

WELCOME TO THE JUNE NEWSLETTER



As we reflect on the month of May, we are overwhelmed with gratitude and a sense of purpose. Our dedicated staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to extend a helping hand to those in need. As we plan for a Summer full of fun and time with family, let us not forget that poverty never takes a vacation. Thank you for your partnership. Together we make a difference.

Celebrating Success



Richard and Jennifer's Story

At Rowan Helping Ministries, we bear witness to countless tales of triumph over adversity, but the story of Richard and Jennifer is a bit different. As both military veterans, they sought refuge and support at our shelter, never realizing that their paths would not only cross but also lead to a beautiful love story.

It all began at the bus stop outside the Salisbury VA Hospital, where Richard recognized Jennifer from their shared time at the shelter. With a spark of familiarity, Richard approached Jennifer, and their connection was instantaneous. Their shared military experience served as a foundation for a bond that would prove instrumental in their journey forward.

Richard and Jennifer shared the same Case Manager, Angel, who manages our Contract Veteran program. With her guidance and support, they embarked on a path toward stability and independence.

Jennifer's story was one of bravery and resilience. Having escaped an abusive ex-husband, she made the difficult decision to leave her children behind in Pennsylvania and seek solace in North Carolina. Her goal was to rebuild her life, be closer to family, and ultimately reunite with her beloved children. Rowan Helping Ministries became a stepping stone on her journey, providing a safe haven and a supportive community. Richard, on the other hand, found himself without a place to call home or the support of his family. Referred by the VA Hospital, he arrived at our shelter with hope of a better future. Together, Richard and Jennifer embarked on a unique endeavor to earn income by utilizing Jennifer's car for DoorDash deliveries. Their unwavering determination and

hard work paid off as they saved every penny, inching closer to their shared dream of finding their own place to call home. They would eat breakfast in Jeannie's Kitchen, check out for the day, and return just in time for curfew. Richard shared there were days when they only had enough money to gas up and continue to work.

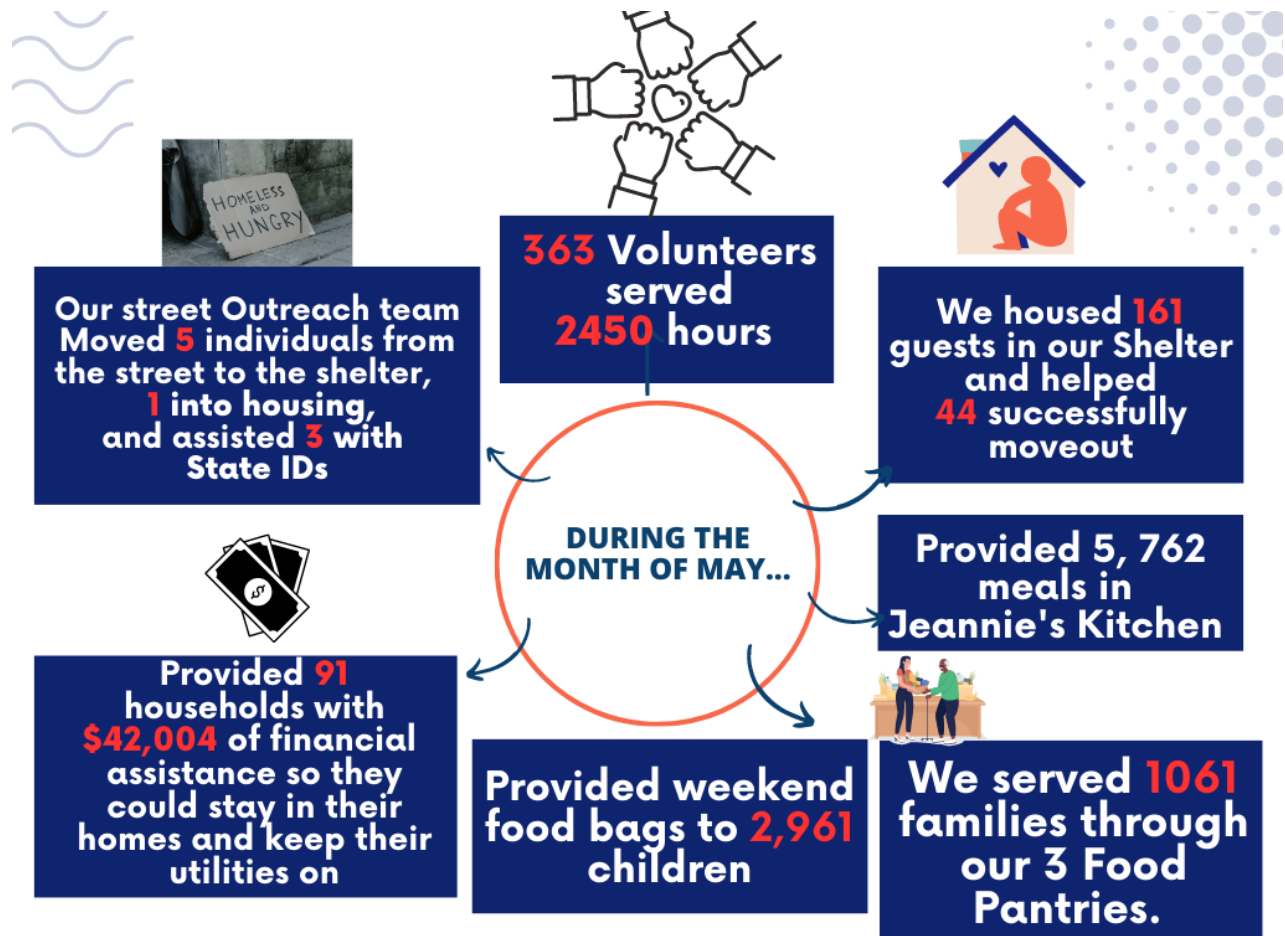
After several months of dedication and perseverance, Richard and Jennifer reached their goal. They were finally able to secure their own apartment, marking the beginning of a new chapter in their lives.

But their story doesn't end there. Richard and Jennifer felt an overwhelming desire to give back to the community that had supported them during their time of need. With gratitude in their hearts, they returned to Rowan Helping Ministries as guest speakers during the New Tomorrow's Veterans support class. There, they shared their remarkable journey, offering encouragement and hope to others who were treading a similar path. During their trip back to Salisbury, Richard took Jennifer back to the bus stop where they met and asked for her hand in marriage.

As a testament to their appreciation, Richard and Jennifer made a financial gift to Rowan Helping Ministries, symbolizing their gratitude for the unwavering support they received on their journey.


We are honored to have played a part in Richard and Jennifer's story. Their success is a reminder of why we do what we do—to empower individuals, restore dignity, and provide a pathway to a brighter tomorrow. We celebrate their accomplishments and wish them continued happiness and success in all their future endeavors.

May Statistics



Celebrate Dad

with a gift that gives back



**Sponsor a breakfast,
lunch, or dinner in
Jeannie's Kitchen**

Father's Day is Sunday, June 18th, what do you get for the dad who already has everything he needs? Here's an idea: Give your dad a Father's Day gift that will honor him as well as pay it forward to someone else. By sponsoring a breakfast, lunch, or dinner in Jeannie's Kitchen, you can celebrate the special man in your life, and feed a Rowan County neighbor in need.

[Click here to donate](#)

Volunteer Highlights

Retail Business Services

On Monday, May 22nd, a dedicated team of IT associates from Retail Business Services hosted a staff team-building activity. Together, they enthusiastically packed and distributed groceries at the Food Pantry, while also lending a hand in sorting and



organizing in-kind donations. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of them for their valuable service. Thank you for making a difference!



Rowan County United Way Day of Caring 2023

On Wednesday, May 24th, 150 volunteers from various organizations across the County united in a spirit of service at multiple non-profit organizations. Among them, the dedicated students and staff from Catawba College dedicated their entire day to our campus, diligently spreading mulch and painting our fences. We appreciate the Rowan County United Way for organizing this event, and a special thank you goes out to the wonderful Catawba students and staff for selecting us as their service destination. Your efforts have made a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful



Click here to [Learn More](#) about the United Way Day of Caring

Jeannie's Kitchen Volunteers Needed!!



Open Breakfast Shifts (5:15a-7:15a): Sat 6/10, Sun 6/11, Tues 6/13, Thu 6/15, Sun 6/18, Mon 6/19, Tues 6/20, Wed 6/21, Fri 6/23, Sun 6/25, Mon 6/26, Wed 6/28, Thu 6/29, Fri 6/30

Open Lunch Shifts (9:30am-1:30pm) : Wed 6/7, Sun 6/11 , Tues 6/13, Sun 6/18, Mon 6/19, Sun 6/25

Open Dinner Shifts (5:30-8pm): Mon 6/12, Sat 6/17, Thu 6/22, Fri 6/23, Sat 6/24, Tues 6/27

Are you interested in volunteering? Visit our website for a list of our volunteer opportunities, and to sign up and serve. For questions, contact Marissa Gaaney at 704-637-6838 ext. 112.

[Sign up to Volunteer](#)

Donation Highlights



Clayton Homes

The leadership team at Clayton Homes encouraged their staff to donate canned goods in exchange for "volunteer hours." For the month of May, they came together and collected 986 pounds of food for our Food Pantry. Clayton Homes staff donates to us every month and we appreciate the support. Thank you for helping us feed those that are in need.

Morgan Elementary 2nd Grade

As part of the 2nd Grade Economics unit, the students at Morgan



Elementary learned about goods and services, producers and consumers, and made a Flower Shop. The students sold flowers to their peers to take home to their mothers for Mother's Day. Through their efforts they raised close to \$300. Thank you to the staff and students at Morgan Elementary for choosing us for your service project.

Community Partners



S & H Youth and Adult Services

La Tanya Hardy, CEO and Executive Director at S & H Youth and Adult Services comes in every month to work with our shelter team. Her training range from effective communication tactics to interviewing skills and so much more. We value our partnership with S&H and continue to refer our clients to their organization. Thank you LaTanya for taking the time to share your gift with our staff.



**Cabarrus Rowan Community
HEALTH CENTERS, INC.**



Cabarrus Rowan Community Health Centers, Inc.

Every Monday CRCHC provides our shelter guests with access to a mental health clinician. Guests can set an appointment to have a one-on-one session and these sessions are required for Veterans. In addition to the one on one sessions, CRCHC staff host a monthly New Tomorrow's class called "My Best Self". This is a group session where participants can learn ways to handle stress. Thank you CRCHC for providing medical and mental health support to our community. We value our partnership and look forward to extending your service hours in the future.

Event Recap

2023 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

On Saturday, May 13, 2023, The National Association of Letter Carriers hosted the annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Postal workers collected canned goods from homes in Salisbury to donate to us and the Salvation Army. Because of the efforts of the Salisbury community, we received over 5,000 pounds of food for our Food Pantry.





2023 Cheerwine Festival



Saturday, May 20th, the Rowan County community joined together for the 2023 Cheerwine Festival! Rowan Helping Ministries staff and volunteers enjoyed a fun-filled

day and shared the word about the work we do with festival attendees. This year's event raised \$10,000 to support our Shelter Services and Crisis Assistance programs. Thank you, Cheerwine for continuing to support our organization and the positive impact you have on our close-knit community

Mark Your Calendars !

Join us at Waterworks Visual Arts Center for the "Building Bridges Through Art" exhibit, showcasing the incredible talent and creativity of our shelter guests. Twice a month, our New Tomorrow's participants had the privilege of attending art classes at Waterworks, and now their masterpieces will be on display from
May 31 to June 28.

Save the date for our end-of-the-year reception on June 20, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. at
123 E Liberty St, Salisbury, NC 28144.

**BUILDING BRIDGES
THROUGH ART EXHIBIT**
Reception

**June 20, 2023
4:30PM-5:30PM**

**Waterworks Visual Arts Center
123 E Liberty Street,
Salisbury, NC 28144**



**This project was supported by the
North Carolina Arts Council, a
division of the Department of
Natural and Cultural Resources.**

June Wish List



JUNE WISH LIST

Small equipment for Jeannie's Kitchen and other specialty items are found on our Amazon Wish List

JEANNIE'S KITCHEN

2% Milk
Butter
Pasta
Salad Greens
Fresh Fruit

Eggs
Mayonnaise
Bacon
Sausage

SHELTER SERVICES

Pillows
Ziploc bags (Gallon)
Travel Size Soap & Deodorant
Scrubs (M,L,XL)
Adult Shower shoes

CRISIS ASSISTANCE

Travel Size Conditioner
Ear plugs
Laundry Detergent

FOOD PANTRY

Peanut Butter
Jelly
Grits
Oatmeal
Granola Bars
Protein Bars
Saltine Crackers

Rice
Instant Potatoes
Pasta
Canned Fruit
Tomato Products
(sauce,paste,and
diced)



Donations may be dropped off Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at our receiving dock facing Liberty Street at 226 N. Long Street in Salisbury. Clothing donations are accepted on Wednesdays only. If you want to order from our Amazon Wish list, [click here](#).



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ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES

Our mission is to serve, through cooperative community action, our neighbors in Rowan County who are in crisis, by providing essential life needs and educating and empowering them to break the cycle of crisis.

Donate Now



Rowan Helping Ministries | 226 North Long Street, Salisbury, NC 28144

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