



# Community Ministry of Prince George's County

2023 Annual Report

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Edition

Prepared by

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<https://www.cmpgc.com>

To our community,

On behalf of the Community Ministry of Prince George's County (CMPGC), I am elated to share this letter with you reporting our accomplishments this year! We thank you all for your continued support of the organization that has allowed us to serve members of our community in greatest need!

This year, in 2023, CMPGC celebrates 50 years of serving residents of Prince George's County. Faith leaders formed the organization and ministry in 1973 to serve as a catalyst to promote collaboration to address pressing needs that exist in our community. Today, in addition to continuing to help address basic human services and social needs in the community, Community Ministry has grown into a leading organization that seeks to help reduce health disparities and advance health equity among community members.



In the food assistance area, the Community Ministry, in partnership with the Capitol Area Food Bank, operates 4 produce distributions per month, one in Oxon Hill and 3 in Capitol Heights. Led by one part-time volunteer, and leveraging the support of 10 or more faithful volunteers, we provide vegetables and fruits to over 1,200 people per month. In addition, we provide bags of groceries to 150 seniors per month. Also, in partnership with churches and supported by financial donations, we provide supermarket gift cards to about 161 food-insecure people per month.

Each month, we receive over 200 requests for housing, shelter, rent, and/or utility assistance by phone or through our website. We listen to the requestors who often are in crisis and consult with them seeking ways they can adjust to address their needs and provide referrals from a database AETNA MD and others provide for our use. With our partnership with the Prince George's County Health Department, we also refer requestors to their designated Community Health Workers who use County and other resources to address their needs.



In the education and youth area, we continue to implement a youth violence prevention program in partnership with the Office of the County Executive and the If Foundation and supported by undergraduate students from the University of Maryland School of Public Health.

Our volunteer intern, a high school senior, is starting a STEM Sisters community project offering Zoom discussions with 8<sup>th</sup> to 12th-grade-aged young ladies to discuss STEM educational opportunities and programs.

Since 2000, CMPGC has helped implement major projects and activities to reduce health disparities and advance health equity. Again, working with the Health Department and Bowie State University we implemented and continue to implement tobacco control projects and health literacy education to promote enrollment in health insurance. Since 2008, with the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University Schools of Public of Health, we implemented major cancer education and research projects to promote and educate participants on the early detection of prostate, breast, and colorectal cancers. We did this by engaging and training designated persons in over 60 churches and community organizations to serve as Community Health Advisors who then educated their church and community members.

In partnership with the State of Maryland Health Department, the Prince George's County Health Department, and the CDC Foundations we implemented and continue to implement that same model as we trained trusted church and community members to educate their peers on COVID-19 and Influenza.

Community Ministry serves as a bridge between community members and health and medical professionals to help advance health equity and improve health outcomes among our community members.

Again, thank you for your prayers, and faithful partnership. Together we are making a positive difference in the lives of the many people that we support.

Blessings,

Jimmie L. Slade

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