

Oregon Hill Baptist Center 2022 Annual Report

The Oregon Hill Baptist Center continues to partner with Pine Street Baptist Church and many other churches within the River City Faith Network to “SHINE” God’s love in all we do.

With the help of many volunteers, we continued with our **Regular Ministries**, which included:

- **Community Outreach** (Movie Nights with free food, Children & Youth events, College Student outreach, etc.)
- **Counseling and Referrals**
- **Emergency Assistance** (Food Pantry, and Limited Financial Assistance such as rent, utilities, medication, bus tickets, gasoline, and grocery store gift cards, etc.)
- **Homeless Ministry:** (In August 2022 we were able to return to our full inside ministry after serving to-go meals through the height of COVID)

Lockers and Serving as a Mailing Address

Laundry Vouchers (in partnership with St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Oregon Hill)

Weekly Meal and Snack Bags (currently serving an average of 70 individuals each Thursday)

Prescription, Identification, and Birth Certificate Assistance

Clothes, Sleeping Mats, Blankets, etc.

Daily Planet Medical Mobile Van (the third Thursday each month)

Planning for Hair Cutting Ministry in 2023

- **Seasonal Ministries:**

Thanksgiving Food Bags: November 22, 2021 – 45 families served. Total of 92 bags and 191 gift cards given. Five churches participated in giving. Each family was given 2 bags and 2 gift cards.

Christmas Store: OHBC Christmas Store held December 3, 2021 provided gifts for 48 Children plus 10 more afterwards given gift cards. Seven churches sponsored the children.

School Supply and Backpack Assistance: Three churches donated backpacks and school supplies we distributed to 53 children on August 16.

As I reflect on the ministries we offer, I am struck by how they are certainly the result of a true network of individuals and churches working together. This was demonstrated beautifully to me through an encounter I had with one of our area homeless men. I will call him “William.”

William is just 58, but he looks much older. He uses the Oregon Hill Baptist Center address to receive his mail, attends the Thursday morning meal, and receives a snack bag on a regular basis. Both the meal and the snack bags are provided by various RCFN churches and individuals.

William suffers with seizures along with several other medical conditions. He recently spent two weeks in the hospital and was released with a very important written prescription to treat his seizure disorder. With no current income, William was unable to fill the prescription. As the number of days with no medication grew, his health began to deteriorate again.

One day William rang the bell at the Center door. When I opened the door, he was slumped against the door hardly able to stand.

William said, "Please help me, I feel terrible!"

I assisted him inside and helped him lie down. He showed me the prescription while he was resting. Once he was feeling a bit better, I gathered one of the sleeping mats made for the center out of plastic grocery bags and a blanket that was included in a recent bag of donations. Together we found a comfortable place for him to rest on a grassy spot just outside the Center door.

I drove to a local pharmacy to fill William's prescription, and I paid for it with money donated by RCFN churches. When I returned, I found William sleeping comfortably on his new mat. He was so grateful and relieved when I handed him a bag containing his desperately needed medication. We prayed together and went our separate ways, at least until the next Thursday.

I look forward with anticipation to what other great things will be accomplished through RCFN and the Oregon Hill Center as we continue to work together to shine God's love!

—Jennifer Turner, Oregon Hill Baptist Center Community Missionary/Director