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## FACT SHEET SUMMARY

### WHO WE ARE

Good Samaritan Ministries is non-profit 501c3 ministry founded on March 8, 1985 in Johnson City, Tennessee. Our mission is to combat poverty and change lives in upper east Tennessee. We fulfil our mission by providing emergency needs for the poor, low income, homeless, individuals/families-at-risk, children, veterans, and elderly populations through education, mentoring and social services. Good Samaritan Ministries (Good Sam) works with individuals and families on long-term solutions for their financial, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Sharing the love of Jesus Christ, homeless prevention and serving the homeless community are important to Good Sam. It is our goal to work with other community agencies to better meet the needs of the poor and to reduce the duplication of services and form community partnerships. Immediate assistance is available to clients in crisis situations. Needs are determined through an interview and assessment process with Good Sam employees and staff. A local referral system is used to direct clients to other agencies if Good Sam is unable to assist.

### AREAS SERVED

Good Samaritan Ministries focuses its services in the Upper East Tennessee Region. This area includes: Carter, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington Counties.

### SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE

- **Rent & Utility Assistance** - This program provides emergency rental, electric, water, and gas payments to prevent low-income families and individuals from being homeless.
- **Homeless Ministry Program** - Good Sam's homeless ministries include handicapped accessible shower facilities for homeless males. This program supplies basic toiletries, towels, and washcloths. Clothing is provided for men, women and children, including infants. Professional clothing is available for individuals who are searching for employment. Coats, shoes and sleeping bags are also available upon request.
- **Food Pantry** - The food pantry provides perishable and non-perishable food items, baby supplies, paper and hygiene products. Good Samaritan also participates in the federal USDA food distribution program for eligible clients. Clients are given a one-month food allotment based on the number in their household. Food boxes are delivered to those who are elderly and disabled and have no means of transportation. Emergency food supplies for 1-2 days are available in emergency circumstances.
- **Medical Assistance** - This program provides assistance to low-income families and individuals to purchase life sustaining, prescribed medications and medical supplies that are not available through other community programs.
- **Melting Pot** - Good Samaritan Ministries partners with churches and businesses to provide breakfast and lunch for the homeless community from Sunday-Saturday at the Melting Pot. Breakfast is served at 8:00 am to 10:00 am. Lunch is served at 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.
- **Life Skill and Budget Coaching** - Good Sam's social work department and other community partners work alongside one another to educate and equip clients regularly for stewardship management through weekly classes, follow-up and one on one meetings. These efforts have been successful in assuring that clients are receiving a "hand up" to better position them to handle the demands of life.
- **Holiday Food & Gift Program** - This program provides a Thanksgiving and/or Christmas Food Basket to low-income families and individuals. The food basket includes foods to prepare a traditional holiday meal as well as soups, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, oatmeal, and other good foods to last after the holiday is over. Paper products, personal hygiene products, and cleaning supplies are also included. Teens and seniors are eligible for Christmas gifts.
- **Back 2 School Program** - This program targets school-aged children of low-income families. Participants receive a backpack with school supplies and three new back to school outfits, including underwear, socks, and shoes. The backpack, supplies, and clothing are given to the children at the Back-2-School Picnic.

- **Resurrection Basket Project** - This program provides low-income families and seniors with various items such as food and Easter Resurrection Baskets for the children. Each person is given a Bible or devotional to further their spiritual growth.
- **Second Chance Program** - This program assists individuals from all socio-economic backgrounds in becoming self-sufficient. As a member of the Second Chance Program there are many goals and obligations, which must be met. Along with the member's goals and activities Good Samaritan will also provide assistance available within the organization, as well as referrals, to enable the member to be successful on this journey.
- **Summer Food** - This program targets low-income families with school aged children who are on free or reduced lunch. It provides food, paper products, cleaning supplies and personal hygiene products through the summer months.
- **Heart 2 Heart** – Good Sam's Heart 2 Heart services offer free counseling to the community regarding marriage, family, parenting, as well as drug & alcohol abuse counseling, and more.
- **Eye Clinic** – Eye examinations are made periodically at our Johnson City Office. An appointment with the social worker is made first to determine need, with proof of income and receipts. Glasses are made available through Len Crafters at no charge.
- **Legal Clinic** - Free Legal Clinic the first Saturday of each month. This is through the partnership with the Washington County Bar Association. This is a service available to anyone seeking legal advice. The hours are 9:00am to 11:30 am. Walk-ins are welcome.
- **Miscellaneous Services** – Good Sam's miscellaneous services include furniture for flood & fire victims (when available), bus and transit tickets for job interviews or doctor's appointments. Assistance in obtaining ID's, Social Security Cards and Birth Certificates are also available to our clients.

## HOW MANY HAVE BEEN SERVED? (2017 STATISTICS)

- Individuals Served – 153,574 people
- Melting Pot – 123,695 meals
- Social Services – 12,760 cases
- Homeless – 3,431 contacts
- Food Pantry – 6,463 food boxes
- Summer Food Program – 2,382 individuals
- Back 2 School Program – 2,209 children
- Resurrection Baskets – 582 children
- Thanksgiving Food Program – 2,265 individuals
- Christmas Food & Gift Program – 3,218 individuals

## HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

There are 4 ways that we encourage others to get involved with Good Samaritan Ministries.

1. **Pray** – Keep our clients, volunteers, employees, staff in your prayers daily. Peace, strength and continued resources are what we believe for daily.
2. **Advocate** – Tell your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and community about what's going on at Good Sam. Our success stories are always encouraging to those who don't know about Good Sam.
3. **Volunteer** – Get involved with our on-going projects. We are in constant need of extra helping hands and willing hearts who are open to serve those in need.
4. **Donate** – Partner with us by contributing monetarily or through an in-kind donation. All proceeds go to furthering the mission of Good Samaritan Ministries.

## CONTACT US

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