

# Leeds Outreach Year in Review

January 2018



## Facts & Figures

Leeds Outreach is open four mornings a week to help those in need. Clients must live in the city limits and their income cannot exceed 150% of the national poverty level. That is \$17,820 a year for an individual and increases roughly \$6,000 per each additional person in the household.

Clients are vetted and must provide proofs of their residency and financial status. We will assist with medicine, fuel for doctors appointments, utility bills and food. The amounts and number of times we will assist is limited yearly to help prevent abuse of the system. One hardship (car repair, illness, home repair, etc.) can set a family back for months.

This is where your dollars provided relief in 2017:

- ❖ Provided \$28,508 in financial assistance
- ❖ Purchased \$9,368 in food and personal care items for the pantry
- ❖ Spent \$6,114 for Christmas (this number would be much larger without our generous Christmas sponsors)
- ❖ Spent \$7,683 on school supplies and fees
- ❖ Provided a one week supply of groceries 356 times
- ❖ Less than 3% was spent on insurance, computer programs and other office needs

*Since 2011 we have provided \$284,864 in financial assistance.*

## Amazing Partners

The greatest portion of our funding comes from our partner churches. Their commitment, since our founding, is what has allowed our doors to remain open for the past 24 years.

In addition to these wonderful churches amazing businesses help us yearly with toy drives, school supply donations, food drives and financial contributions. This support allows us to continue serving the community.

Individuals make a tremendous impact on our organization. Many make monthly contributions, pick up a few extra items as they shop, or answer the call when we put out the word we are in need. We are humbled by your continued support.

We believe these amazing partners are making a difference in Leeds.

Members of Masonic Lodge 446 hit the road bright and early two mornings a week to pick up food donations for us. This allows clients to come in weekly to help make ends meet between allowed pantry visits.

One of our biggest partnerships is with Leeds Walmart. We are able to pick up food items from them every Wednesday and distribute it to clients that day. This partnership has provided the much needed

### Our sponsoring churches:

St Theresa Catholic Church  
Leeds First Baptist Church  
Church of the Highlands  
Leeds First United Methodist Church  
Valley View Baptist Church  
Cedar Grove Baptist Church  
Mt. Hebron Baptist Church  
House of Prayer  
Leeds Presbyterian Church  
Wellsprings Worship Center

Want to volunteer? Call or email us

**699-7291**

[leedsoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:leedsoutreach@gmail.com)



**LEEDS  
OUTREACH IS  
STAFFED  
ENTIRELY BY  
AMAZING  
VOLUNTEERS  
THAT WORK  
TIRELESSLY TO  
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FOUR MORNINGS  
A WEEK**

## Christmas at Leeds Outreach

Once again our Christmas for Children was a huge success. 131 children between the ages of 2-14 were sponsored by our amazing supporters. Sponsors provide a complete Christmas with a mix of the child's wishes and needs.

We were also able to help the 24 siblings of these kids that fell outside our age category. We were able to provide gift cards to The Shops at Grand River for the siblings ages 15-18 and a selection of age appropriate toys for the siblings under 2.

We served 20 children whose parents did not make our application deadline with the extra toys provided by some wonderful toy drives at local businesses. All remaining toys were packed to help fill bags next Christmas.

The use of the gym at Leeds First Baptist Church the week we prepare our packages is priceless. Our volunteers work tirelessly this week and our sponsors make Christmas very merry for some amazing kids.

## School Supplies

This year we were able to provide 106 Leeds City School students with the complete list of school requested supplies.

In addition to the supplies we were also able to pay the majority of school and elective fees for middle and high school students.

We believe starting the school year with everything needed is vital to student success.

## Great Losses

In 2017 we lost two vital parts of our organization.

February 24<sup>th</sup> we lost Liz McCormick. Liz was not only a volunteer, bargain shopper and Christmas elf she was and amazing example of a life of service. She not only provided Christmas for a countless number of our kids but was also an advocate of children throughout the state with her work with the CASA program. She is greatly missed.

December 20<sup>th</sup> we lost Euel Musgrove. Mr. Musgrove had been a part of Leeds Outreach since our beginning. He served many years as Director and was in the office nearly daily until his move to an assisted living facility. Leeds Outreach was not his only community involvement as he was a vital part of his church St Theresa. Mr. Musgrove was named Citizen of the Year by the Leeds Chamber of Commerce in 2006 for his tireless work for the Leeds community. He was a shining example of a faithful servant and we hope to follow his example daily.