



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Shelby
SEA emergency assistance
FROM CRISIS TO
SELF-SUFFICIENCY

INTRODUCTION

Shelby Emergency Assistance began in 1973 through the efforts of local individuals concerned about the needs of others in our community. These individuals, working as volunteers, developed the basic philosophy that guides our services today. In 1977, the agency became affiliated with United Way of Central Alabama, allowing us to expand our services to cover all of Shelby County.

OUR VISION

To provide temporary emergency assistance to Shelby county residents who, due to a crisis, cannot meet their current basic needs. This is achieved by providing direct social services, utilizing and developing community resource referrals, training, and educational services.



**SHELBY EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
IS A UNITED WAY PARTNER AGENCY**

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**United Way
of Central Alabama, Inc.**

LEADERSHIP

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

While 2020 brought changes for everyone, Shelby Emergency Assistance sought to overcome, grow and thrive - which you will see on the pages that follow. It is such an honor to be part of this organization and to be able to share its accomplishments with our funders, donors, agency partners and the community. I look forward to many years of learning, evolving, and prospering with SEA. Originally from Tuscaloosa, AL, I attended the University of Montevallo from 2006-2010 and fell in love with the area. After attending graduate school at the University of Alabama and working many years as a social worker and therapist, I am thrilled to be back in the community that I call home.

--Amanda Fowler

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amiee Mellon, *President*

Susan Lehman, *Vice President*

Lizbeth Juarez, *Secretary*

Jeffrey Purvis, *Treasurer*

Jim Hicks, *Immediate Past-President*

Melinda Bennett

Jasmine Burden

Maurice Mercer

Adele Nelson

Jason Perry

Charlene Robb Tucker

Barry Woodham



Jason Perry and Jim Hicks
Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night



Adele Nelson and Jasmine Burden
Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night

STAFF



Hettie Wagner

**DIRECTOR OF
SOCIAL SERVICES**



113 Combined years of
experience

**Amanda Fowler
Karen Pendleton, Retired**

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**

It is difficult to look at any other organization in the community and find staff comparable to those at SEA. Their experience in the field, commitment to SEA and the community, and enjoyment in helping every single individual is unlike any other.

**EDUCATION
COORDINATOR**

Cindy Pope

**ADMIN
ASSISTANT**

Gail Knight

Hillary Franklin

**ESG CASE
MANAGER**

**CASE
MANAGER**

Shae Lilly

Rebbie Taylor-Jones

**THRIVE
COACH**



RETIRED

In December 2020, Karen Pendleton retired after 20 years at SEA. Karen has and will continue to be a significant influence on SEA and the community around her.

PROVIDE

SEA's Food Pantry and Edible Garden

For nearly 50 years, SEA has provided for those in need in our community and the Food Pantry has played an enormous role. SEA is proud to be adding an Edible Garden on our grounds. In 2020, the introduction of the Edible Garden allowed for clients to visually see growth and change, while providing them nourishment. In the future, SEA will be using fresh ingredients from the Edible Garden for Nutrition and Cooking Classes for clients.



University of Montevallo's Environmental Club Member pulling the privet



*Holly Wadleigh
Edible Garden Head Volunteer*



Blueberry bushes, Sept 2020

Food Assistance was provided to **1,278 Adults and Children**

Food donations are received from churches, businesses, schools, organizations and individuals. During summer months, produce is provided by the University of Montevallo Organic Garden, Master Gardener's Club, Seed to Table Club, local Farmers Markets, and now our very own Edible Garden.

Social Services

SEA's Social Services are provided by social service professionals who complete assessments, develop service plans, and provide assistance to stabilize the crisis situation. The case workers are knowledgeable of local resources and often collaborate with other agencies to better serve individuals and families in our community.

1,937

Individuals assisted through our Social Services Department

Information and referral services were provided

1,651

764

Social work assessments

Other Assistance for Individuals

239

Housing

Doctor Visits

10



592

Power Bills



Purchased Prescriptions

115

13

Gas Bills

67

Dental Visits

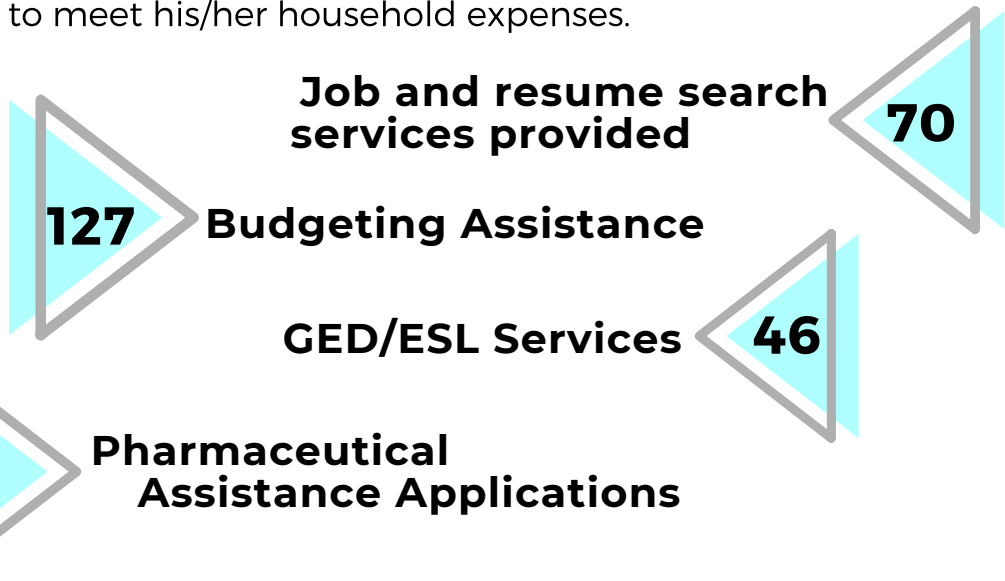
152

Water Bills

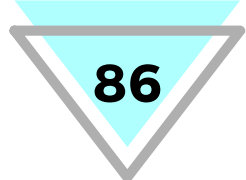


LEARNING

In 2018 there were 686 individuals who received services from the Education Department. One of the services provided is budget management. The client attends a budget session and together a spending plan is developed. This may include ways to make better spending choices, tips for shopping more economically, and debt reduction. The end result is a reasonable plan for the client to meet his/her household expenses.



Back to School Supplies for



Children



**No pictures were taken for this project due to COVID19*

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

School supplies are provided by individuals, businesses, churches, and the University of Montevallo to get the children started back to school each fall with all the tools they need to succeed.

For Project Christmas, sponsors provide Christmas gifts, shoes, and clothing to needy children in the community.



Project Christmas served



Children

Alabaster Water and Southern Haulers were 2 of many donors for Project Christmas in 2020.

GROWTH

Shelby Teens for Effective Parenting, STEP, is available to pregnant or parenting teens (ages 12-19) who are residents of Shelby County. STEP previously met with teens on a weekly basis at schools in Shelby County; however, during the pandemic and due to challenges maintaining in-person participation, STEP transitioned to joining our THRIVE TOGETHER program at SEA. Classes are now held weekly on Zoom, but are still designed to directly impact the physical and emotional well being of pregnant and new teen mothers.



OUR GOAL

To promote healthy babies and moms, educate parenting teens to care for their children; support healthy lifestyle choices while encouraging school attendance and graduation.

3

**Of the births to teens,
all 3 were healthy babies**

Congratulations to STEP Students 2020



**No pictures were taken for
this project due to COVID19*

**Teens participated
in the STEP Program**

7



6

**participating teens received
their high school degrees**

THRIVE

Thrive Together Shelby County, which includes SEA and its collaborators, uses evidenced-based coaching to work with female-led households to develop a prosperity pathway. Together a pathway is created which enables the coach to empower the participants to connect to services, resources, and tools (such as high-quality childcare and transportation) so they can achieve their goals.

The Thrive Prosperity Coach coordinates weekly groups (held virtually due to COVID19) each week so that the participants can benefit from the social network and classes offered by local professionals and our Advisory Council Members. Topics for these classes include healthy lifestyles, pregnancy and postpartum, parenting, communication and relationships, self-esteem, personal/professional goals, budgeting and financial well-being, career preparation, and much more.

OUR MISSION

"Forging pathways to family prosperity by working with single women with young children in Shelby County to develop and implement a tailored Family Prosperity Pathway."



13

Single mothers enrolled in the program

Voiced they would continue in the program after 1 year

9

28

Family members in household with participants that were directly impacted by Thrive participation

6

Reached goals they had set with their Thrive Prosperity Coach

2

Enrolled in higher education

3

Found employment

1

Promotion at current job and \$5,000 bonus



Thrive Participants creating vision boards in Sept 2020

SERVE

Everything looked different in 2020, including our volunteer services. Despite having to decrease contact with many of our volunteers, they stepped up to help where they could and whenever they could. SEA found that people in the community wanted to help, especially in the worst of times. More food and monetary donations came in than ever. Volunteers were even a vital part of our technological transition to remote services during the pandemic; proving yet again, SEA couldn't exist without its volunteers.

23

Volunteers for 2020

1,076

**Number of hours
volunteers provided**

Volunteers assisted with the food pantry when possible, delivered food and supplies safely to clients, and even began working on what will be the SEA Edible Garden.



City of Vincent



Ricky Perkins



Sisters of Delta Sigma Theta




Martin Marietta



University of Montevallo Environmental Club



City of Alabaster



Special thanks to the following donors for their on-going collaboration & support of SEA's services.

- A.C. Legg
- Anglican Church of the Holy Comforter
- Asbury United Methodist Church
- Beacon of Hope, Montevallo
- Bradford Real Estate
- CAWACO RC&D, Inc.
- Centrala Garden Club
- City of Montevallo
- Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
- Community Action
- Crosscreek Baptist Church
- Walter Cunningham
- Lois Doyle
- First Presbyterian Church of Alabaster
- Hyde Engineering
- IceMakers, INC
- King Simmons
- Kiwanis Club, Montevallo
- Lcicero
- Lhoist North Alabama
- Gene Lightfoot
- Lucky's Foodland, Montevallo
- Jane Maclanahan
- Montevallo Church of Christ
- Montevallo First Baptist Church
- Montevallo First United Methodist Church
- Montevallo Study Club
- Oak Mountain Ministries
- Emily Pendleton
- Karen Pendleton
- Gene Quick
- Regions Bank, Montevallo
- Reliable Bethea Power Products
- Karen Rice
- Riverchase United Methodist Church
- Saginaw Foundation4Hope
- Shelby Baptist Association
- Shelby County Commission
- Shelby County Community Health Foundation
- Specification Rubber
- Spring Creek Cumberland Presbyterian Church
- St. Thomas Catholic Church
- State Farm Insurance/Bob Butterworth
- The Gathering Place Church
- Coy Trosclair
- Trustmark Bank, Montevallo
- United Methodist Women's Circle 5
- University Baptist Church
- University of Montevallo
- Virginia Seelbech
- Thomas & Betty Walker
- James C White
- The Women's Fund
- Barry & Denise Woodham

Thank
you!

FINANCIALS

With devastation, 2020 brought more clients and more need than ever. With the help of only 7 staff members and our dedicated volunteers, SEA was able to transition to remote services and continue helping our community by serving 2,140 individuals.

2020 Client Increase



SEA'S fundraising goal had to adjust in 2020; however, we were able to overcome the challenge of online fundraising to exceed our new goal of \$6,000.

Fundraising Total

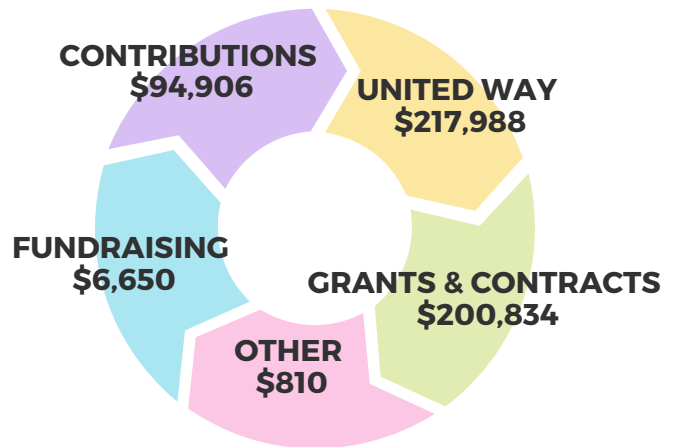


CLIENTS SERVED

- Alabaster 320
- Birmingham 203
- Calera 270
- Chelsea 51
- Columbiana 121
- Harpersville 15
- Helena 78
- Hoover 36
- Leeds 5
- Maylene 36
- Montevallo 698
- Pelham 159
- Shelby 17
- Sterrett 19
- Vandiver 12
- Vincent 13
- Westover 2
- Wilsonville 39
- Wilton 22
- Out of County 24

Total Clients Served = 2,140

FUNDING TOTAL FOR 2020 \$606,188



EXPENDITURES TOTALED FOR 2020 \$495,072

