



# URBAN MINISTRIES

## OF WAKE COUNTY

*30 Years of Renewing Lives and Restoring Hope*



*Urban Ministries is a leader in the private, non-profit sector and an active collaborator in addressing poverty, homelessness, and health care for the uninsured. The quality of our services and commitment to those in need is recognized by our diverse supporters, our peers, and most importantly, by the people we serve.*

### ***Our Mission***

Urban Ministries of Wake County is a non-profit human service organization that alleviates the effects of poverty in Wake County by meeting people's basic needs for food, shelter, and healthcare, providing services that promote self sufficiency, and building awareness of the issues of poverty within the larger community by leveraging financial support with volunteers and in-kind contributions.

### ***How We Achieve Our Mission***

#### ***We are EFFECTIVE:***

- Our largest program is the **Open Door Clinic**, which provides comprehensive, **primary medical care** and full **pharmacy services** to uninsured, low-income adults. *The growth in the Clinic is staggering* – from nearly 5,000 patient and diabetes management visits to nearly 9,000 in three years! We filled more than 52,000 prescriptions in the past year alone. The Clinic helps keep people healthy, working and better able to support their families. Our services keep patients out of emergency rooms and costly inpatient stays, which can save our community more than \$6 million a year.
- The Urban Ministries **Food Pantry** is the second largest in Wake County. Last year, we distributed 240 tons of food (404,000 meals!) and served 8,290 families, including 9,000 children.
- The **JobLink** office provides **employment assistance** and online job searches and is the busiest center of its kind in Wake County. Last year, the **Crisis Support Program** provided social work counsel and referrals to nearly 7,000 individuals and families in crisis.
- The **Helen Wright Center for Women** provides **shelter** and support for women who are rebuilding their lives and gaining independence. Last year, the Center served 300 homeless women and helped nearly 40% move from homelessness to a stable life.



***We are EFFICIENT:*** 94 cents of every dollar goes directly to client services.

***We ENGAGE volunteers in improving the community:*** We offer **numerous volunteer opportunities** – conducting food drives, preparing and serving meals for shelter residents, working in our clinic, providing patient care, and assisting clients with eligibility for services, just to name a few. Last year, more than 1,200 volunteers donated over 37,000 hours of free services – the equivalent of 20 full-time staff.

## Who We Serve

In Wake County, more than **82,000 people live in poverty**. Urban Ministries touches the lives of more than 23,000 diverse clients every year. The average income of our clients for a family of four is \$19,435. Approximately 69% are women; 31% male. All clients must provide proof that they are residents of Wake County. Individuals eligible for the Open Door Clinic must provide proof of an income level at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Guideline and have no health insurance, including Medicare or Medicaid.

*You never think that you will be in a position to need the help provided by Urban Ministries. I feel we go through life thinking it is the other person that is hit with job loss, financial strife, health issues, not us. But when it does hit our own family we are devastated and lost... We have been blessed to get another chance at getting back on our feet again and I am so thankful for it... — Joyce, Urban Ministries Client*

## How You Can Partner With Us

**VOLUNTEER** – Our programs operate with the support of more than 1,200 active volunteers, supported by 20 full-time staff. Opportunities are available for individuals and groups to share in rewarding and life-changing activities to assist our neighbors in need. To participate in the next volunteer orientation, contact Sommer Wisner at 919.256.2169 or [swisher@urbanmin.org](mailto:swisher@urbanmin.org)



**CONTRIBUTE** – Your financial contribution will directly impact the lives of Wake County families living in poverty. The total value of volunteer time and in-kind donations of medications, food, meals, lab tests, and equipment totals more than \$7 million annually. Because of this tremendous support, 94 cents of every dollar you give to Urban Ministries goes to help those who need it most. Urban Ministries is supported by businesses, individuals, foundations, congregations, the United Way, and local government. To make a contribution, contact Danita Morgan at 919.256.2172 or [dmorgan@urbanmin.org](mailto:dmorgan@urbanmin.org). Or make a secure donation online at <http://umofwake.org/blog/donate/>.

**ADVOCATE** – Host a **Food and Funds** drive in your neighborhood, workplace or congregation. More than 45,000 pounds of food are needed each month to feed hungry families. And, nearly \$2 million is needed annually to operate the Food Pantry, Crisis Support, Helen Wright Center for Women, and the Open Door Clinic. Consider a drive that matches each pound of food with a \$1 contribution. Everything you need to organize your **Food and Funds** drive can be found at <http://umofwake.org/blog/host-a-food-drive/>. For more information, contact Laura Ridgeway at 919.256.2168 or [lriddgeway@urbanmin.org](mailto:lriddgeway@urbanmin.org).

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