



SHARINGS

Volume 7, Issue 2

Christian Service Center

Summer/Fall 2018



Christian Service Center Executive Board Installed

The Christian Service Center installed the 2018 Executive Board in April. Pictured from left to right: Anna Sands, Assistant Treasurer; Hope Becklund, Treasurer; Kathy Vaughn, Secretary; Janice Moss, Vice-President and Linda Chappelle, President. Office Coordinator, Jennifer Jackson, is not shown. The Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.–noon, at 317 Dolphin Avenue in Gulf Shores. Thanks to

our inspiring executive board for volunteering their talents and services. Thanks to each and every volunteer and to the churches of the Pleasure Island Ministerial Association who help CSC achieve its mission of being a “Hand Up” rather than a “Hand Out” agency.



I AM ... From a Client in Her Own Words

I am a 29-year old single mother of three children, 7, 5 and 4 years old. I moved here 3 years ago to escape a domestic violence situation. I could not leave my children in that situation. I had a little money saved and was able to get an apartment and a job at McDonalds. Two months after moving here my parents and 19-year-old sister moved in with me. Even though my mother has heart problems she was able to watch the children while I worked. A month after my parents arrived my father just up and left. I was the only one working and things were very difficult.

A co-worker told me about the Center and I made an appointment. They were able to provide us with food. We get food stamps but it's a small amount and does not get us through the month. They informed me about the Bread Ministries such as those provided by Gulf Shores United Methodist Church, Grace Lutheran Church and Gulf Shores First Baptist Church and referred me to Holy Spirit Thrift Shop to get work clothing and winter clothing for the children.

What CSC has meant to my family is beyond words, but the services to the children have meant the most—the Birthday Club, Christmas Cheer and the Summer Backpack Program. They referred me to Peace Lutheran for help with school uniforms. I feel so grateful to the folks at the Center who have been so kind to my family.

President's Corner



Christian Service Center is so blessed to have so many dedicated volunteers. We continue to provide emergency aid with housing, utilities, food and medical expenses. Although there are so many seasonal jobs in our community, expenses have gone up for our clients. Rent prices have skyrocketed and utilities' costs have risen, along with clients' needs. We are seeing more of the working poor, as well as an ever increasing rise in large medical expenses. Therefore, it is very important that our upcoming fundraisers are strongly supported by our community. We are excited about a couple of events planned by community supporters.

The Annual Honours Golf Charity Classic will be held at Craft Farms on Tuesday, November 15. Thank you to Honours Golf for providing this outstanding fundraiser. Thank you to title sponsors Lulu's and Gulf Shores Garden Club. We will need help from our supporters to get sponsorships, golf teams and volunteers. This event raised approximately \$37,000.00 last year. Please get in touch with Karen Sabatino at kbsabatino@aol.com if you would like to volunteer. A flyer is enclosed for sponsorships and teams. You may also pick up flyers at CSC.

The 6th Annual Wildflowers fundraiser provided by Terri Long and daughter Candice for CSC is coming up Saturday, December 1. The Perdido Beach Resort is the new venue this year and there are plans to greatly enhance the event. This fundraiser has consistently raised \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year to help the CSC provide Christmas for more than 600 children in our community. This year the focus will be on all our children's programs (birthday club, summer backpack food, school supplies) rather than just Christmas. Please contact Terri Long at 251-981-9453 to volunteer -- we need your help and support.



Breakfast/Lunch Backpack Program

The Summer Backpack Program provides breakfast, lunch and two snacks a day, five days a week, to income-qualified families in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach and Fort Morgan. Thanks to all our volunteers!



Fishing for a Good Cause

Captain Joe Nash and wife Cindy of Cool Change Charters in Orange Beach hosted their 10th Annual Gulf fishing trip fundraiser. All proceeds were given to the Center to assist families in need. Zeke's Marina donated fuel for the day and J&M Tackle donated the bait.



Make your plans now for the CSC's 2019 Spaghetti Dinner, one of our main fundraising events of the year. The 2018 dinner raised funds to support the Center's mission of providing food and emergency aid to families in need. In 2017, proceeds from the dinner helped 6,247 people, including 2,432 children. As in past years, our presenting sponsor for this fun and financially important event is the Holy Spirit Thrift Shop. Gulf Shores Methodist Church will again host the dinner, which is set for February 26 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in the church's Building B Auditorium, 1720 Gulf Shores Parkway (in the Winn Dixie Shopping Center). Tickets are \$10 each. Diners can eat in or take advantage of drive-through orders for take-out. Advance tickets will be available at the CSC from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday-Friday. To volunteer to help out, please contact Betty Oliver at bboliver@gmail.com.



A big thank you to the **City of Orange Beach** for donating \$25,000 to the CSC for a commercial-grade walk-in cooler. The cooler will allow the food pantry to take in much more produce for families in need.



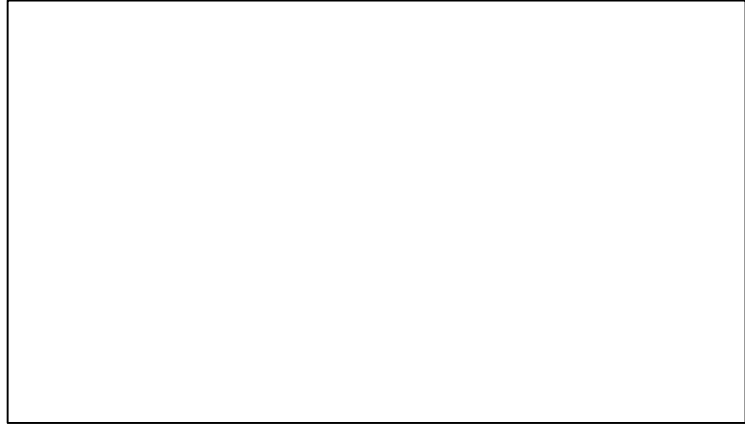
*Pictured are CSC President Linda Chappelle and Tony Schawanda from **Snowbirds Bowling Tournament**.*

Six years ago, Tony and Linda Schawanda were searching for ways to help their adopted Lower Alabama communities. Tony loves to bowl, so they decided to start a charity bowling tournament, choosing the Christian Service Center as their beneficiary. The tournament started with seven teams of four and has grown every year. This year's tournament raised more than \$400 to support CSC programs.



*Pictured: CSC volunteers Don and Mary Lee Harms; club members Larry Cole, Gail Shoemaker and Tom Williams from the **Gulf Shores Men's Snowbird Coffee Club**.*

The Gulf Shores Men's Snowbird Coffee Club has been giving to local charities since 2000. This year, the club chose CSC as its beneficiary, and donated \$1,500 to the Center.



If you prefer to receive the CSC Newsletter by email, please furnish your email address to cscenter1991@gmail.com.

**Fall 2018
Calendar of Events**

- Sept. 3 Office Closed
Labor Day
- Sept. 10 Board Meeting
- Noon
- Oct. 8 Board Meeting
- Noon
- Nov. 12 Board Meeting
- Noon
- Nov. 15 Honours Charity
Golf Tournament
- Nov. 21-23 Office Closed
Thanksgiving
- Dec. No Board
Meeting
- Dec. 1 Wildflowers
Fundraiser
- Dec. 18-Jan. 1
Office Closed



MEMORIAL GIFTS

LAWRENCE O'BRIEN
James R. & Verna B. Dahlman
Donna M. Nelson

JIM MACQUEEN
Timothy & Jennifer Jackson

GUY STOREY
IRIS WRIGHT
JUDY O'DANIEL
DICK WINSTEAD
Antoinette & Phillip Turner

TOM JORDEN
Stan and Janice Moss

EDNA P. COULTER
Shelia Creech

MARY LaHAYE
William & Victoria Abbott, Billy & Jean Adcock, John & Nancy Benson, James R. & Verna B. Dahlman, Kenneth & Amelia Fletcher, Dale & Carol Hamernick, Karen M. Hanson, Ellie Heinrich, Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Holman, Judy Moore, William Warren & daughter Tami Donnell and Marilyn E. Peltier

IN HONOR GIFTS

LINDA CHAPPELLE'S BIRTHDAY
Eula Meyers

BARBARA HELMES
Antoinette & Phillip Turner

THE JEWEL CROWSON FAMILY
THE SUSAN PLUE FAMILY
James & Josephine Roy