

# CONNECTIONS

Community Connections Darlington Quarterly Newsletter



*Thank  
You*



A heartfelt thanks to those who attended our inaugural Thank You and Report to the Community on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

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## Connecting with the Community



On May 31, 2025, volunteers from local churches, members of Community Connections Darlington, Hope Center, Rubicon, and Carps came together in Mechanicsville for a powerful Kingdom Celebration. Designed to minister to those in need within the community, the afternoon provided worship, prayer, fellowship, food, and care bags. United, we shared the love of Christ in action.



### Monthly Board Meetings Come Join Us!

Community Connections Board of Directors meets regularly each month, and meetings are open to our liaisons, ministry teams, and community supporters.

1st Sunday of Each Month at 4:00 PM  
Dedicated Community Bank  
202 Cashua Street -- Darlington, SC 29532

If interested, please enter through the side door nearest First Palmetto.

### Ways to Donate

Scan one of these QR codes or mail your donation to the address below.



P.O. Box 1344  
Darlington, SC  
29532



## A Moment to Learn and Grow

As we seek to serve others, it is important to learn about those we serve. Please learn and grow with us by reading the article below that is shared with permission from The House of Hope's Spring 2025 Newsletter, *Hope in Action*.

# Dreaming of the Future

A few weeks ago as I was driving to work and thinking about an upcoming vacation, I passed a woman on Irbby that was sitting in an open lot on a blanket. Her possessions were laid all around her, and she was half in and half out of a sleeping bag. It made me think about what her plans were for the future.

The truth is, if you're homeless, your plans for the future include what will happen in the next 3 or 4 hours. She was probably trying to figure out how long it would take to pack up her stuff and get to the Manna House for breakfast. Then where to go for a warm spot to spend the afternoon, or possibly where she could go to get a few dollars so she could consider a hotel room for the night.

Whatever her plans were, they didn't include a vacation and they didn't stretch further than that day.

For many of the men and women who come to House of Hope, life has been lived in survival mode. When you're homeless or battling addiction, dreaming about the future can feel like a luxury you can't afford. The focus becomes getting through the day — finding shelter, a meal, or even a moment of peace.

But something incredible happens when people enter our programs. As stability begins to take root, and as healing begins, space opens up for something deeper — hope. It starts small: a thought, a spark, a 'what if'. For the first time in a long time, they can begin to imagine a life beyond crisis.

At House of Hope, we believe that recovery isn't just about overcoming the past. It's about reclaiming the future. We help our residents set savings goals, discover their passions, and step into the dreams that once felt out of reach. Whether it's reuniting with family, pursuing education, learning a trade, or simply becoming the person that God intended for them to be — these dreams are now possible.

And that's what we're celebrating: not just changed lives, but lives renewed by hope and filled with the freedom to dream again.

Keep Dreaming,  
Blessings,

Julie Maxham with Ella G. Ward

P.S. My vacation was great, thanks for asking!





# 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 2025:

- served over 3,900 meals
- helped over 1,100 people
- had over 330 brothers and sisters in Christ volunteer

Looking for meal ideas? Here's what some of our teams have served.

<u>Meal A</u>	<u>Meal B</u>	<u>Meal C</u>	<u>Meal D</u>
breakfast casseroles	scrambled eggs	BBQ Chicken	hard boiled eggs
grits	grits	mac & cheese	sausage
doughnuts	bacon &/or sausage	green beans	biscuits
fruit cups	rolls	rolls	peach cups
juice bags	Sunny Delight	cookies	water
water	water	water	

## Financial Report: April 1 - June 30, 2025

<u>Primary Account</u>	<u>Investment CD</u>
<u>Previous Balance:</u> \$97,081.36	<u>Previous Balance:</u> \$26,302.36
<u>Income:</u> \$ 35,761.85	• Interest: \$259.40
• Donations: \$15, 761.85	<u>Ending Balance:</u> \$ 26,561.46
• Matching Funds: \$10,000	
• Grants: \$10,000	
<u>Expenditures:</u> \$	<u>Missions Account</u>
• Utilities: \$350.85	<u>Previous Balance:</u> \$1,832.46
• Internet: \$103.55	• Donations \$1210.44
• Quickbooks: \$113.10	• Expenditures \$722.59
• Supplies: \$536.42	<u>Ending Balance:</u> \$2,320.31
• Printing: \$56.66	
• Legal/CPA Fees: \$400.00	
<u>Ending Balance:</u> \$131,282.63	



## 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:

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