



## Church Hill Christian Wellness Center Annual Report 2022

*“Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst” (John 4:14).*

The Church Hill Christian Wellness Center continues to minister to the East End Community by trying to fulfill our Mission Statement “to promote and nurture the persons in the process of recognizing and using their God-given gifts, talents and abilities to empower themselves and others.” Hopefully, the East End Community will develop spiritually, emotionally, physically, mentally and socially. Our prayer is that we may be able to meet some of the physical and spiritual needs of the people and that God receives the glory.

During the past year, “The Well” ministered to the East End Community resulting in the following:

- Our **Food Pantry** distributes bags on every third Thursday of the month. The number served varies from month to month. Until there is a notable change in COVID, anyone who comes will be served, regardless of their Zip Code. River Road Church-Baptist continues to keep the Food Pantry shelves stocked. The Well has not needed to touch its food budget because River Road has regularly supplied the pantry with all the food items that are distributed and much more. **Without River Road’s support, our pantry would not continue to exist.** The CHCWC Support Team, the numerous people that we have helped, and I are truly grateful for the generous, faithful support of River Road Church.
- **Thanksgiving** is the next big event for The Well. Due to COVID, The Well continues to provide a food bag to anyone who comes. Again this year we are requesting \$10.00 gift cards to aid a family in the purchase of a turkey. **Gift cards for \$10.00 from Walmart, Food Lion, or Kroger are preferred. Please deliver gift cards by November 14.**
- When COVID caused us to change our **Christmas Store** in 2020, we discovered the current model that has worked well. This model allows churches and individuals to safely shop for the items on each child’s wish list, items suggested by the child’s parents. This process has worked well for the families we help and for the churches and individuals who have generously supported this ministry. As the saying goes, “If is not broken, don’t fix it.” The model of providing for each child has changed from the “parents shop in our Christmas store” model. Still, for a nominal fee of \$5.00, a parent may purchase a coat, outfit, or pajamas, along with a hat, gloves, socks, and underwear, a large toy, and a small toy for their child. **Last year the Well served 41 families which totaled 91 children. This method has worked so well we can help even more children have some new clothes and toys for Christmas.** In the past, we have limited our services to persons in 23223 and 23231. We are working with Camp Alkulana to help families in other Zip Codes too. We started distributing Christmas applications on September 27 and expect to continue distribution through October 31. **This year the Christmas Store will take place on Saturday, December 3, 2022. We ask that donors deliver their gifts on November 30 or December 1 between 10:00 and noon or 1:00 and 3:00.**

- People in need were blessed for a time while rent and utility payments were suspended. That has ended, and **I get calls every day from people who need help paying their rent, electricity, water, and gas bills.** Since January I have used the benevolence portion of The Well's budget to help 33 families with bill's like this. Our benevolence grants average about \$275 each. River City Faith Network's donors provide the money that makes the ministry of The Well, including assistance like this, possible. Sometimes I can help with other requests. This fall I helped one young man get the money to play football.
- I cannot assist people with getting their **Birth Certificates and IDs** until DMV lifts its restrictions, but there is a demand for it from individuals and referring agencies.
- **Friday Bible Study**, "the best Bible Study" in the city or even maybe the best in the state or country, continues. The Study is held at Bethlehem Baptist Church (Fairmount location). Those who are unable to attend in person may attend by phone using the prayer line option. Lunch is still being provided through The Well's Food Pantry. If there is a WMU group or church that is looking to support the best Bible Study ever, The Well's Friday Bible Study is an excellent project for your consideration.
- We open our **Clothes Closet** on **Mondays from 1:00 to 3:00.** The Jannie Jennings Sunday School class joined The Well for a Community Fun Day and Clothes Give-away on **July 9** and a second event on **October 15.** The closet is now accepting fall and winter clothes, bed sheets (twin, full, queen, and king-size), and household items such as towels and window curtains.
- We held our **Back-to-School Celebration** was held on August 20. This year The Well collaborated with Summer Night Lights (a community ministry for youths) on three events, including our Back-to-School Celebration. Seven churches, nine individuals, and three organizations generously supported our celebration this year. The donated **252 backpacks**, extra supplies, underwear, socks, and toiletries bags. Derbyshire Baptist Church gave a substantial check along with their backpacks and school supplies. We helped 154 children in 72 families. We also gave 20 backpacks each to Fairfield and Woodville Elementary Schools, 25 backpacks to MLK Middle School, and 30 backpacks to Franklin Military Academy. The volunteers for this event turned out in record numbers. We had a total of 47 volunteers that Friday and Saturday. Their hard work combined with the generous gifts made the Back-to-School Celebration a great success.

### **Special Thanks**

- WMU (especially Weatherford Circle for the much-needed stamps)
- All Volunteers
- RCFN churches
- Individual donations

I thank God for all of you and for all that you do to support The Well. I am truly grateful.

—Glinda F. Ford, CHCWC Community Missionary/Director