

# — 40th Anniversary — CHRISTIAN SHELTER Salisbury, Maryland



Dear Beloved in Christ,

God Bless you all!

What a year 2019 has been! God has been so good to the Christian Shelter this past year. I don't know why I'm surprised. He has been the same faithful Lord that created this Shelter 40 years ago. Yes, In July 1979 The Christian Shelter was incorporated and in December 1980 received its first homeless guest. So while December 2019 marked the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the shelter's opening to guests, 2020 will be the year we celebrate our up coming 40th anniversary. Over all those years the ministry to the homeless has been many things. Challenging, wonderful, rewarding, hand wringing, prayerful and glorifying just to name a few adjectives to describe the changing face of ministry. That has been the road of the shelter for these 40 years. God would not want it any other way. He has not only been there for many people in need but for those of us that serve on the Board of Directors as well. If you serve at the Christian Shelter you quickly learn that prayer and support of each other is why the Lord brought you there. The fellowship and teaching that God has put before us each year, each week, each day has touched our hearts. Our hearts are strangely warmed and that is why God can shape and draw us closer to Him.

While God has been doing what He has always done for the last 40 years, I can tell you that he is also doing a new thing at the Shelter. This past year we sought the Lord's direction in a search for a full time Executive Director and through much prayer and deliberation God brought is Pastor Anthony Dickerson. What a man of God! We are all excited to see the talents and blessings that the Lord will bring to the Shelter through His handpicked servant. I won't steal Bro. Anthony's thunder but want you to hear from him in this same report.

In 2020, the shelter is undergoing many changes in staff, programs, as well as services for our guests. We started the re-design of the web site for the Christian Shelter in 2019

and have actually rolled it out in early 2020. Please take some time and visit our newly designed web site at our old site address: <a href="www.christianshelter.org">www.christianshelter.org</a>. The plan is to use this web site to keep everyone up to date on all of the wonderful activities and happenings at the shelter. We could not have imaged what God has in store for us. All of you have been a part of God's "new thing" for the shelter. Continue to read this annual report and see what the Lord is doing for the next 40 years. Bless each of you for your love and support for the Christian Shelter and the needs of all those that it serves.

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

David V. Downes Bryan E. Murfree Rita A. Plaskon Jeffrey C. Downes Carlton W. Bradshaw Jane A. Hoy Gus P. Lebois Steven D. Bradford Mark S. Thompson

**Emeritus** Ted R. Evans

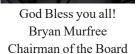
#### **Executive Director**

J. Anthony Dickerson

Attorney
John C. Seipp

Accountant Robert E. Holloway





Dear Christian Shelter family,

The Word of God states in Isaiah 43:18 "Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old" and verse 19 goes on to state "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it". I feel this scripture describes the current status and future vision at the Christian Shelter. Things are new and fresh. The Lord is doing wonderful things here at His Christian Shelter.

I am excited to be a part of the new things that are transpiring here at the Christian Shelter. As the first Executive Director in the 40-year history of this Christ-based organization I find the challenges and opportunities to be breath-takingly exciting. During the entire 40-year history of this ministry the Christian Shelter has depended fully upon the Lord. As it says on the front door of the Christian Shelter; "The Christian Shelter is provided for by God - through His people". God's people have been so prayerfully faithful for all these four decades. This journey is a miracle that has happened within our midst and right before our eyes. What a marvelous story and testimony! As example, please note elsewhere in the statistics of this Annual Report what the Lord has done in just a single year (2019) We are thankful to our Lord and His staff and volunteers who made this happen!

Since becoming the New Executive Director I have been able to form several partnerships with other agencies to better serve our guest families in transition and I have had the opportunity to speak to a number of these organizations and ministries concerning the Christian Shelter

It is a transformational time for the Christian Shelter. A time of both challenges and opportunities. And a time to prepare to meet more of the pressing needs of an accelerating number of families in crisis.

Going forward, we will seek to maintain and upgrade the Christian Shelter facility to better serve our guests and the community.

Thanks to you and your prayerful generosity, the Christian Shelter has remained an integral part and outreach to homeless community these past 40 years. We continue to fight the battle of homelessness and are blessed to provide temporary safety for the abused, clean beds, clean clothing and healthy & nutritious food and Christian counseling for so many families with children needing this help. Thanks to you, the next generation of Christian Shelter volunteers and donors will be able to expand, enhance and improve the skills our homeless guests need to survive and to thrive. It is our goal to give Jesus to our guests and with Jesus in a safe, clean environment help our guests to develop healthy and productive lives as engaged and productive parents to the children that Jesus loves.

**Other News:** We are excited about launching a new 40th Anniversary logo and an updated website so that we will be able to better represent the Christian Shelter with the current needs of the increasing number of homeless families with children.



Pastor J. Anthony Dickerson Executive Director

In closing, as the first ever Executive Director, I am thankful for the many faithful christian brothers and sisters who have financially supported The Christian Shelter throughout the past forty years. You have provided this platform that I stand on today as I take the reins here at the shelter. The need is great and I encourage you, beseech you, to be faithful in supporting this important ministry. Please give generously, faithfully and frequently. Would you please make a financial contribution today? Go to <a href="https://www.christianshelter.org">www.christianshelter.org</a>

#### **New Christian Shelter Logo Celebrates 40 Years**

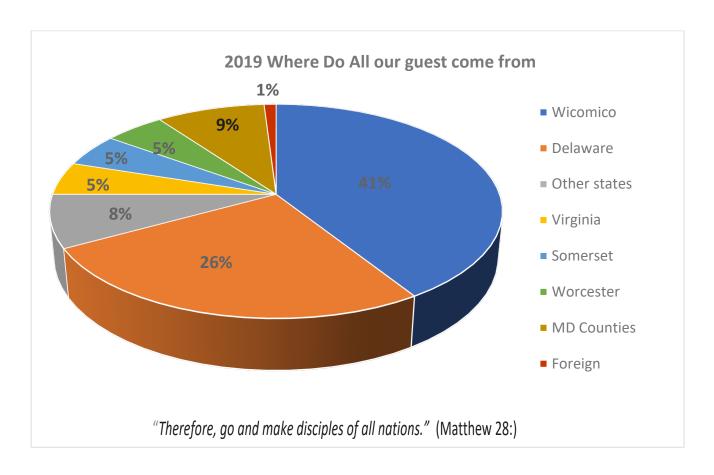
In December 2019, the Christian Shelter celebrated 40 years of continuous service to the Salisbury community. In an effort to commemorate this milestone, a decision was made to create a new logo for the shelter. To help with this, the shelter sought assistance from the Salisbury University "Marketing Excellence Club". This group of bright young, energetic college students proposed a competition to develop a new "Logo" commemorating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary milestone. The winner is what you see here:



The "Cross" captures the reason and the history of the Christian Shelter. The "Heart" captures the compassion and care that the shelter desires to share with our homeless guests. The roof and building speak to the safe shelter, warmth and housing security that the shelter provides to over 1,000 guests each year.

NOW 40 YRS LATER, THE LORD HAS PRESERVED AND PROTECTED HIS CHRISTIAN SHELTER FOR HIS GLORY!

TO HIM BE THE GLORY



## Faithful Servant Says Goodbye



Seventeen years ago, God brought this powerful but very humble man to this shelter. Although he was reluctant at first because he was ready to sit back and take it easy, after all he's finally retired, Brother Barnes said, God said, "where do you see Retirement in the bible"? God's plans are not like our plans. He is always up to something. Over the years, we have been blessed by watching him minister to each guest treating all with respect.

Brother Barnes or affectionately called "Grand Poobah", always made himself available to every-one that came through the doors of the shelter in distress and just needing to be reminded that they were special in God's eyes. Christ's followers should have no limits to their willingness to serve; whether that means going abroad or going into not-so-nice parts of town. "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: everywhere and in all things, I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need." (Philippians 4:12) The work we do is for Jesus, by the Father's command, through the power of his Holy Spirit. We have the privilege to carry the gospel. Brother Jim plans to continue his ministering in a new shelter in Portland Maine and in December 2019, after seventeen wonderful years, he bid his "family" and friends here at the shelter goodbye.



Respite Room Ribbon Cutting



Respite room for mothers



Rosemount College Students visit shelter



East wall renovations completed



Home for the Holiday.



New Executive Director. Pastor J. Anthony Dickerson



New tables & Chairs for Dining area



Gingerbread House by Chef Brother Anthony

#### Capital Projects List for 2019

- Roof Leak Repair
- > Replaced electrical panel on roof- serving HVAC equipment & walk-in boxes
- Removal of trees & bushes affecting building operations & roof structure
- Replaced existing & installation of new interior exit signs
- ➤ Replace existing & installation of new interior emergency lighting packs
- Construct new storage closets in cafeteria for Youth Mentor & general use
- ➤ Install natural gas unit heater- 2<sup>nd</sup> floor open area
- > Install waterproofing on south masonry wall- above cafeteria
- Construction of new daytime respite room
- Restoration of east wall -new windows, doors, Keim coating, flashing & more
- > Tile floor repair- Family room #10
- Install auxiliary heaters in two family rooms

#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Christian Shelter is to minister to the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of people in crisis through the provision of safe shelter, nutritious meals, practical and spiritual direction and the life changing good news of Jesus Christ!

#### **Christian Shelter Staff Members**

Anthony Dickerson- Executive Dir. Angie Strand- Maintenance/Vol. Coord.

Mary Williams- Administrator

Daniel Bacon- Business Manager

Paula Williams- Night Staff

Josiah Long- Night Staff

Dwayne Ballard- Night Staff Zina Gale- Cook

Bonnie Daniels- Night Staff Ivy Ballard- Shelter Aide

Shanika Manuel- Night Staff Corey Newborns- Youth Mentor

Jay Holloway- Night Staff Volunteer



Sister Mary Williams

#### By the Numbers 2019

Number Meals Served: 24,962
Total Guests Served: 991

Number of Children Served: 339 (34% of Total)

Number of Turn-a-ways: 1,632 \*

Total Number Guest Nights:17,548Avg. Number of Days at Shelter:17.7 daysTotal Number Volunteer Hours:3,123

Avg. Occupancy Rate: 75% (Low-52% Dec., High- 93% Sept.

\* (522 men, 269 women, 841 family members)

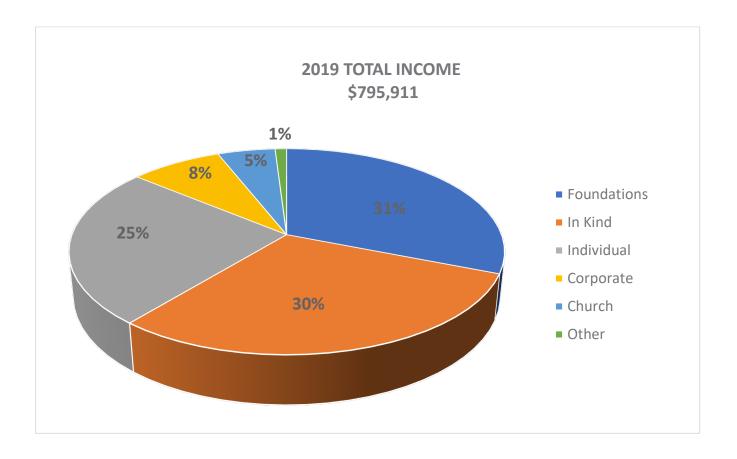
#### Services Provided to Guests

- Christian Counseling
- Daily Devotions
- Transportation
- Housing Referrals
- Job Referrals
- Parenting Classes
- After School programs
- Volunteer Opportunities

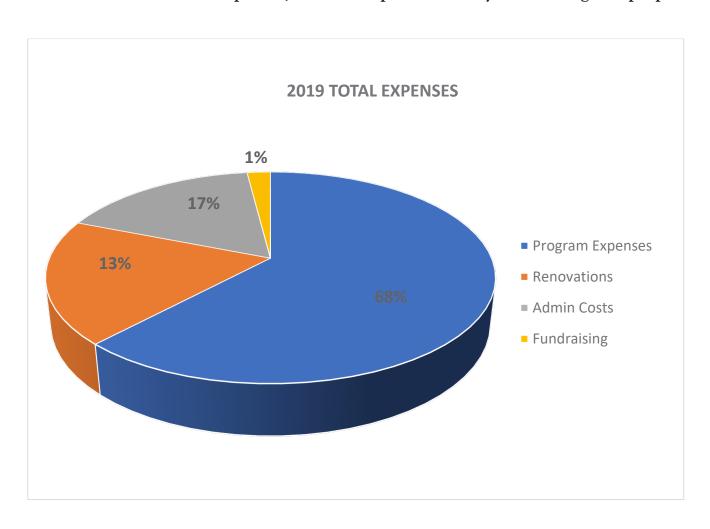
- Veterans Contacts
- Financial Counseling
- Medical Referrals
- Nutritious Meals
- Prescription Referrals
- Youth Programs
- Emergency Crisis Mobility
- Mental Health Referrals



Being Taught their numbers



"This Christian Shelter was planed, built and is provided for by GOD through his people"



# RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED-SEND TO:

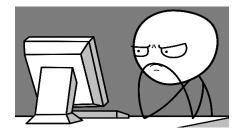
CHRISTIAN SHELTER, INC. 334 BARCLAY STREET SALISBURY MD 21804 NON PROFIT ORG
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Salisbury, MD
Permit No. 94







## SHELTER ANNUAL REPORT GOING ELECTRONIC



Sending out this annual report by email rather than through the postal service, is one way we can be better stewards of God's provision and can save the Christian Shelter a lot of extra expense. Of course, we don't want to lose any readers in the process. So, we are asking all readers to please send their current email address to <a href="Mailtogapea:GLebois0271@gmail.com">GLebois0271@gmail.com</a> with the request to receive this annual report via email from now on. This information will be loaded into the data base and you will start receiving the annual report as well as the bi-monthly newsletters electronically. Please know that God loves you and so do we at the Christian Shelter. We wish you Joy in Jesus!

# **MOST URGENT NEEDS**

### **Supplies**

Laundry Detergent • Bleach
Toilet Paper • Paper Towels
Bar towels for kitchen cleaning
Spray cleaners (bleach or pine)
Cold & flu meds
Wet/Dry Vac • Floor polisher/buffer
Power washer
Push mower (20-24") in good condition
Office copier (color)

#### **Foods**

Sugar
Butter
Lunch & breakfast meats
Cheese (sliced & grated)
Ground beef
Salt, spices
Italian Seasonings

Note: Financial gifts needed all year round as bills must be paid every month for utilities, maintenance, supplies, staff, repairs, insurance. PLEASE consider a financial gift! Go to www.christianshelter.org to give on line.