

President's Corner



Linda Chappelle

Summer time and the living is easy... well, not entirely!

Jobs are plentiful and people who can are working, some two jobs. However, the current problem is INFLATION! Rising rental costs are astounding at 30-35% higher than a year ago. Grocery prices and the cost of everything in general continues to increase far beyond any additional income.

Thanks to the generosity of our kind, caring communities, CSC continues to bridge the gap for those less fortunate. Through June of this year the Center has had 1,394 client visits, providing food for 3,620 individuals -- that's 3 meals a day for 7 days for each person, a total of 76,020 meals. A total of 333 clients have received emergency financial aid through rent or electric assistance.

Inflation is also a huge problem for the Center, especially regarding rising food costs. We used to pay \$5.18 for 24 cans of beans; that cost is now \$17.61. Corn was \$5.18 for 24; it is now \$18.06.

Thank you again to our supporters for making our mission to serve low income families a reality. You are truly a blessing!



BIGGEST, BEST EVER!!

2023 CSC SPAGHETTI DINNER

was held on Monday, February 6th. A total of 99 volunteers were involved in the effort; at least 870 people were served; \$52,000 was raised. We appreciate the support of every single ticket holder. We thank all the businesses, churches, and individuals who donated toward the success of this event. It is through the love and generosity shown by our communities that CSC is able to fulfill our mission to provide food and emergency financial aid to low income families in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, and Ft. Morgan.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!



WILDFLOWERS BOUTIQUE/ PERDIDO BEACH RESORT TOYS AND MORE FUNDRAISER FOR CSC SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023 The Event of the Year!

> Contact Terri Long for Sponsorship Opportunities Wildflowers Boutique 251-981-9453

Summer/Fall 2023

SUMMER BACKPACK PROGRAM

Modeled after the school weekend backpack programs, CSC offers a summer backpack food program for children of low income families who do not have free or reduced breakfast and lunch when school is out for the summer. Parents can sign their children up at any time, then come by the Center once a week to pick up a bag of food for each child. Packs contain easy to prepare breakfast and lunch items, and 2 snacks a day, for 5 days. Fresh fruit and other healthy snacks are included.



A huge THANK YOU to Bob and Susan Shallow, ReMax Paradise, for fully funding the summer backpack program this year. Their generosity and personal interest have greatly upgraded the level of nutritional selections provided.





2023 Folks on Spokes Food Drive

Folks on Spokes (a bicycle riding group), the Iowa Snowbird Club, and Gulf State Park held their 3rd Annual Food Drive for the Christian Service Center in February 10 at the Gulf State Park Campground. The park entrance fee was waived for those bringing food donations. The 2023 totals are approximately 1,500 pounds of food and \$1,215 in cash for the Food Pantry. The cash donated will purchase another 7,000 pounds of food from Feeding the Gulf Coast. Thanks to all who organized the event, and thank you to everyone who made a contribution.

Pictured left to right: Don and Sherry Anderson, Rusty and Karen Robbins, Steve Benda, Carol Cataria, and Charles Rothermel



Caseworkers are truly the "heart" of CSC!

They are the ones who meet one on one with the clients to go over their Intake forms, listen to their stories, discuss their needs, and determine what assistance will be offered.

Caseworkers show compassion in the face of hardship while dealing with the often harsh realities of a situation. They offer a calm demeanor while counseling those stressed by their current situations. They also share in the joy or relief of clients

blessed with help from the Center, whether it is food for the family, rent or utility assistance, job leads, or referrals to other resources. Caseworkers experience the highs and the lows; they are at the heart of every client's visit. *Pictured left to right: Pam Muxworthy, Carol Fountain, Anita King, Andrea Pattillo, Mary Lee Harms, Sara Fahrmann.*

Orange Beach Elementary School National Honor

Society members led a campaign that collected an enormous load of blankets, throws, and socks for clients of the Christian Service Center. Their project, **Fuzzies for Friends**, will be a blessing to so many people. Blankets and socks will be given to the elderly, as well as to the homeless and transients in need of warmth. *Pictured: Anna Elise Ellsworth and Hutch Semiklose*





Summer/Fall 2023

Gifts to the Christian Service Center

IN MEMORY OF

FRANK CARPENTER

By William Philston Mary Ann Lafayette

SHIRLEY RUTH COOK

By Marvin Bennett

TONI STETSON

By Marianda Barbaree Jo & Carson Gay Jennifer Jackson Stan & Janice Moss Beacky Roberson

IN HONOR OF

LES & ROSIE ADOLPHSON

By Richard & Ann Kucunski

LINDA CHAPPELLE By Eula Myers

NICOLE L. KUSHNER By David & Laurene Kushner

DAVID SAUNDERS

By Elaine Jordan

CAMP HAPPY SANDS

Thanks to the generosity of the Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, a dozen children of CSC clients

- were able to enjoy a fun filled time
- attending Camp Happy Sands at
- Johnson Beach from June 6-9.
- The campers enjoyed swimming,
- games, crafts, and nature activities.

Camp Happy Sands' mission is "to provide a cost-free day camp experience conducted in a faith-based environment among a natural setting of God's creation."



Holy Spirit Episcopal Church Thrift Shop recently donated \$10,000 to CSC.

This gift is in addition to \$15,000 donated in January. Holy Spirit is the Presenting Sponsor for our annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. We are grateful for their continuing strong support for the Center's mission to assist local low-income families with food and emergency financial aid.

Pictured left to right: Ellie Brannon; Linda Chappelle, CSC Director; Carolyn Towery



OUR CLIENTS SAY ...

"*Thank you* for all you did for my family." "You were the answer to my prayers." "Y'all are angels on earth!"

"I don't know what we would have done without you."

"*Thank you* for caring so much." "I can't thank you enough; this is such a blessing."

"*Thank you* for listening to me." "I have hope now!"



Calendar

<u>July</u>

4 - Tuesday - Independence Day - Office Closed

10 - Board Meeting 12:30 PM

<u>August</u>

No Board Meeting

<u>September</u>

No Board Meeting

4 - Labor Day - Office Closed

<u>October</u>

9 - Board Meeting 12:30 PM

<u>November</u>

No Board Meeting

22,23,24 - Wednesday-Friday - Office Closed for Thanksgiving

<u>December</u>

No Board meeting

Office Closed Monday, December 18-Friday, December 29 for Christmas

Office reopens Tuesday, January 2, 2024

The Christian Service Center is a "Hand Up" rather than a "Hand Out" agency. Clients are given immediate emergency aid as well as guidance on finding solutions to their problems. The CSC is a 501(c) (3) volunteer agency funded by the churches of Pleasure Island, various community organizations, including the United Way of Baldwin County, and interested individuals. For more information, please call the CSC at 251-968-5256, email us at cscenter1991@gmail.com, or visit www.cscgs.com Please check out our Facebook page!

Christian Service Center

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United 🛞



3817 Gulf Shores Parkway, Suite 3 Gulf Shores, AL 251-968-7901 printing@printingzone.com







We need adult bikes in good condition!!



ramen noodles, peanut butter, jelly, cereals, grits/ oatmeal (individual packs), crackers, soup, mac & cheese



REMEMBER "YOUR CHANGE!"

The total raised currently stands at an amazing **\$16,955.58**.

Contact the Center if you would like jars for your church, business,

or family. **Remember...** "Your *Change* Can Make A Change In Someone's Life!"

Christian Service Center volunteers strive to be good stewards of funds while pursuing our mission to serve the least able among us.



Summer/Fall 2023