



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



October promises to be an exciting month as we eagerly anticipate the dedication event for Eagle's Nest III, transitional housing units. These units represent a significant milestone in our mission to provide support and expand the pathway to housing for our clients. Thank you to our community of volunteers, donors, and staff that work tirelessly each day to fulfill our mission.



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Remembering Our Dear Friend and Colleague Connie Bender



It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of our beloved friend and colleague, Connie Bender. Connie peacefully passed away on Thursday, September 28th, at Novant Health Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House.

For 14 years, Connie dedicated herself to serving with a warm spirit and a contagious smile at Rowan Helping Ministries. Her unwavering commitment to our mission touched countless lives, and her legacy will forever be cherished.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Connie's family during this difficult time. A memorial service to celebrate her life will be held from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 23, 2023, at Trinity Wesleyan Church.

May Connie rest in eternal peace, and may her memory continue to inspire us all.

[Click here](#) to read her obituary

Celebrating Success

Dawn's Story Of Finding Her Pathway Home



"I needed a program with structure. Getting a breathalyzer test every day and having my prescription pills locked away from me were essential steps on my journey to get sober." - Dawn (former Shelter Guest)

At Rowan Helping Ministries, we've had the pleasure of witnessing incredible transformations in the lives of individuals who seek our shelter and services. One such success story is that of Dawn, a former shelter guest who, with determination and support from our programs, turned her life around and is now on the path to homeownership.

Dawn's journey began when she made the courageous decision to move into our shelter. She searched for a structured program to help her create healthy habits and hold her accountable for her actions. As she reflects on her decision to move in with us, Dawn states, "I needed a program with structure. Getting a breathalyzer test every day and having my prescription pills locked away from me were essential steps on my journey to get sober."

Dawn lived in our shelter for almost a year, during which she embraced a transformative journey of self-improvement. She didn't just stay idle; she took significant steps toward rebuilding her life. She worked tirelessly, holding down three

jobs to support herself. She attended Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings regularly and committed to weekly Methadone treatment accompanied by counseling to address her addiction issues.

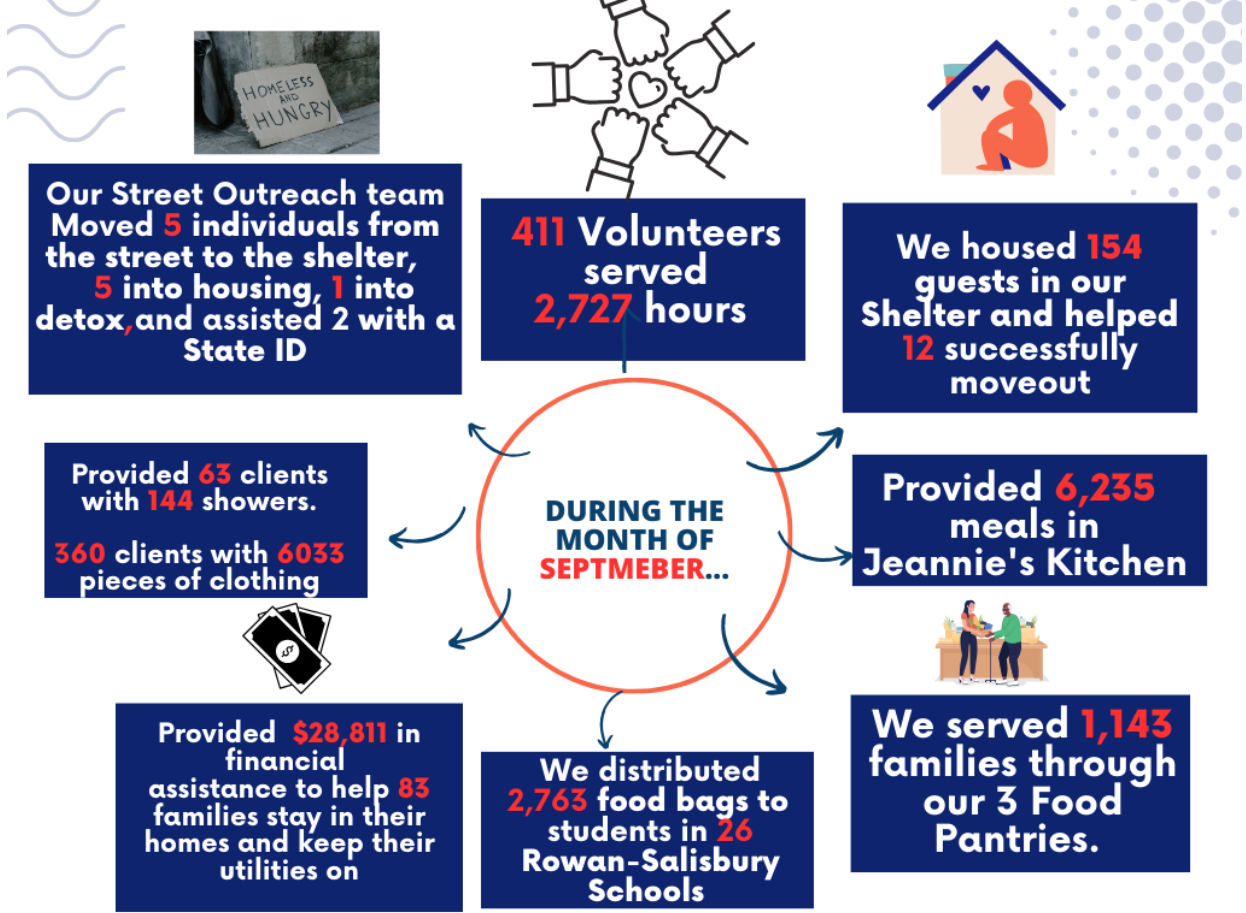
In addition to her dedication to recovery, Dawn focused on building her relationship with God. She found solace and guidance at Lifeway Church, which played a vital role in her spiritual healing. Dawn also connected with a peer support specialist from S&H Youth & Adult Services, who offered emotional support and guidance throughout her journey.

Dawn's determination to rebuild her life didn't stop there. She worked closely with our community partner, Operation HOPE, who provides classes in our New Tomorrows classroom. Dawn graduated from their Credit and Money Management program. "Before I connected with Operation HOPE I was about to file for bankruptcy," Dawn shared. Dawn took control of her financial situation, improved her credit score, and learned valuable money management skills. Today, she's actively engaged in a first-time homeownership program, a testament to her commitment to securing a stable future for herself.

For Dawn, living at the shelter provided a safe and supportive environment to focus on her recovery and personal growth. She candidly shares, "I tried to get sober on my own, but I couldn't do it until I moved into the shelter." The combination of structure, accountability, and access to vital resources was the key to her success.

As she prepares to transition into a new chapter of her life, Dawn remains committed to staying sober and achieving her dream of homeownership. Her inspiring journey is a testament to the power of determination, community support, and the grace of God. We are looking forward to following Dawn's journey to homeownership and will be by her side to celebrate this major milestone.

September Outcomes



Volunteer Highlights



St. Luke's Episcopal Church Packing Party!

Each month, dedicated members of St. Luke's Episcopal Church generously contribute their time to support several of our programs. In September, their dedicated volunteer team assembled Family Food Bags, which will provide nourishment to 100 families through our Food Pantry. Thank you to St. Luke's for their invaluable efforts in assisting families facing food insecurity in Rowan County.



Salisbury Pride Community Engagement Committee

On Saturday, September 30 the Community Engagement Committee of the Salisbury Pride organization came together to prepare and serve dinner in Jeannie's Kitchen. This is the group's first time serving with us and we look forward to hosting the group every month in the future. Thank you for taking the time to give back.



Jeannie's Kitchen Volunteers Needed!!



Open Breakfast Shifts (5:15a-7:15a): Thur 10/5, Sun 10/8, Mon 10/9, Sun 10/22, Wed, 10/25, Fri 10/27, Sun 10/29, Mon 10/30, Tue 10/31

Open Lunch Shifts (9:30am-1:30pm) : Wed 10/4 , Sat 10/14, Sun 10/15, Mon 10/16, Sat 10/21, Sun 10/22, Mon 10/23, Wed 10/25, Mon 10/30

Open Dinner Shifts (5:30-8pm): Sat 10/7, Sat 10/14, Tue 10/17, Sat 10/21, Thu 10/26, Fri 10/27, Sat 10/28, Mon 10/30, Tue 10/31

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



Annually, young philanthropists Ava, aged 10, and Maisie, aged 7, set up a lemonade stand within their neighborhood. They make freshly squeezed lemonade with the intention of raising funds in support of our programs. In this year's endeavor, their efforts led to a donation of \$400 and 225 pounds of food for our Food Pantry. It's truly heartwarming and inspiring to see young individuals like Ava and Maisie actively giving back to their community. Thank you for supporting us.

The North Carolina Young Professionals recently came together



for their Fall Conference, and in the spirit of community and giving back, they organized a special initiative. They decided to make a positive impact by collecting Feminine Hygiene Products to support the women we serve. The simple act of collecting feminine hygiene products may seem small, but it can make a significant difference in the lives of the women who receive them. Thank you for choosing us for your initiative.



The Delta Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sorority Inc. recently made a generous visit, contributing 36 bags of toiletries. These travel-size hygiene essentials play a crucial role in our shelter, facilitating day showers and Street Outreach efforts. Currently, these items are in high demand. We appreciate your organization for stepping up and providing those in need with the essential tools for a daily shower. Your support makes a meaningful impact on the lives of those we serve. Thank you for your generosity.

Community Partners

City Of Salisbury Adopt-A-Street Program





On a weekly basis, for over 13 years, as an integral component of our New Tomorrows Program, our shelter's guests engage in "Adopt The Street" clean-up activities within the vicinity of our campus. Last month, we formalized our commitment by officially "adopting" Long Street and Liberty Street. Our ongoing dedication to the maintenance and appearance of the areas surrounding our facility remains. We want to say a huge thank you to our partners at the City of Salisbury for providing the signs and supplies to keep our City clean.



Catawba College Day Of Service

Catawba College mobilized a force of over 500 dedicated volunteers who fanned out to various destinations to participate in the First Annual Catawba College Day of Service. We had the privilege of hosting two of these groups, and they contributed their time and effort to our Food Pantry and Clothing Center. Additionally, they assisted in packing Family Food Bags and "Food for Thought". We appreciate you for selecting us as your service destination.



Non-Profit Happy Roots Is Back At The Garden of Eatin'



In 2019, Rev. Steve Combs along with guests in our shelter, initiated the Garden of Eatin'.

Rev Steve dedicated the majority of his retirement, thus far, to its care. After years of unwavering commitment, Steve has now entrusted Ashley Honbarrier from Happy Roots with his shovel and gardening tools. This week, our New Tomorrows participants will work with Ashley for the first time for the fall season. Thank you Steve for your years of love and dedication, and we eagerly anticipate working alongside Ashley in this new chapter.

Vegetables grown in the garden by guests and volunteers are used for meals in Jeannie's Kitchen

Event Recap !

13th Annual Ted Luther Memorial Golf Tournament



Our annual Ted Luther Memorial Golf Tournament took place Saturday, September 9, 2023, at the Revival at the Crescent. We had another successful fundraiser this year with 107 players raising over \$27,000 to support our programs. Thank you to the Luther family, event sponsors, in-kind donors, the planning committee, volunteers, and our staff for making this year's event a success.

2023 Annual Meeting & Corporation Dinner





Kristine Wiles, Dianne Bruce, Sherry Smith, Kyna Grubb, Leslie Cabagnot, Raeshawn Palmer, Madisyn Rey



On Tuesday, September 19, we hosted our Annual Corporation Meeting and dinner! We were so excited to be back at Trinity Oaks Retirement Home this year. At the event, attendees got to hear about the wonderful ways we impacted the Rowan County community last fiscal year.

We recognized and thanked the retiring Board Members Yvonne Waiters-Dixon, Carol Herndon, Rosalind Lindsay, and Libby Post for their years of hard work and dedication. Board Members elected to serve another term were Sabra Mills and P.J. Ricks. We also welcomed new Board Members Phil Conrad, Daniel Matangira, Dennis Rivers, and Lisa Sechrest.

Thank you to our volunteers and donors for your continued support. We can't do this work without you.

Thank you to Trinity Oaks for hosting us and for the delicious meal.

Click here to read our full [Impact Report](#)

Eagle's Nest III Wish List !



As we prepare for the opening of Eagle's Nest III, we are excited for the opportunity to serve more of our community in need through transitional housing for veterans and individuals moving from homelessness. We want to be sure that whomever we serve in this space is made as comfortable and without worry as possible, and you can help us achieve that. If you would like to be a part of this ministry opportunity, you can donate one or more of the items on the [wish list](#) and help make these spaces feel safe and secure for those in need.

Mark Your Calendars !



Invitation
**DEDICATION
CEREMONY**

EAGLE'S NEST III

16 Oct,
2023 | 10:00a.m.

Rowan Helping Ministries and Shelter Ministries of Rowan County
invite you to join us in celebrating the dedication of
Eagle's Nest III

Monday, October 16, 2023
10:00 AM Light refreshments will be served.
10:30 AM Dedication Ceremony

Eagle's Nest III
226 N. Long Street
Salisbury, NC

Parking is available in the lot on the corner of E. Council St. and N. Long St.

Please RSVP to Karen Taylor at 704-637-6838 ext. 100 or email
ktaylor@rowanhelpingministries.org



THE HOMELESS TASKFORCE OF
ROWAN COUNTY PRESENTS

Community CONNECTIONS RESOURCE FAIR

Thursday,
October 26, 2023
2p.m. -5p.m.

Rowan Helping Ministries
Robertson-Stanback Center
Jeannie's Kitchen
217 N. Long Street
Salisbury, NC 28144

Use QR Code to
access our
agency
registration
form



Join us for:

- Housing Resources*
- Mental Health Resources*
- Substance Abuse Resources*
- Giveaways and so much more*

Event Contact: Cathy Wood-Romero,
Crisis and Housing Manager at
704-637-6838 ext. 107 or
cwood@rowanhelpingministries.org



We're excited to announce that we're hosting a Community Connections Resource Fair on Thursday, October 26, 2023, 2p.m. - 5p.m., to provide services and support to those that are homeless or on the brink of homelessness. We are currently looking for community partners interested in partnering to help us positively impact the lives of those who need it the most.

[Click here](#) to access the agency registration form.

2023 Trick or Treat So, Others May Eat Food Drive



Trick or Treat So, Others May Eat

This Fun-filled event is our biggest food drive of the year. Your group is invited to join us in a friendly competition to help feed our neighbors in Rowan County. Our goal is to collect 30,000 pounds of food.

Throughout Rowan County, volunteers will leave brown paper bags with an information flyer inviting people to fill the bags with non-perishable foods. Volunteers will collect the filled bags and deliver them to Rowan Helping Ministries on weigh-in day.

Weigh in Day: Sunday November 5th, 2023

Ralph Ketner Center

226 N. Long Street Salisbury, NC 28144

3pm-5pm

**To participate and for more information
please contact Volunteer Manager, Marissa Gainey
Phone: 704-637-6838 ext. 112.**

mgaaney@rowanhelpingministries.org



Join us in a friendly competition to collect non-perishable food items to restock our Food Pantry. To participate and for more information please contact Volunteer Manager, Marissa Gainey at 704-637-6838 ext. 112.

2023 Feed The Need Fundraiser



FEED *the* NEED

BENEFITING THE FOOD PROGRAMS OF
ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES



On Friday, November 17, Rowan Helping Ministries will present FEED THE NEED, an exciting fundraising event for our Food Programs that will truly “feed the need” that exists in Rowan County. You’re invited to join us for music, food, and fellowship at Baker’s Mill, 1360 Poole Rd in Salisbury from 6-9 pm.

We have several sponsorship opportunities available [click here](#) to learn more.
Tickets are \$55 to attend [click here](#) to purchase

October Wish List



OCTOBER WISH LIST

JEANNIE'S KITCHEN

2% Milk
Butter
Pasta
Salad Greens
Fresh Fruit
Instant Potatoes
Salad Dressing

Eggs
Mayonnaise
Bacon
Sausage
Jelly
Grits
Coffee Grinder

FOOD PANTRY

Peanut Butter
Canned Meat
Jelly
Beans (dried or canned)
Granola Bars
Protein Bars
Saltine Crackers
Canned Vegetables

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

SHELTER SERVICES

Pillows
Ziploc bags (gallon)
Travel Size Conditioner, Shampoo,
Bar Soap & Deodorant
Scrubs (M, L, XL)
Adult Shower Shoes
Sleep Eye Mask

CRISIS ASSISTANCE

Travel Size Conditioner, Shampoo, Bath
Soap, and Lotion
Washcloths
Towels
Feminine Hygiene Products

CLOTHING CENTER

Socks (men, women & children)
Mens Jeans
Underwear (men, women & children)
Bras



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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