

Merry Christmas & Happy New!

Our AUM Family

Board of Directors 2021

- Virgil D. Bolyard
- Bryan Adams
- Lester Neidig
- LaReno Neidig
- Vanessa Stallings
- Dora Nagles
- Charles Jackson
- Chris Harper
- Phil Cohen
- Charles Whitfield

Delivering Hope to Families in Need

It's hard to believe that the holidays are already upon us. Songs of the season are playing on every station, and if you're like most of us, you can't wait to watch your favorite Christmas movie wrapped in a warm blanket with the perfect cup of cocoa! Sounds like a perfect evening, doesn't it? Your giving to Augusta Urban Ministries helped create memorable moments like these for many of the families we served in 2021. Because you gave; this Christmas, nearly **200** families will have a table to enjoy Christmas dinner, a sofa to relax on, a bed to sleep in and **175** children will have gifts to open on Christmas day! Because you gave, an average of **180** individuals received bicycles for transportation. Because you gave, about **50** families per day received help by way of



There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore, I command you to be openhanded toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land.

Deuteronomy 15:11



information and referrals to other agencies so they could find the resources they so desperately needed. Times are hard for many. Jesus said, in Matthew 26:11, "the poor you will always have with you." The need is great, as many are lacking the resources needed due to no fault of their own. Your support is vital. Countless others are still recovering from the pandemic and will need the aid of social services like ours for months to come. We want to be here to help. With your continued support, AUM will keep on delivering hope to families and individuals transitioning out of homelessness and poverty in the CSRA.

- Melissa Wheeler

Our Mission

For over 50 years, Augusta Urban Ministries has been caring for and empowering individuals who are struggling by helping them re-establish permanent and sustainable housing through the provisions of:

Furniture Bank, house wares, seasonal programs, agency partnerships, and referral services. Bike Program: a component of the Furniture Bank that provides bicycles for adults and an alternative means

of transportation. VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance): Providing free electronic tax preparation for elderly and low-income taxpayers.



Bike Rodeo 2021

Springing Ahead

We are all anxiously waiting for the pandemic to end. COVID-19 put a damper on several of our outdoor activities. We are happy to announce our outside activities for 2022!

*CDC guidelines for outdoor events will be enforced.

The Walk - Ride – Run for Others is Saturday, April 15th from 8 am to 12 pm at Augusta Canal.



The Bike Rodeo will be on Saturday, May 7th location to be announced.

Please visit our website for more information about how you can volunteer to help.

(Locations may change and updated information will be provided).

“The purpose of this work is to bring people into the knowledge of the love of God, and the saving power of Jesus Christ.”

- Clara Harbison

A Brief History of Augusta Urban Ministries

1977- Strategic priorities for Augusta Urban Ministries were identified as follows: To collaborate with other social and community agencies in Augusta; to assist local churches in serving children included: Feed-A-Kid, teen jobs, and organizing a youth cleanup in Olde Towne; to communicate, relate, inspire, and motivate local churches and to initiate new ministries.

1978 – work at the St. Luke center continued while summer programs for children included Feed-A-Kid, Teen Jobs, Youth Cleanup in Olde Towne, and 100 Youth at White Oak Camp

1979 - The annual budget was \$70,000, and AUM was granted funds to support programs such as- Meals on Wheels and the Downtown Church Cooperative Ministry. Youth programs

included scouts, karate group, girls club, and work for youth from the juvenile court.

1987- COAT (Children Ought to Arrive Toasty) began as a ministry of Mann Memorial UMC during the pastorate of Gary DeMore, and after years of growth, was turned over to AUM.

1995 -Spring House was AUM’s first transitional house for homeless families. Plans were in place to also open a transitional house in Lincoln County.

1991 - AUM operated out of a facility on Watkins Street. Our sliding pay scale preschool program for inner city families had a \$20,000 budget and enrolled 24 children in half day school.

The Shelton transitional house on Battle Row was obtained and renovated.

1994 - AUM officially took ownership of the Hale Street property.

1995 -The first grant was-received for the Surplus-Ministry (Furniture Bank) to collect and distribute furniture to homeless service agencies and their clients. Our first AmeriCorps service member was placed at AUM to work on the Surplus Ministry. Art Factory Summer campers painted the mural on the-front of the AUM property. The bike program

expanded to year-round, not just Christmas.

1996 – VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program began preparing taxes for low-income and elderly taxpayers.

By: Rev. Terry Phillips

Go to: augustaurbanministries.org to read more.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

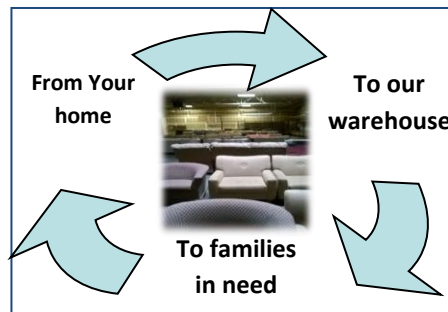
**Our agency partners help us serve our clients,
97% of who live in Richmond Co.
Through their efforts,
We efficiently serve the CSRA.**

- Aldersgate United Methodist Church
- American Red Cross
- American Works, Inc
- Area Agency on Aging (AAA)
- Asbury United Methodist Church
- Augusta / Columbia County Health Dept.
- Augusta Care Pregnancy Center
- Augusta Chapter of the American Red Cross
- Augusta Housing Authority
- Augusta Richmond County Accountability Court
- Broad Street Ministries
- Central Savannah River Wounded Warrior Care Project
- Chain Reaction
- Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center
- Christ Community Health Services
- Christ the King Lutheran Church
- Circle of Excellence
- Columbia County Cares
- Coordinated Health Services, Inc
- CSRA Economic Opportunity Authority (EOA)
- CSRA Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- East Augusta Community Development – AIDS
- Easter Seals of East Georgia
- Family Promise
- Farmers Furniture Store
- Furniture Surplus
- GAP Ministries
- Georgia DFAC'S
- Hope House
- Hudson Memorial CME Church
- Kids Restart, Inc.
- La-Z-Boy Furniture Company
- Mann United Methodist Church (UMC)
- Manna of Thomson
- Marion Barnes Resource Center
- Marvin United Methodist Church
- Mercy Ministries
- Mosaic United Methodist Church
- National Church Residence
- Project Life
- Restart Augusta
- Richmond/Columbia County BOE
- Rooms To Go
- Safe Homes
- Salvation Army Augusta Area
- Serenity Behavior Health Services
- Trinity on the Hill United Methodist Church



DID YOU KNOW?
Furniture Banks keeps thousands of pounds of furniture from going to the landfill each year.

AVERAGE VALUE OF ITEMS DONATED PER HOUSEHOLD IS \$800



Total # Served in 2021

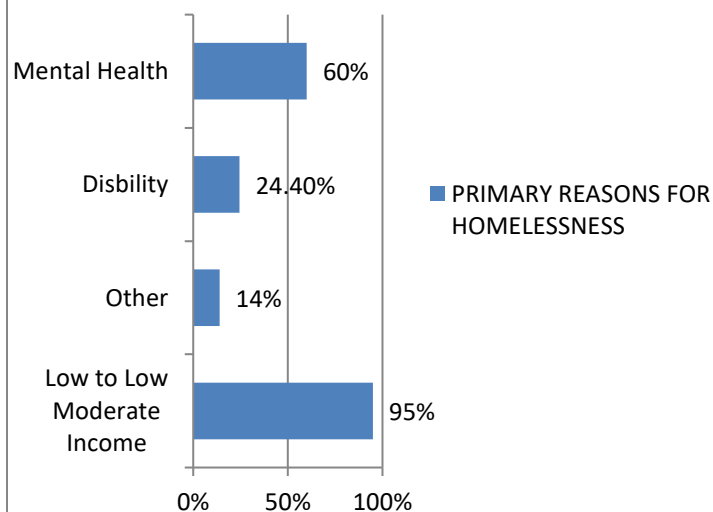
Families

	2	5	7
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Individuals

4	9	1
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PRIMARY REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS



“The service and everything was good and what you’ll do is a blessing to people like me.”
- O. King

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Augusta, GA 30919

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Fax 706 – 432 - 9085
Augustaurbanministries.org

Augusta Urban Ministries

Hope to Families in Need



AUM serves the community through the following programs:

Furniture Bank: The goal of this program is to provide furniture, household items and appliances at no charge to those transitioning into permanent and sustainable housing from homelessness, temporary housing, shelters, and starting over due to fire or other disaster.

C.O.A.T. (Children Ought to Arrive Toasty) Program: Provides coats and blankets to low-income families with children.

White Christmas: Provides low-income families with food, toys and other gifts to children as well as necessary items for parents.

Taxpayer Assistance: The goal of this program is to provide free federal and state tax preparation for low income and elderly clients. The service provides for electronic filing of all returns.

Bike Ministry: A subsidiary program of the Furniture Bank program is the Bike Ministry which provides bicycles as basic transportation to individuals that utilize bicycles as their primary mode of transportation.

Want to Volunteer?

Augusta Urban Ministries offers a place for individuals to give back to the community through volunteer activities such as furniture and Christmas gift delivery, AUM building and ground maintenance, bicycle repair, computer data input, development, and special events promotion and presentations. Call to see how you can get involved.

Save The Date

AUM MLK Day of Service & Bike Repair Day

On Monday, January 17th at 1500 Wrightsboro Road

Volunteers 10 and up - No experience necessary – Feel free to bring your tools

VITA Tax Preparation

Want to volunteer? Free training available!

When: Every Saturday in February and March

9 am to 2 pm

Must call 706-667-9695 or 706-755-7244 for location information and to schedule an appointment

Walk – Ride – Run for Others

Saturday, April 15th from 8 am – 12 at the Augusta Canal behind the Kroc Center

Bicycle Rodeo

May 7th 9am to 1pm

Location to be announced

Check our website for registration date and volunteer opportunities for these events.

Augustaurbanministries.org

