

# DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Christian Caring Center

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Find us on 



## Serving Burlington County Since 1983

It is such a beautiful season as most of the world celebrates the birth of our Savior Jesus. Matthew Henry describes this as "The fullness of time was now come, when God would send forth his Son, made of a woman, and made under the law. The circumstances of his birth were very mean. Christ was born at an inn; he came into the world to sojourn here for a while, as at an inn, and to teach us to do likewise. We are become by sin like an outcast infant, helpless and forlorn; and such a one was Christ. He well knew how unwilling we are to be meanly lodged, clothed, or fed; how we desire to have our children decorated and indulged; how apt the poor are to envy the rich, and how prone the rich to disdain the poor. But when we by faith view the Son of God being made man and lying in a manger, our vanity, ambition, and envy are checked." We at the Christian Caring Center try and give everything we can to house people, whether it be in the Code Blue Shelter in the basement of a church on a cot with other homeless people, or in our Emergency Shelters sharing a room with 1 other for 90 days, or in a motel for a few days until they get their next check. None of these are permanent or complete their journey to housing, but like the Innkeeper, it is what we can do and God does the rest. We always try to extend the love of God no matter why or what the reasons are that brought them to us. God wants us to be His instruments to show and tell them the Gospel through love. Just like the Innkeeper and Mary and Joseph, we do the very best we can with what we have.

We could never do it without you and your kindness, support and prayers. You might not serve the guests directly, but your support enables us to. For 40 years, the Christian Caring Center has continued to be a leader in blessing individuals and families all because of your generosity and we are grateful! You share in the testimony of the love that God has for His people, which gives us an opportunity to share the Gospel, pray with people and love them. We can not thank you enough!

Madelyn Sutton,  
Executive Director





# It's not too late to donate!

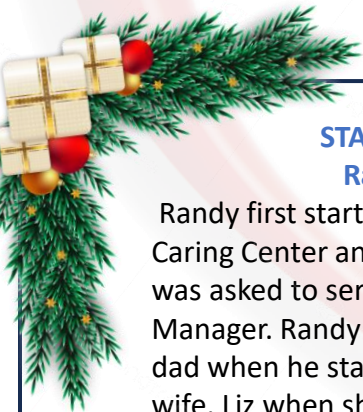
We believe, in this season there is a wonderful opportunity to come together and make a significant impact on our community. Your support on this day will help us continue our crucial work of providing nutritious meals to families who are struggling to put food on their tables and shelter to those in need. Here's how you can contribute:

- 1. Make a Donation:** Your financial contribution, no matter the size, can make a significant difference in the lives of those we serve. Visit our website [www.christiancaringcenter.net](http://www.christiancaringcenter.net) to make a secure online donation.
- 2. Spread the Word:** Share our mission with your friends, family, and colleagues. Encourage them to join you in supporting the Christian Caring Center on Giving Tuesday. Use the hashtag #FeedHope to amplify our message on social media.
- 3. Volunteer:** If you're local, consider volunteering your time at our outreach center. Your hands-on support is invaluable to us.

Every dollar donated, every share on social media, and every hour volunteered brings us one step closer to ensuring that no person goes to bed hungry.

As we approach the holiday season, let's come together to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. Your generosity this Christmas Season will help us create a brighter, future for families and individuals in need.

Thank you for considering the Christian Caring Center, and we appreciate your ongoing support.



## STAFF HIGHLIGHT: Randy Holston

Randy first started working at the Christian Caring Center and after a few short months was asked to serve as the Village Thrift Shop Manager. Randy was a widower and single dad when he started and met his lovely wife, Liz when she volunteered at the Shop. Randy has worked tirelessly for 10 years, most days by himself. Randy maintains a small pantry for people who are in need of food at the shop. Randy always has a smile and is very gracious to all our clients and customers. We are truly blessed to have him and his wife as part of the team at the Christian Caring Center.



For  
Unto  
us a  
CHILD  
is born  
Unto us a Son  
is given, and the  
Government shall be  
Upon His shoulders,  
and His Name shall be called,  
Wonderful, Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace!  
Isaiah 9:6

IMPACT  
in our local  
community!



CHRISTIAN CARING  
CENTER

### Holiday Baskets

It's that wonderful time of the year when we get to celebrate God's goodness and our thankfulness. In December, we will be celebrating the birth of our Savior. We will be giving a turkey dinner with all the trimmings along with gifts and gift cards. We are blessed to have the Browns Mills Baptist Church, 401 Lakehurst Road, Browns Mills partnering with us this year to have parents come and pick out a gift for their children-PTL!!! There is still time for you to give toys also. We will be distributing December 21st and 22nd from 10am-3pm. We are asking for gift cards, toys, board games, Legos, art and craft kits, PJ's, sweatshirts and sweatpants of all sizes, etc.

### EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM

**Jack Stelle Men's Emergency Shelter:** We have 2 men in the shelter right now. LaShawn is looking for work Mitchell has had hip replacement surgery. What a blessing for him to have a home to recover in. Can you imagine being homeless and needing this surgery? We are asking for your prayers for all the men.

**Holman House:** Is temporarily closed to residents right now as we are going through renovations of adding a bathroom and bedroom for an isolation room.

**Marion House:** We have a new family. Mom is a home health aid and looking for a better, more consistent job. She has 2 daughters, and they are in their new schools. Please pray for them as they look for permanent housing

**CODE BLUE SHELTER** We have held 22 nights so far. Most nights are full with 14 guests.

### EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM

The **Lord** through the Christian Caring Center helped 719 households or 1,378 adults and 774 children totaling 2,152 individuals with meals in the month of November, 2023- PTL!!!

### COMMUNITY LUNCH/RURAL HOMELESS PROGRAM

The **Lord** through the Christian Caring Center served 992 hot cooked lunches and continental breakfasts in the month of November 2023. We also go out to the streets/woods on Wednesday and Friday to deliver 60 lunches and outreach to the homeless, alcoholic, addicted or mentally challenged men, women in 2 area motels. Please continue to pray for the people still out there homeless and struggling as well as the staff and volunteers.



Supportive friendships for lasting impact

### BRIDGE OF HOPE

We have 1 family remaining in the program and they are doing good. We are training 1st Presbyterian in Mt. Holly as a new neighboring team. We held an amazing Sleeping Out on October 14th. A HUGE THANK YOU to the Medford Methodist Church for hosting us. Thank you for all your support and it's not too late to send in your support if you missed it.

### SALVATION ARMY SERVICE UNIT

The Christian Caring Center serves as a volunteer service unit for the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army provided 1 motel placement, 1 security deposit assistance and 1 utility bill. SSH provided 7 utility bills, 3 back rent assistance and 2 security deposit assistance.



# Ask God...How can I help?

## NEEDED ITEMS

1. Peanut butter & jelly
2. Tuna & soups
3. Instant Potatoes, mac & cheese
4. Cereal, Breakfast bars, Nutra grain bars
5. Juice, shelf milk
6. Pasta & sauce
7. Turkeys or hams (if you earned a free turkey or ham and don't need it, please consider donating)
8. Warm sweatshirts, coats & sleeping bags for homeless clients sleeping outside



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## OPENING HOURS:

We are open Monday-Friday from 10 am-3 pm. in the Outreach Center at 378 Lakehurst Rd. Browns Mills. We prefer to make appointments for case management, we prefer clients to call the B.C. Housing HUB at 609-265-5185. They will take a short assessment and send out an email to all the agencies who have funding. Lunch will be served at 12 noon, and all are welcome, and we go out on Street Outreach every Wednesday and Friday 12:30 pm-1:30 pm. The drive through food pantry is in operation Monday - Friday 10 am to 3 pm. The Village Thrift Shop, 87 Hanover Street, Pemberton is open Monday thru Friday from 9 am to 4 pm and Saturdays 10 am to 3 pm. They are accepting in season clothing, blankets, household goods, linens, towels etc. Donations are excepted on Mon. Wed., Fri. 10-2pm only. They supply the Outreach Center in Browns Mills clothing as needed there. Praise the Lord!

Find us on 

## 6 Most Wanted Volunteer Positions

1. Village Thrift Shop sorting and working the cash register
  2. Interviewers/to pray with the people receiving food.
  3. Fundraising Committee (making baskets for auction, mailings, decorating, etc.)
  4. Volunteers to work with homeless clients locating housing and jobs.
  5. Volunteers for making gift baskets for auction at our fundraising events.
  6. Volunteers for our upcoming Corn Hole and Sleep Out Fundraisers.
- As we are open 5 days per week, we desperately need volunteers. We only have 7 regular staff to run 12 programs. We have opportunities to fit your schedule: weekly, monthly and virtual projects like Holiday baskets, food pickups, food or basket shopping, events such as our Corn Hole or Sleep Out fundraisers, etc.

## HOLIDAY BASKETS

It's that wonderful time of the year when we get to celebrate God's goodness and our thankfulness.

**PRAISE THE LORD!** We distributed Thanksgiving Baskets to 344 households with 808 adults and 531 children!

## SAVE THE DATES

Christmas Baskets December 20<sup>th</sup> Preparation, Distribution December 21 & 22, 2023

The Christian Caring Center also receives **YOUNGIVEGOODS.COM**, you can purchase items and they will ship them to us.

