

GSM

GOOD SAMARITAN MISSION
WIMAUMA, FLORIDA



Good Samaritan Mission Annual Report 2015



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Executive Summary

The Good Samaritan Mission is a charitable, not for profit, 501(c)3 Christian ministry established in 1984. The Mission is dedicated to a holistic approach to enhancing the spiritual, emotional and physical quality of life of migrant farm workers and others living in poverty. We served the community by offering “incentivized” adult education classes, social services assistance, a post-secondary scholarship program and Back to School and Christmas Blessings Outreach events.

Our Mission Statement:

Through knowledge, we inspire the community to find physical, emotional, and spiritual healing.

Our Vision Statement:

To transform the world for Christ, one heart at a time.

Seeds of Change Program:

In keeping with our holistic approach to helping those in need, the Seeds of Change Program was set in motion in 2009. Our goal: to equip and train individuals to lead healthy and purposeful lives.

Through mentoring, discipleship, apprenticeship, shadowing, technical training and other educational opportunities, this program is designed to lead individuals and families out of dependent lifestyles of subsistence and into strong, self-reliant habits and practices, all the while becoming active members of their communities. Already we are reaping the rewards as students come back to help serve others by teaching, discipling, and working side-by-side with our volunteers and staff.



Photo Credit: D'Ann Lawrence White

Staff

William (Bill) Cruz, M.A., L.M.F.T. is the Executive Director of the Good Samaritan Mission. He has been the Executive Director since 2009.

Theresa Cruz is our Seeds of Change Director, currently working part-time (2 days a week). She has also been on staff at the Mission since 2009.

Jennifer Daly is our full-time Administrative Coordinator and Bookkeeper. She has worked at the Mission since 2011.

Maria Molina is our part-time Family Support worker. She works in the store helping students shop on Tuesday and also saw guests one-on-one to help them with services like food stamps, Medicare/Medicaid, unemployment, social security, etc. She managed our financial assistance application process as well.



Theresa, Bill and Jennifer

Photo Credit: D'Ann Lawrence White



Maria (far left) with volunteers Anita, Margaret and Carolyn

2015 Board of Directors

President: **Wayne Kindt** (Church of the Palms, Sarasota)

Vice-President: **Vern Dykema** (Hyde Park United Methodist Church, Tampa)

Treasurer: **Jim Workman** (Heritage United Methodist Church, Clearwater)

Secretary: **Drema Muller** (Hyde Park United Methodist Church, Tampa)

In Loving Memory of Anne Madden ~ November 6, 1958 – May 28, 2015

"You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."-1 Peter 2:5

Let me tell you about Anne.

A couple of years ago, I ran into Anne at a local community business gathering. She told me that she kept seeing me at these events and God was prompting her to talk to me. She did not know exactly why, but she finally listened to God's voice. We made an appointment for her to get a tour of the Mission.

The tour led to dinner at her house to meet her husband Dave. This visit led to her offering to coordinate the Family Salsa Festival. Then she ran for Honorary Mayor to benefit Good Samaritan. Then she started taking responsibility for marketing and fund raising for the ministry. She found herself a desk and it wasn't long until we saw her almost daily. She loved attending our morning devotionals. She encouraged and supported our staff. She lit up every room she entered. She was, clearly, all in!

Last October [2014] she was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. She fought it with everything she had, but on May 28th [2015] her struggle ended with her divine appointment with her Creator and Savior.



Anne

Ministries like the Good Samaritan Mission are not really brick and mortar businesses. We are made up of people who, like individual stones, build and support and lean on each other to form the strong walls that build on the foundation of Christ's work on the cross. Anne was a vital piece of our "strong wall" and we will miss her terribly. We are confident though that, by God's grace, we will see her beaming face again. Please pray for her family and friends that they might find both comfort from God and inspiration from her life.

Solo Deo Gloria.

Bill Cruz

Volunteers

Good Samaritan Mission volunteers logged over 8,000 hours in 2015. We absolutely could not do what we do without our dedicated volunteers. We have several volunteers who serve with us every week and we are so blessed to have several groups visit throughout the year as well. The following groups volunteered here this year:

Agape Christian School

AMIKids

Aston Gardens Assisted Living Facility

Bell Shoals Academy Second Grade Class

Bell Shoals Baptist Church Youth (Apollo Beach)

Bell Shoals Baptist Church Youth (Brandon)

Bay Life Church Men's Group

Bay Life Church Missions Group

Bayside Community Church

Christ Community Church Youth

Clearwater Community Church Youth

Faith Baptist Church Youth

Gannon University (Ruskin)

Grace Community United Methodist Women

HCSO Trainees

Inspired Living Assisted Living Facility

Pass-A-Grille Beach United Church of Christ

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

Team Effort Youth Mission Trips

The Bible Fellowship Youth

Trinity Baptist Church Women

Troy Christian School

Wellspring Community Church



Team Effort Volunteers



Feed the Bay Volunteers

We are proud to offer countless ways for our friends to come and find their purpose at the Good Samaritan Mission.

Partnerships

The Good Samaritan Mission is a member of both the ***Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce*** and the ***SouthShore Chamber of Commerce***.

We rent portions of our property to ***The Bible Fellowship Church***. Their Pastor and his family also rent the guest house from us and live onsite.

The Good Samaritan Mission was honored to be invited to participate in Mission presentations at the following churches in 2015: ***Bell Shoals Baptist Church (Brandon), Church of the Palms, Heritage United Methodist Church, Grace Community United Methodist Church at Fishhawk, Bell Shoals Baptist Church (Apollo Beach) and Hyde Park United Methodist Church***.

We were delighted to have the students of the ***South County Career Center Culinary Program*** make and serve the dessert at our Harvest Blessings Benefit Dinner.

The Mission was pleased to share God's abundance by giving food to ***The Bible Fellowship*** Kid's Club and VBS Programs, ***Ministry of Hope*** in Lithia, and ***Pastor Abraham Joseph's Haiti Orphanage Mission***.

GSM is blessed by our partnership with ***Mission Increase Foundation***. Mission Increase Foundation draws upon a wealth of nonprofit experience to work directly with CEOs, board members, and the fundraising staff of ministries that are seeking to grow their organization.

Krewe of Pair O'Dice in Tampa generously supports us through special events fundraisers, volunteers, food and toy drives.

Esperanza Clinic/St. Joseph's Hospital and ***Sun Coast Community Health Center*** teaches health and dental education classes and provides health screenings to our students on a regular basis.

GSM partners with ***Go Green Charity Recycling*** to recycle clothing and shoes as a fundraiser. We are paid 10¢ a pound for clothes and shoes placed in our bins. We have bins in 5 locations: at our front gate, Ana's Restaurant in Wimauma, Falcon Towing in Balm, AJ's Angels Learning in Ruskin, and the Sun City Center Chamber of Commerce.

InFaith Designs, owned by our friend Mildred Molina, graciously donates graphic design work for the Mission. Many examples of her work are featured on our communications.



Mildred

Financial Records for 2015

Income:

Monetary Donations received: \$206,672 (both restricted and unrestricted funds)

Fundraising Events: \$11,006

Miscellaneous Revenue: \$62,586 (clothing and shoe recycling, oil lease revenue, BP settlement, fax and copier fees)

Rental Income: \$16,400

Total Income: \$296,664

Expenses:

Program Expenses: \$47,565

Operations: \$99,049

Payroll: \$127,632

Total Expenses: \$274,246

Net Income: \$22,418

Financial records are reviewed monthly and annually by Sun City Accounting: David J. Gauthier, CPA.

They also file annually on our behalf a Form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax).

We are in compliance with the Division of Consumer Services Solicitation of Contributions Act. Registration # CH36456. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

Good Samaritan Mission sends our donors an annual summary of contributions for tax purposes.

In-Kind Donations

More than 24,000 pounds of food were donated to the Good Samaritan Mission in 2015. The majority of these donations come from individuals, churches, businesses and civic groups. We also received donations from the following coordinated food drives: Feed the Bay, Caring Castle of Hope and the Letter Carriers' *Stamp Out Hunger* Food Drive. Donated food keeps our store shelves full for our students to shop every week.

Gordon Food Services donated approximately 8,000 pounds of food, paper products, and cleaning supplies.

Two area Publix stores donate bread and pastries every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

We receive weekly donations of goat's milk from Judy Anderson and fresh produce from Rosen-Lesko Non-Commercial Farm.

Clothes and shoes donated to the Mission and recycled with Go Green Charity Recycling brought in revenue of \$2,650.

Gifts-in-kind donations are acknowledged with an official receipt and contributions of goods are deductible for income tax purposes to the extent allowed by law.



Feed the Bay sorting



Bill and one of our store customers



Food Pantry

Grants Received in 2015

March of Dimes awarded us a grant of \$1,453 in March for curriculum and incentives for the teaching of a pre-natal class.

The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay blessed our Back to School Event with a \$7,000 grant for us to purchase backpacks, school supplies, food, and hygiene items. Pictured below are volunteers from Pass-A-Grille Beach United Church of Christ serving lunch and volunteers from Trinity Baptist Church in Sun City Center distributing backpacks.



Fundraising Events

Harvest Blessings Benefit Dinner

Our Annual Harvest Blessings Benefit Dinner was held on November 13, 2015. The event raised \$5,450 and was a wonderful celebration of the Mission. Pastor Joey Adkins of Wellspring Community Church was the featured Master of Ceremonies. Entertainment was provided by Pastor Randy Brumitt, also from Wellspring. Dinner was catered by Pita Kebob and dessert was provided by the Culinary Arts Program at South County Career Center.



Several sponsors were instrumental in the event's success.

Table Sponsors: Welch Tennis Courts, Inc., Munoz & Company CPA PLLC, Hyde Park United Methodist Church, Larry and Ann Guastella, InFaith Designs, Balm Baptist Church, Paul and Dawn Shalda, Air & Gas System Specialist and Kids R Kids Southshore.

Dinner Sponsors: A Plus Heating and A/C and South Bay Title Insurance Agency, Inc.



Chef Patrick Artz and students of the Culinary Arts Program at South County Career Center

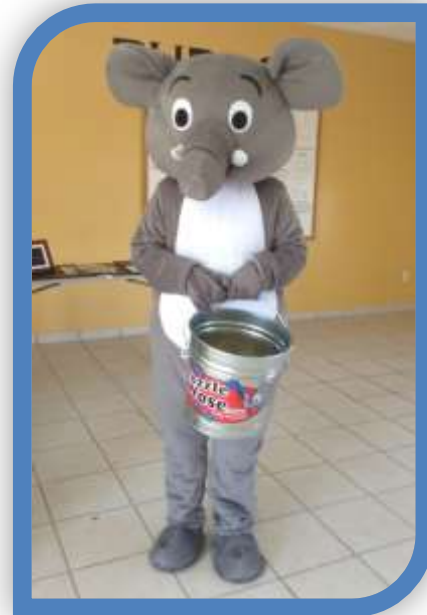


Pastor Joey Adkins

Fundraising Events (continued)

Family Salsa Festival 2015

Our 3rd Annual Family Salsa Festival was held on March 21. This wonderful community event raised almost \$1,200. We featured entertainment, food trucks, vendors, games, community agency representatives, and a salsa recipe tasting competition. Our sponsors for the Salsa Festival were Champion Self Storage, Florida Council of Crime and Delinquency, Hillsborough Community College, InFaith Designs, Nozzle Nose Exterior Cleaning Service and AC Lifts and Welding.



Nozzle Nose



The Brandon Ballet

Fundraising Events (continued)

GSM Balm Farmers Market

GSM began a new venture this year with a Farmers Market (GSM FM). Our first market was held on October 1, 2015 and was followed by markets on the first and third Thursday of the month until January. The Market featured locally-grown produce vendors, arts and crafts, local honey, and food vendors. We were proud to present and sell beautiful hand-crafted items made by our own sewing class students. *Lilian's Botanicals* (pictured below) also participated in the Market. Lilian was in our Entrepreneurship Class and learned how to create, package and market her own hand-made oils and soaps. Our garden program also provided fresh produce, plants and herbs to sell.



GSM FM's first sale

Adult Education Program

As part of our Seeds of Change Program the Mission holds weekly adult education classes. Each class is usually ½ hour long and at the end of class each student receives a token. This token is turned in at La Tiendita (The Little Store) for a grocery bag that may be filled with food and toiletries of the student's choice. Students may also choose to save their tokens for our Christmas Blessings event, share them with friends and family or keep them for a time of greater need.



Photo Credit: D'Ann Lawrence White

1 class (½ hour)



1 token



1 grocery bag



The following classes were taught in 2015 by GSM staff and volunteers:

Bible

Sewing

Entrepreneurship

Importance of Food Safety

Anger Management

Healthy Habits for Children

Benefits of Sports for Children

G.E.D.



Adult Education Program (continued)

The following organizations made presentations or taught classes to our students:

- Alzheimer's Association** – memory screenings, support & awareness information
- Amistad Insurance** – automobile insurance education
- Bullet Free Sky** – celebratory gunfire education
- D.A.C.C.O** – drug abuse resources, HIV and Hepatitis C testing
- Directions for Living** – parenting education and resources
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission** – workers' rights information
- Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking** – human trafficking prevention and awareness
- Florida Department of Health** – cancer screenings education
- Florida Department of Health** – pesticide poisoning prevention
- Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation** – career counseling for those with disabilities
- Florida Home Partnership** – housing rehabilitation information
- Gideon's International** – testimonials and evangelism
- Grace Point Wellness** – mental health resources
- Hillsborough County Office of Community Affairs** – hurricane preparedness education
- Hillsborough County Public Library** – library offerings and program information
- Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office** – community policing information
- Hispanic Services Council** – promoting leadership and community engagement among Latinos
- Moffitt Cancer Center** – nutrition education for the prevention of cancer
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration** – workplace safety
- Red Cross** – disaster preparedness and fire safety education
- Rivera Picado Immigration Law** – immigration and citizenship resources
- RJS Law** – immigration and citizenship resources
- The Spring** – domestic violence awareness, prevention and resources
- Safe Cycling** – cycling safety education
- Sequoia Financial Group** – financial literacy
- St. Joseph's Hospital/La Esperanza Clinic** – health screenings and education (hypertension, diabetes, and advance directives)
- St. Leo University Nursing Program** – hydration education
- Suncoast Community Health Centers** – health screenings and dental education
- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services** - immigration and citizenship resources
- University of Florida (Hillsborough County Extension)** – health and nutrition



Gratitude Program

We recognize that not all people are able to attend our classes due to health, scheduling conflicts or time constraints. For these people we offer a Gratitude Program. For every ½ hour that a person volunteers we give them one token. This helps to keep our operational and payroll costs down and lets people earn food and toiletries for their families while keeping their dignity intact. Several cleaning jobs, yard maintenance, and food pantry tasks are accomplished by these hard-working volunteers every week.



Emergency Program

For those that are unable to volunteer in our Gratitude program because of their circumstances, we offer emergency assistance. In addition, we provide emergency assistance in the form of food, toiletries, financial assistance, and grocery store gift cards to families that are referred to us by community agencies, area schools and hospitals. As part of our Emergency Program, we have a family support worker on staff who assists families with Medicaid applications, food-stamp applications, unemployment, immigration, and housing concerns.



Education Program 2015

- 2,437 tokens redeemed
- 2,354 hours of classes attended
- 1,764 families served



Gratitude Program 2015

- 717 tokens redeemed by volunteers



Emergency Program 2015

- 8 families provided with emergency food and toiletries
- \$1,200 given in emergency funds for utility bills

Garden Program

Our garden supplies our food pantry with fresh produce every week during our growing season. Good Samaritan Mission grows kale, lettuce, tomatoes, eggplant, onion, swiss chard, peppers, herbs, and okra. The Garden Program also provides produce, plants, and herbs to sell at our Farmers Markets.



Back to School Outreach Event

The Good Samaritan Mission's Annual Back to School Outreach Event was held on Saturday, August 15, 2015. We had 732 people attend the event as registered guests. Each of the 500 children received a backpack, hygiene items and school supplies. We were able to bless several area schools with left over supplies. The event also featured lunch, cupcakes, crafts, face-painting, carnival games and prizes, haircuts and mini-manicures. Several vendors were also on hand to provide information on the community resources that are available locally. Not only did the families receive backpacks that day, but our vendors were able to provide them with resources that will be helpful for the entire school year. Backpacks, supplies, hygiene items and lunch were all funded by a generous grant from the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay.



Girl Scout Troop 405 Face Painters



Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation



Backpack Distribution

Photo Credit: Michelle Traphagen

Christmas Blessings Outreach Event

Our annual Christmas Blessings Outreach event was held on December 12, 2015. Our Adult Education students were able to save tokens throughout the year and use them to “purchase” toys at the event. For those who are not able to attend classes, their children were pre-registered and they received 5 tokens per child. Each toy was given a token value and our guests shopped for toys and bicycles with their tokens. GSM was able to bless 302 children and their families with gifts, 2,875 tokens were redeemed, and over 75 volunteers helped at the event.



Scholarship Program

With the financial support of Hyde Park United Methodist Church, GSM provides post-secondary scholarships to deserving students in need. We make available \$1,000 to each student annually. We are very proud to announce that two of our students graduated in 2015.

Iyari Villaneuva – graduated from HCC with an Associates in Science Degree – Radiography (A.S. RTE) in May 2015.



Mireya Galvan – graduated from HCC with an Associates in Science Degree; majoring in Dental Hygiene in May 2015.

Current Students:

Gloria Reyes – graduated from Hillsborough Community College with her Associates Degree in December 2015 and is now pursuing a Public Health degree from USF.

Marissa Lagunas – graduated with an A. A. Degree from Hillsborough Community College in May 2015. She is planning to take pre-law at Our Lady of the Lake University in Texas.

Emma Silva – continues pursuing her Elementary Education degree from USF, she is expecting to graduate August 2016.

Lizbeth Sanchez – has been accepted into the Veterinary Technology Program at Hillsborough Community College.

Paulina Acevedo – continues her studies in Mass Communications at St. Leo University.

Darron Daniel – continues his studies in Biology at the University of Florida.

Kaitlyn MacDonald – continues her studies in Special Education at Hillsborough Community College.

Chrystianne Mendez-Albino – continues her studies Child Psychology at the University of N. Florida.

Daisy Solis – continues her studies at Hillsborough Community College Southshore in Dental Hygiene.

Amber Burdick is attending Stetson University.

Kayla Elmore is attending Valencia College.

Diana Santiago is attending Hillsborough Community College.

Tuongvi Tran is attending University of South Florida.

Brittany West is attending Hillsborough Community College.

Summer Movie Nights

GSM held Family Movie Nights in June (*The Lego Movie*), July (*Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb*) and August (*Big Hero 6*). Pizza was served and we had a great time providing area families a fun, free summer activity. Bill took the opportunity to teach a short lesson about character after each movie.



Media and Communications

The Good Samaritan Mission communicates with donors, volunteers and partners in several ways.

Website

The Mission operates several websites. Our main website is www.gsmission.org and features basic information about the Mission, our current needs, and details about upcoming events. This site also contains links our special event sites, the Family Salsa Festival, and the Harvest Blessings Benefit Dinner.

The Messenger

We publish a newsletter called *The Messenger* three times a year that is mailed to approximately 650 of our friends in February, June and October.

E-Newsletter

Every month we sent a newsletter by email to 1,100 of our contacts using Constant Contact.

Press Releases

We send out several press releases to media contacts to let them know about all the special events and happenings at the Mission throughout the year.

Social Media

GSM has a social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.

