



# MARCH NEWSLETTER

Rowan Helping Ministries is not one person but many united in a cause to help our neighbors in need. As we prepare to enter the Spring season we are looking forward to blossoming new partnerships, generating new ideas, and continuing to help our clients find their pathways home. In this issue, we focus on the cooperative community action that enables us to impact our Rowan County residents in need.

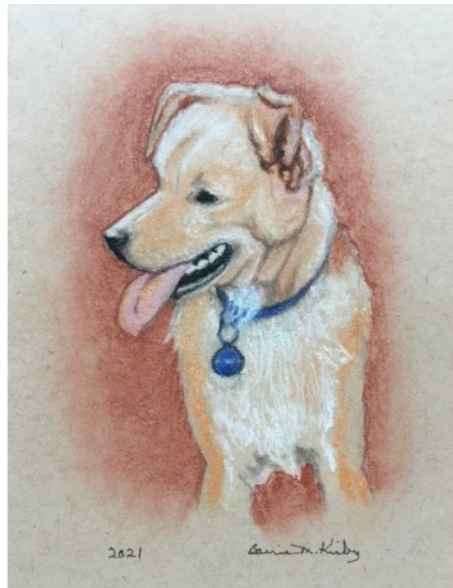
"Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you." - Mother Teresa

## *Celebrating Success*

### Volunteer Reimagines How To Give Back



## Barrie Kirby



**“My hope will be that other artist will use their art to support non-profits in our community.”**

365 days a year, volunteers work tirelessly to assist Rowan Helping Ministries staff in operating our programs to help the chronically homeless find their pathways home. In March 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic left us all afraid and unsure. As a result, our volunteer participation decreased dramatically. It was during this time we needed the help the most. Barrie Kirby is a retired Presbyterian Minister and former Junior High School Art teacher. She is one of many volunteers who decided to stop volunteering on-site during the pandemic. Barrie has a health condition that puts her at high risk for COVID, but she did not let the pandemic stop her from supporting our mission.

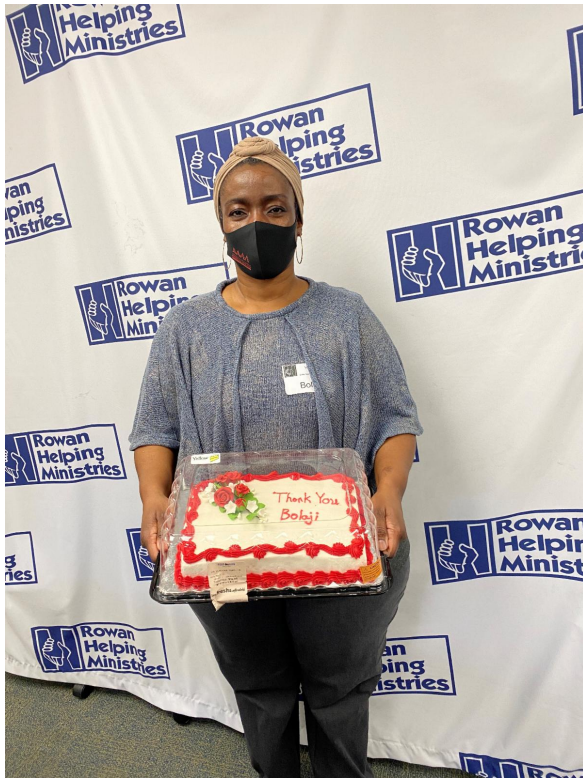
In November 2020, Barrie decided to use her gift of drawing to draw pet portraits to raise money for our ministries. “During the pandemic, I knew Rowan Helping Ministries desperately needed people to come and volunteer hands-on, but it wasn’t safe for me to do that. So, I thought here is a way I can raise a little money since I can’t help in person.” The idea behind the “art fundraiser” came to her while working as the Chaplin at the NC Veteran’s home. One of the Veteran’s shared his artwork with Barrie and told her he used it to fundraise for his church. “I thought, well I could do something like that. So, I started drawing again.”

Using the power of social media Barrie posted a portrait she did of her daughter’s friend’s dog on Facebook. The requests started to pour in for pet portraits and Barrie asked people to donate directly to Rowan Helping Ministries in place of paying her for the portraits. To date, she has raised over

\$3,000 to support Rowan Helping Ministries programs. “My hope will be that other artist will use their art to support non-profits in our community.”

We are blessed and grateful to have supporters like Barrie who dedicate their time and talents to helping our neighbors in need. If you are interested in a pet portrait, please email Barrie at [barrie.m.kirby@gmail.com](mailto:barrie.m.kirby@gmail.com) please include Pet Portrait in your email.

## Volunteer Highlights



### Farewell to CAN Volunteer Bolaji Fodeke

Last month we celebrated our dedicated Crisis Assistance volunteer Bolaji. She has been a CAN interviewer since July 2021. Bolaji came to America seeking asylum from her home in Nigeria. While experiencing the daunting process of obtaining her citizenship in either the U.S or Canada, Bolaji used her free time and business background to assist us in interviewing clients applying for emergency financial assistance. Canada has accepted Bolaji's application and she will be moving to start the next chapter in her life. We are sad to see her go and pray God will protect and guide her on her journey.



### Shady Grove Baptist Church Mt. Ulla

Members of Grove Baptist Church came out to show our lower-level storage area some much need TLC. Volunteers worked with the Director of Shelter Services, Sherry Smith to sort, organize, and clean our storage areas. We truly appreciate you all for taking the time to serve with us, because of you the space is more functional and clean!



## Christiana Lutheran Church

We hosted Christiana Lutheran Church youth groups for a day of service. 56 volunteers were split into smaller groups to work on different service projects in the lower level and Jeannie's Kitchen. They packed enough USDA Family Food Bags to feed 40 families. "I was especially grateful for their help, they also organized and cleaned our kitchen shelves and storage spaces. It was a wonderful chance to educate young people, not only on what we do but why we do it." - Caroline Forrester, Food Operations Manager

## Granite Quarry Civitan Club



We are so excited to welcome back the members of the Granite Quarry Civitan Club. Like many of our volunteers, they took a break from serving in Jeannie's Kitchen and will be back serving lunch every Fourth Monday of the month.

Are you interested in volunteering? Visit our website for a list of our volunteer opportunities, and to sign up and serve. For questions, contact Volunteer Manager Monica Seamon at 704-637-6838 ext. 112 or [visit our website](#).

[Sign up to Volunteer](#)

## Donation Highlights



### Mount Hope Church

Thank you Rev. Dr. Johnny Boggs and the members of Mt. Hope Church for your recent donation of men's and women's clothes. Thank you for thinking of us for your generous donation. Our clients will be so excited to receive them. Please know how much you've helped them and how appreciative we are of your kindness.



### St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Thank you to the members of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for hosting a food drive to support our Food Pantry. Because of your drive we added 310 pounds of non-perishable food items to our pantry. Your donation will help feed fellow Rowan County citizens.

### Sacred Heart Middle

# School



Sending a special shoutout to the students at Sacred Heart Middle School. The Student Government organization hosted a toiletry drive and donated 251 toothbrushes, 75 toothpaste, 98 soaps, 44 shaving creams, 388 washcloths, 23 shampoos, 114 disposable razors, and 24 lotions. These students make us so proud through their consistent volunteer service and dedication to our mission.

## Community Partners



Thank you to our community partners at Wellcare and Atrium Health for donating at-home COVID-19 testing kits, providing health screenings, and Medicaid health plan support for our guests. We appreciate your partnership and working with you to provide resources to our clients. Save the Date for **March 23, 2022**, Wellcare will be back on-site to host a vaccine clinic & health screenings.

[Learn more](#)

# ROWAN CREATES

Rowan Arts Council  
Salisbury, NC

*Be an original.*

The Rowan Arts Council of Salisbury provides a Grassroots Art grant to help our shelter guests unwind through the arts. Every Friday, our New Tomorrow's participants attend an art class led by Center Faith & The Arts. Shelter guests get to paint a canvas to be sold online and at local art galleries throughout the community. All funds from sales go directly to the guests. Please click the video link below to learn more about this wonderful project!

This project was supported by N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources. [NCArts.org](http://NCArts.org)



North  
Carolina  
Arts  
Council

*Fifty years  
of leadership*



*In Other News..*

**Ralph Ketner  
Center**

**New Hours**  
**Crisis Assistance**  
**Food Pantry**  
**Clothing Center**

**9a.m. - 3:30p.m.**







## **We Need Your Help!**

The 2022 Ted Luther Memorial Golf Tournament will be on September 17, 2022 at the Revival At The Crescent. We are looking for volunteers to join the planning committee. There are several ways you can assist the committee, please give Volunteer Manager, Monica Seamon a call at 704-638-6838 ext. 112 for more details.

*Upcoming Events/Event Recap*

**FOOD LION  
FEEDS**  
*presents...*

# PASS *the* PLATE

**Saturday  
May 21, 2022  
Tickets \$65**



## **SAVE THE DATE**

Pass The Plate

May 21, 2022, at 6 p.m. at The Country Club of Salisbury

Rowan Helping Ministries' largest fundraiser of the year, Pass the Plate, generates over \$140,000 in unrestricted funding to assist our most vulnerable neighbors in need. With generous support from our community, we are able to support them during their darkest times by providing food, clothing, financial assistance, and more as they work to break the cycle of crisis. Over 90% of the funds raised will go directly towards our clients and guests. Visit our website to purchase tickets and learn more about sponsorship opportunities. [\*\*Learn More\*\*](#)

## **2022 Scouting For Food**

Scouting for Food is the nation's largest single/day food drive. It began as a Scout's



service project in St. Louis in 1985 and was adopted by the National Organization in 1988. The goal is to help feed the hungry locally. Saturday, February 5, Rowan County scout troops donated 17,797 pounds of food to Rowan Helping Ministries, 3,536 pounds were donated by Food Lion.



## 2022 Souper Bowl of Caring

The youth at Providence United Methodist Church collected \$588 for the Souper Bowl of Caring fundraiser. With the money raised, they were able to purchase 782 pounds of non-perishable food items to be donated to our Food Pantry. Donations are still coming, so far we collected over \$1500. Thank you to all churches and individuals who participated in the National Souper Bowl of Caring Fundraiser.

## March Needs List

### Jeannie's Kitchen

Fresh Onions  
Fresh Lettuce  
2% Milk  
3-Quart Large Cans of Vegetables & Fruit  
(no tomato products please)



Remember, items can be purchased and shipped directly to Rowan Helping Ministries at 226 N. Long Street, Salisbury, NC 28144. Donations can also 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.

### **Equipment & Specialty Items**

Small equipment for Jeannie's Kitchen and other specialty items are found on our *Amazon Wish List*. [Check it out](#)

*Don't forget to use Amazon Smile!*

Frozen Vegetables (broccoli, cauliflower, mixed vegetables)

### **Crisis Assistance Food Pantry**

Pasta Sauce/Tomato sauce

Jelly

Can Fruit

Canned Vegetables

Canned Soup

Lower Sodium Options of canned goods

### **Shelter Services**

Shampoo (travel size)

Lotion (travel Size)

Body wash (travel size)

Washcloths

Towels

Twin Size Sheets

Blankets

Pillows

Facial Tissue

Razors

### **Housing Services**

Towels

Laundry Detergent

## **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](#)

