

CONNECTIONS

Community Connections Darlington Quarterly Newsletter



What's New

We are only halfway through the calendar year, but we have already accomplished so much. The Board of Directors has been busy with fundraising, grant writing training, and continuing the 501C3 process, and our efforts have paid off!

In April, Community Connections Darlington received a \$12,000 grant from the St. Luke Lutheran Church Endowment! The Executive Board also continued to fundraise, gather sponsorships, and collect donations in our efforts to secure funding for Phase 2 of Crazy Hope renovations. Part of these efforts included investing in a CD that will mature in just a few months as we await the final work of our engineer and architect. Some of our board members have also been improving their grant writing skills and are currently working on grants for our organization. And since Community Connections Darlington is now officially its own 501C3, we should now be eligible for more grant funding opportunities.

If we have accomplished all of this during the first half of the year, we can't wait to see what we can do during the remainder of 2024!

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

What's New

Crazy Hope Community Center Update

Soup Kitchen Spotlight

Fundraisers

Connecting with the Community

Team Member Spotlight

Financial Report

Crazy Hope Community Center - Update



As evidenced by the cover photo, renovations continue at the Crazy Hope Community Center. Progress may seem slow at times but everything has its season.

At the time of this newsletter, our architect, engineer, and contractor will have just met to work together on the center's architectural drawings needed for the inside renovations to take place. While we wait on these plans, we are moving forward with the renovations we can do - replacing doors and windows and completing some brick work.

As we move forward in our plans, there was a door at the back of the center that needed to be closed and bricked because it is the exact location where the future HVAC system will be located, so a contractor was hired, that door was removed, and a brick wall was created. The center's storefront doors have also been replaced. Any day now our contractor will also be replacing the windows above those doors. Once this is done, all of the other doors and windows will be replaced beginning with the doors on the Broad Street side of the building. These doors have been ordered and should be installed soon. Once those doors are in, the plan is to begin replacing doors and windows on the Washington Street side and the back of the building.

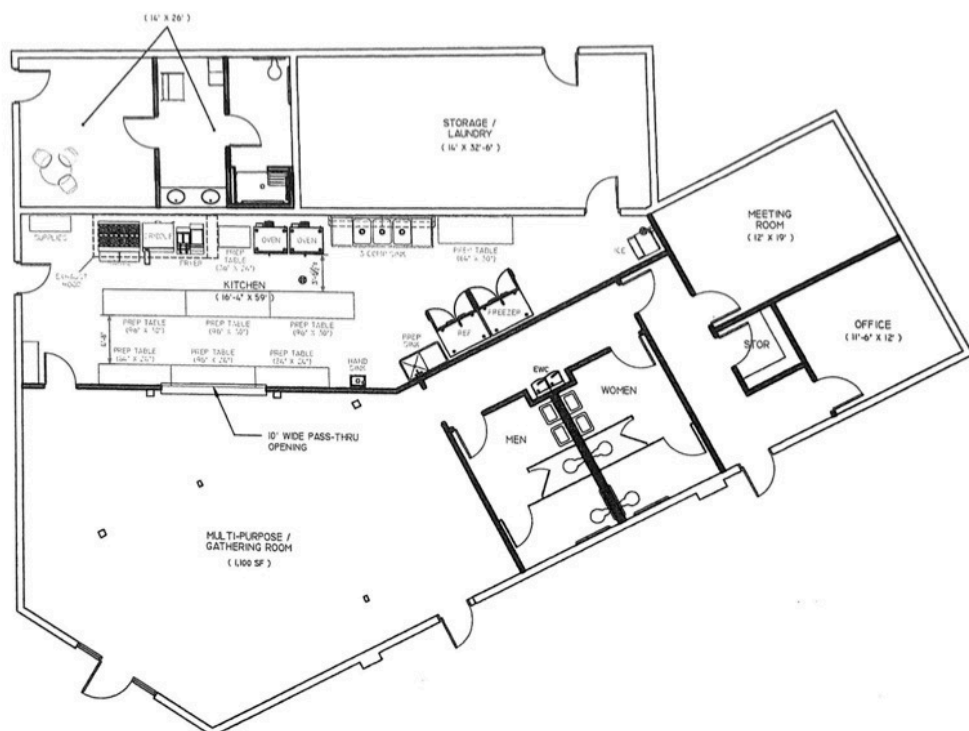
With each passing day, we are moving closer and closer to being able to start the inside of Phase 2 renovations at Crazy Hope. In the mean time, we will continue securing funds so that when the time comes we can get started. Stay tuned and be sure to drive by the center to see our progress.

Phase 1 : Remaining Roof & Structural Supports - **COMPLETED**

Phase 2 : Main Interior Space, Conference Room, Office, & Bathrooms - **IN PROGRESS**

Phase 3 : Bathhouse and Storage

Phase 4 : Kitchen



Mailing Address!

As a reminder, we now have a P.O. Box. Please send correspondence, donations, or general information to the address below.

P.O. Box 1344
Darlington, SC 29540


**Connect with
Community
Connections Darlington**



Newsletter



Telegram Group



to Volunteer

Soup Kitchen Spotlight

Thanks to our faithful teams of volunteers, the Saturday Soup Kitchen is helping many in our community. Here is what we have done in January - June of 2024:

- served over 2,619 meals
- helped over 743 people
- had over 233 brothers and sisters in Christ volunteer
- provided clothing, canned goods, vitamins, Narcan, resource cards, and devotionals

Pictured below are just a few of the groups who have served in the soup kitchen in the past twelve months.



Dominion Church



Trinity Presbyterian Church



New Providence Missionary Baptist Church & Mayo Class of 1989



Cherry Grove Missionary Baptist Church



Community Connections Darlington

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

WITH A \$50,000 MATCH!

Donations given as of June 1, 2024 will be matched up to a total of \$50,000! Help us double your donation!



P.O. Box 1344
Darlington, SC 29540

WWW.communityconnectionsdarlington.org



CHICKEN BOG Fundraiser!



Springtime brought with it our second chicken bog fundraiser. Partnering with Oliver Segars, the First Church of God, and volunteers, we came together and served 977 plates of chicken bog. In addition to a delicious meal, tasty treats prepared by friends of Community Connections were also for sale.

Together our efforts raised \$4,668.10. We send a heartfelt thanks to those who helped make this event a success!

Connecting with the Community

- Kingdom Fishermen Mill Hill Out Reach: April
- Kingdom Community Builders: May
- Community Changers, Mechanicsville Baptist Church: June



Team Member Highlight

Today's highlight features the St. John's High School Alumni Association. The SJHS Alumni Association was established as a unique platform for alumni to give back to the community. Through monetary donations, volunteering their time, and sharing their talents, alumni have the opportunity to make a real difference in Darlington County. The SJHS Alumni Association is proud to empower our community through its members' collective efforts.



Since its inception, the SJHS Alumni Association has been a vibrant part of the community and operates as a 501C3 nonprofit organization that proudly participates in the Soup Kitchen rotation and supports the Crazy Hope Community Center. The association is also involved in other community endeavors, such as offering an Academic Scholarship and hosting an annual alumni weekend. The SJHS Alumni Weekend, a highlight of their calendar, typically takes place the fourth weekend in September and is a joyous occasion filled with fellowship and shared memories. The association also contributes to the Back 2 School Bash, supports the Lord Cares' Turkey Give a Way, and provides Christmas gifts to local students, all of which strengthens their bond with the community.

Financial Report: March 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024

Previous Balance: \$ 21,576.81

Income: \$ 36,898.80

- Donations: \$ 20,230.70
- Fundraiser: \$ 4,668.10
- Grants: \$12,000.00

Expenses: \$ 18,031.06

- Utilities: \$ 406.59
- Supplies: \$ 785.97
- Web & Email Services: \$ 81.00
- Fundraiser: \$ 4,885.00
- Postal & Postage \$ 125.00
- 501C3 Origination Services: \$1,500.00
- Renovation Expenses: \$ 8,350.00
- Misc. Expenses: \$ 1,897.50

Investment CD: \$25,346.62

Balance: \$40,444.35



About Us

Vision: Transforming lives with Jesus at the center. Leaving a lasting and giving legacy that positively impacts the community of Darlington and provides by leading a model of caring and service that others can follow as they do God's work.

Mission: Meeting others where they are, providing a lasting and Godly sanctuary and save haven for the community that we serve. We also aim to continually strive to minister to the spiritual and physical needs while walking with people to where Jesus wants them to be.

Contact Us: Please email us at connect@communityconnectionsdarlington.org or by the telephone numbers below.

- Mark Face, Chairperson: 843-495-3433
- Chanel Muldrow, Vice Chairperson: 843-617-6726
- Lindsey Byrd, Treasurer: 843-307-2603
- Debra Wallace, Secretary: 843-992-0777

