a sense of commitment to the role.

If left alone or in a group setting, Wes withdrawals from life and seeps into depression. A support person keeps him active, on task, and helps to create points of contact with the community.

Deloris was just the person that Wes’s parents prayed for. Deloris and Wes volunteered here and there, looking for the best fit. They stopped looking after coming to Urban Ministry. Wes was put to work in Potter’s House Community Kitchen washing cups during lunch for an average of 400 guests. Deloris worked alongside Wes in the steamy dish room. “The staff made us feel welcome, like we were part of the family here,” says Deloris. So the duo kept coming! GUM provides Wes with socialization and a sense of belonging to the community. 13 years have passed and you can still find Wes in Potter’s House 3 times a week, with Deloris close by.

“Not only are we inspired by the dedication Deloris has to Wes,” says John, another volunteer, “We are so inspired by the work ethic and positive attitude Wes demonstrates”. Mae Rivers of Potter’s House says “You can count on Wes and Deloris being here when they say they will be here. They are always on time and they never complain about anything – they just roll with the punches”.

As of April 2019, the value of a volunteer hour is $25.43. We celebrate that Wes has worked over 3,000 hours at GUM over the past 13 years! We also celebrate that Deloris matched those hours and doubled the impact! Together, they have saved GUM around one hundred and forty thousand dollars in labor! GUM would like to say THANK YOU to both Wes and Deloris and also applaud the work of Deloris’s employer, Lindley Habilitation. Lindley provides “Exceptional Service to Exceptional People”. Ask anyone in Potter’s House Community Kitchen and they will agree these two are TRULY exceptional!
Financials

Year Ended June 30, 2019

FY 18-19 Sources of Revenue

- Cash Reserves: $170,067
- Individuals: $1,571,424
- Endowment Distribution / Interest: $125,238
- Gift-in-Kind Donations: $1,874,331
- Businesses: $683,605
- Bquests: $250,333
- Churches: $259,861
- Foundations: $1,005,755
- Individuals: $1,571,424
- Individuals: $1,571,424
- Planned Giving
- Partnership Village: $365,492.00
- Partnership Village: $365,492.00
- Pathways: $612,135.00
- Pathways: $612,135.00
- Weaver House Shelter: $1,054,200.00
- Weaver House Shelter: $1,054,200.00
- Winter Shelter: $40,565.00
- Winter Shelter: $40,565.00
- Emergency Assistance Program: $553,873.00
- Emergency Assistance Program: $553,873.00
- Administration: $227,127.00
- Administration: $227,127.00
- Chaplaincy: $68,187.00
- Chaplaincy: $68,187.00
- Potter’s House Community Kitchen: $516,363.00
- Potter’s House Community Kitchen: $516,363.00
- Food Bank: $2,240,064.00
- Food Bank: $2,240,064.00

FY 18-19 Expenditures

- Fundraising: $276,698.00
- Administration: $227,127.00
- Chaplaincy: $68,187.00
- Potter’s House Community Kitchen: $516,363.00
- Food Bank: $2,240,064.00

* unaudited figures

To become accredited by the BBB Wise Giving Alliance, charities are required to spend at least 65 percent of their total expenses on their charitable missions programs and no more than 35 percent of their contributions on fundraising. Greensboro Urban Ministry is even better, spending over 90% on programs and less than 5% on Fundraising!
When you are caught in the spiral of poverty, solutions do not come overnight. GUM has provided Emergency Assistance since we opened our doors and we recognize there will always be a need for that type of assistance. When we look beyond the current emergency, we recognize that it takes long term solutions to be more than a “finger in the dike” for our neighbors in need.

**Case Management**

In most cases, the fight against poverty means supporting families and individuals who face multiple challenges. Recognizing the complexity of the problem is the reason case managers have been placed throughout GUM in all programs. No matter what brings a client to our doors for help, there is someone available who can support them, if they are willing, as they overcome their challenges.

Successful case management, at its core, is about transforming lives through individualized care and services so clients can meet their goals. GUM case managers work in collaboration with the client to assess, plan, implement, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the options and services required to meet their human service needs.

“With the support of my case manager and a constant focus on my goals, I no longer have a hard time saving money”, says Angie, a recent resident of GUM’s Partnership Village.

**Career Readiness**

For some GUM clients, lack of education can be the obstacle to earning a livable wage. Training can be expensive, and if you are a single parent, the only source of household income, there simply is not a way to cover the cost of education on top of your family’s basic needs.

As a recipient of United Way’s Strategic Partner Grant, a Career Readiness Program was launched in Partnership Village, GUM’s transitional housing program. Participants can engage in short-term certifications or training programs. They are provided with funds to assist with day to day expenses. Training in the beauty industry and pharmacy technician certification are just two of the investments made in residents lives that created change in their economic stability and future.
Greensboro CROP HUNGER WALK

The annual CROP Walk, held each fall, is a community-wide event that has been heavily supported the last 39 years! Many Greensboro residents have supported this walk each year, growing it to the 4th largest walk in the nation with an average of 4,000 participants! Local congregations, schools, organizations and businesses organize walkers to raise funds to end hunger.

The CROP Hunger Walk plays a vital role in funding Potter’s House Community Kitchen operated by Greensboro Urban Ministry. The number of our neighbors who do not know where their next meal will come from keeps rising. The money raised by the CROP walk supports community lunches prepared daily for anyone hungry, no questions asked.

Each walker works to raise money that can be spent on the groceries needed the most in Potter’s House. On October 6th, the day of the walk, the GUM Food Truck will be on-site should walkers wish to bring non-perishable food donations in addition to the cash they raise. Support your neighbors in our community who rely on Potter’s House Community Kitchen and join us this year!

WANT TO WALK?
What: Greater Greensboro CROP Hunger Walk
When: Registration, 1:30pm; walk starts at 2:30pm
Where: Walk starts and ends at the GSO Coliseum Complex
Information: greatergreensborocropwalk.org or call Cheryl Ledford at 336.553.2641