

# Hendersonville Samaritan Association

## Newsletter

January 11, 2016

**The New Year** will offer the same challenges for many in our community that others have had in the prior year. A loss of a job, an illness or a transportation issue can cause not only financial stress but family stress. The Samaritan Center was able to relieve this stress for over 3,000 families and children in Hendersonville in 2015 because of you our friends and supporters. Your financial contributions, Thrift Store donations, and hours of volunteerism have allowed us to be the arm of relief to many. Thank you each and every one for your contribution toward our efforts. I hope that you have a blessed and prosperous year and ask that you continue to partner with the Samaritan Association by continuing as you have and by telling a friend or neighbor about us.



Steve Brown  
Executive Director

## Services Rendered For 2015

14,511 emergency relief and  
support services given to  
3,658 families in need

- Utilities – 301
- Rents – 78
- Food Baskets – 409
- Soup Kitchen – 2,476
- CarePacks – 5,436
- Bread Distribution – 9,620
- Holiday Services – 58
- Transient Assistance – 23
- THDA Services – 23
- Referral Services – 242

Total estimated worth of  
assistance given in 2015:  
\$482,558

### Christmas Generosity



## A Client's Story:

Heartbreak is only one portion of this client's story. In September we met Sue. She came to us through a series of referrals from friends, social workers, and a sister agency. Sue is a full time homemaker for her husband and five children. Her husband, Bill, worked hard to provide for his family. In August, he was rushed to the hospital and quickly diagnosed with kidney failure and terminal acute leukemia myeloma. Within a month every aspect of this family's life was forever changed.

Sue was juggling her husband's illness, her children's needs, household management, and emotional trauma. We quickly helped with utilities, food needs and networking with representatives of her husband's employer.

Through these interviews and conversations, it was determined that we could relieve Sue of a heavy burden by helping her with Christmas for her children. She was spending most of her time ferrying Bill to doctors and dialysis. The reports on his prognosis were shortening from an initial four months to one or two months.

A local church immediately agreed to adopt this family for Christmas. We interviewed Sue and encouraged her to provide a wish list for the kids. Our Church partners very generously insisted that we give them a wish list from the parents as well.

Sue was overwhelmed with this kind offer. During the course of our conversation, she said that her only request was an inexpensive video camera so that Bill could make tapes for the children to watch as they grew up.

At the beginning of November the HSA Staff discussed this simple request, with a great amount of emotion, and decided that we would use a small amount of the donated funds for Christmas to purchase a video camera and give it to Sue well ahead of Christmas. This decision was a great blessing to the family because Bill slipped away early in December. He was able to leave his legacy of love and encouragement to his young children because of this simple gift.

The children received a great blessing of gifts and encouragement from our church partner and a lasting gift of loving memories from their Dad.

**Every case is unique. Your generous donations to HSA make these remarkable acts of kindness and caring possible.**

### Contact Us

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