



President's Corner



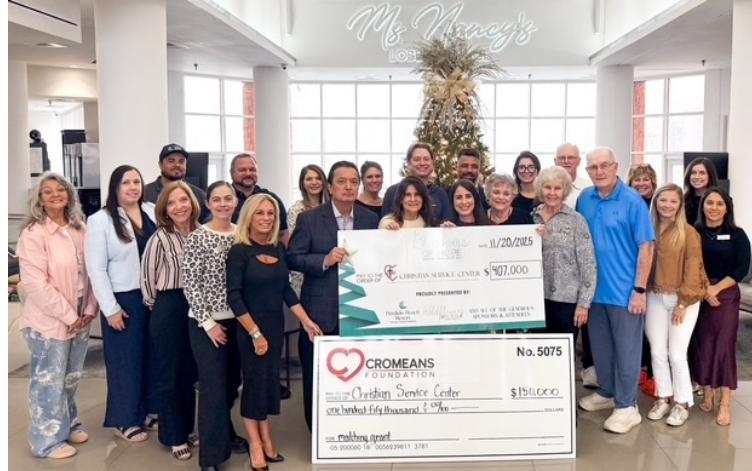
CSC set records last year with increased emergency aid spending, meal provision, and Christmas family support. The rising cost of living and seasonal employment challenges contributed to these figures. (see statistics boxes inside)

Our Blossoms of Hope fundraiser exceeded \$400,000 again this year, for which we are thankful to sponsors Wildflowers Boutique and Perdido Beach Resort, as well as the Cromeans Foundation. We are blessed with incredibly strong community support.

In December, site work began for our new Food Pantry storage building, which will enable us to take advantage of sales and bulk purchases, as well as store community-provided food and seasonal projects.

The new year brings an exciting opportunity: a second CSC location opening in Orange Beach. We will partner with Worship on the Water to allow us to meet with our OB clients at their new outreach location and to help establish a food pantry there. This proposal was approved by the CSC Executive Board and the Advisory Board.

More details will follow as talks continue and progress is made.



BLOSSOMS OF HOPE GALA

Blossoms of Hope Gala Tops Off Amazing Fundraiser for CSC. The Gala, held Saturday evening, November 15, celebrated the highly successful Blossoms of Hope fundraiser for the Christian Service Center sponsored by Wildflowers Boutique and Perdido Beach Resort. The fundraising effort raised an amazing total of \$407,000. The funds will be used to help low-income families in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, and Ft. Morgan who are in need of food or emergency financial assistance. Thank you to Gray Cromeans for the incredible matching grant of \$150,000 given through the Joe and Mary Ann Cromeans Charitable Foundation. This grant provided stimulus for the fundraising effort from the start. We are so grateful for your continuing support of CSC. We say thank you with enormous gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of the 2025 fundraising effort. You are all a blessing to the Center and to those less fortunate in our communities.



Thank You

Holy Spirit Episcopal Church presents a check for \$10,000 to CSC, the first of two awarded through a grant. Holy Spirit is Presenting Sponsor of the Center's 2026 Spaghetti Dinner, February 23.

Pictured: Bev Liebenow, Carolyn Towrey, Linda Chappelle, Fr. Will Lowry, Dave Liebenow, Dan Ratliff





THANK YOU to ReSale Heaven Thrift Store (GSMC)

for their recent donation of \$20,000. This is such a huge blessing to the Center. The funds will be used to support our mission to provide food and emergency financial aid to families in need.

Pictured: Josie Gipson; Linda Chappelle; Gael Hatcher; Nancy Weber; Verna Duchesneau; Karen Means.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!



If you have ridden past the Center lately, you have seen that the ground has been broken toward our new warehouse addition. Updates to come as progress is made!



Thank you TACKY JACKS & SUNNY 105.7 for a real FUNraiser!



**Rosemary Steele
(DeSoto's) — a
CSC Super
Supporter!**

Thank you for your on-going, long time support in so many ways!



Nick T. Catranis presented a check for \$10,000 on behalf of the Catranis Family Charitable Foundation, Inc. to help replenish the food pantry shelves at the Center during this holiday season and difficult time in our country. The Catranis family is proud of this special ministry, St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church, established for the Gulf Shores community and wants to continue taking an active part in sustaining the mission of helping families on the Island.

Pictured: Nick T. Catranis; Father Sasa Turkic; Linda Chappelle, CSC Board President and Director.



PANTRY NEEDS!

Canned Soups
Crackers
Cereal
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Grits/Oatmeal (individual packs)
Diapers



Angie Greene, CMC Gas, headed a drive to collect 500 boxes of cereal - AMAZING! Thank you employees, customers, and friends in the OB community for making this blessing possible.



Thanks to all for the blessings!

One of several fourth grade classes at **Gulf Shores Elementary** that have walked to the Center to tour and give their artwork and crafts to be delivered to Meals on Wheels recipients. This has been a joy for all of us - volunteers and clients too!



THANK YOU volunteers from **Perdido Beach Resort** for working in the sunshine AND in a downpour of rain to help distribute Christmas food boxes to grateful families.

Thank you to **THE TABLE** for serving breakfast and lunch to our clients on the downpour day!



The CSC Christmas Elves

Christian Service Center
Presenting Sponsor: Holy Spirit Episcopal Church & Thrift Shop

Spaghetti DINNER

Monday, February 23th 2026

Serving 4:00 to 6:30 pm

Gulf Shores Methodist Church

Building B - Auditorium
1720 Gulf Shores Parkway

Join in the fun!



Ticket: \$10

Dine in! — or — Drive through!

Advance tickets are available at the
Christian Service Center.
9am-Noon, Monday-Friday



Christmas Cheer

for families in the
Orange Beach, Gulf Shores, & Ft. Morgan area

Christmas Food Boxes

252 families served,
Including **971** individuals

Children's Christmas Cheer

258 families served,
Including **758** children

Christmas Spirit

38 individuals



PANTRY STOCK (Peace, Love, and Food for Humans)

was a fun concert held to collect food and cash donations for CSC. The event, put together by local performers, was a big success with everyone enjoying the musical entertainment and giving

generously! There was also an opportunity to bid on artwork by middle school students which brought in more donations.

Pictured: Odd Nature with Madi Rose & Hunter Myers.



BY THE NUMBERS IN 2025

3,772 client visits (including repeats)

11,600 individuals served

3,468 families received food

10,838 individuals received food

3 meals/day x 7 days = food for 227,598 meals

547 families received rent help

302 families received utilities assistance

Calendar

January

5 - Monday - Office Reopens

12 - Board Meeting 12:30 PM

19 - Inservice

February

No Board Meeting

17 - Tuesday, Mardi Gras, Office Closed

23 - Monday, Spaghetti Dinner

March

No Board Meeting

April

3 - Friday, Good Friday, Office Closed

13 - Monday - Board Meeting 12:30 PM

May

No Board Meeting

25 - Monday - Memorial Day, Office closed

June

No Board meeting

July

3 - Friday - Independence Day, Office Closed

13 - Board Meeting 12:30 PM

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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CLIENTS WE SEE...

The single mom with two children whose job was just cut. She has a new job but won't get paid for two weeks, so she is short on rent and needs food.

The couple who can't pay the power bill because it took all they could come up with, after the rent, to get their car fixed.

The man whose doctor wants him to see a specialist in Mobile, but he can't afford the gas for the trip, and can't make the copay on his prescriptions.

The homeless veteran who is living in his car and is hungry.

The elderly couple living on social security whose rent has gone up each of the last three years. They struggle and have to juggle which bills get paid on time. Now one of them is sick and the car has broken down.

This is just a sampling of the clients we see and the difficulties they face. These are real people, and we were able to help each of them with their immediate needs — and we were often able to make referrals to other agencies as well to further assist them.

Mystics of Pleasure

Walt-Barrett Tanner presents a \$10,000 donation to CSC from the Mystics of Pleasure! The funds were from the Taste of the Island event sponsored by the Krewe. Thank you Mystics for your generosity in support of our mission to provide a hand up to people in need of food or emergency financial assistance.

Your gift will make a real difference!



PLEASE SCAN to access
our website and to
DONATE!!