

Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County

# 2023 IMPACT REPORT



**Moving Forward Together:  
UGM-TC and You!**

# FROM THE CEO EMERITUS

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## MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

I am truly grateful for your partnership. We are moving forward together in the glorious task of bringing spiritual life to those coming to Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County.

Our goal is to present Jesus Christ in all His beauty to those who come here in trouble. Our staff, volunteers and friends like you all play a part as we walk alongside our residents on this journey. Together, we teach, encourage and celebrate their achievements and the events that mark their progress.

The Mission moves forward as well, with exciting initiatives like our Community Outreach Center. We are now able to minister to more of our hurting neighbors than ever before, offering skills and support that lead them to personal and economic stability.

Thank you for moving this Gospel ministry forward. Heaven only knows how many have already received everlasting life through the influence of UGM-TC ... or how many more will



in the future! God has certainly blessed our partnership, and I trust He will continue to do so.

Finally, I'm sure you have heard by now that I am moving forward myself – but not moving on as of yet. I am blessed to serve as CEO Emeritus for the next two years, working alongside Dr. Charles M. Wolford II, our new CEO.

Moving forward together, our future looks most fruitful.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Don Shisler".

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THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SO GREAT A CLOUD OF WITNESSES ...  
LET US RUN WITH ENDURANCE THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US.

*Hebrews 12:1 NKJV*



## THE MISSION NEWSLETTER

1321 E. Lancaster Avenue  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
(817) 339-2553 | [www.ugm-tc.org](http://www.ugm-tc.org)

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*A local united Christian organization and ministry dedicated to providing love, hope, respect and a new beginning to those experiencing homelessness.*

# A NOTE FROM OUR NEW CEO

Dear Friend,

I was blessed to have grown up in a family marked by stability, support and the love of Jesus Christ. We opened our doors to those who needed help. There were no strangers. That, I believe, is what led me to where I am today – starting as the new CEO of Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County.



Don and his team have done an amazing job creating a firm foundation at UGM-TC. I hope to learn as much as I can and to work closely with Don, the Board and the staff. UGM-TC has been helping men, women and children with shelter insecurities for 135 years, and I am excited to be a part of that.

You are also a big part of UGM-TC, and I look forward to your partnership in the years ahead!

Dr. Charles M. Wolford II

## IN 2023, YOU HELPED PEOPLE IN NEED MOVE FORWARD. HERE'S HOW:

- Provided care to 4,673 individuals and families
- Served 181,520 meals to residents and guests from the street
- Provided 109,322 sheltered nights to residents and homeless guests
- Held over 1,665 chapel services
- Provided 228 individuals with home furnishings from the UGM-TC Warehouse

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Chairman** – Eddie Broussard

**Vice Chairman** – Caroline Samis

**Treasurer** – Charlie Allen

**Secretary** – Nicole Brown

**CEO** – Dr. Charles M. Wolford II

**CEO Emeritus** – Don Shisler

**Chaplain** – Fr. Rogers Meredith

Bill E. Bailey

Terrence Butler

Larry Chilton

Ronald Clinkscale

Mary Jane Edwards

Michael Gonzalez

Gene Gray

Chelsea Griffith

Crawford Gupton

Barcus Hunter

Robert J. Keffler

Toni Meadows

Terry Montesi

Peter Philpott

Emily Radler

Columba J. Reid

Julie Siratt

J.D. Stotts

Allison Wagner

W. David White

Robbie Zimmerman

## TRANSFORMATION STORY: ARTHUR

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# "I'VE GOT MY WHOLE LIFE AHEAD OF ME NOW."

After years of drinking, Arthur's life was at a standstill. Unemployed, broke and homeless, he had lost everything he held dear. However, as a father of eight and grandfather to 12 children, the biggest loss was the respect of his family.

Determined to regain his family's trust, Arthur sought help at Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County. "I went in with an open mind. I took a big leap of faith," he says. "I knew I was going to lose a bunch of friends, because I couldn't be a part of that lifestyle anymore. I had to surround myself with winners, people who are trying to make their lives better."

Since coming to UGM-TC, Arthur has definitely joined that group of winners. After a year in the the program, he graduated. He also earned his OSHA Forklift Certification through our training program.

"I got my whole life ahead of me now," Arthur says proudly. "I feel good." Not only does Arthur now have a solid job, a car and a place to live, he says, "I got new-found respect from my family. They've seen what I'm doing and they're happy for me. They are my motivation."



But, to Arthur, the biggest blessing was not in his own life, but his daughter's when she joined him at UGM-TC. "She saw what I was doing here and wanted to follow the path I'd chosen. She wanted her life to be better. And she brought my grandbaby with her."

Arthur is not only moving forward, he is "going full speed ahead. I didn't think I could do it, but I've accomplished so much. I praise UGM-TC. I'm so glad I came here and am thankful for the people I've met."

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DO NOT REMEMBER THE FORMER THINGS, NOR CONSIDER THE THINGS OF OLD.

*Isaiah 43:18 NKJV*



## IN 2023, YOUR SUPPORT HELPED:

- Provide 12,124 nights of shelter for resident men
- 62% of men in our program move into permanent housing

## TRANSFORMATION STORY: DEEDRA

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# “I’M READY FOR THE NEXT CHAPTER.”

**F**or 10 years, Deedra was stuck in a cycle of addiction, homelessness, recovery and relapse. “I felt really hopeless,” she says. “I attempted suicide. I went to the hospital and I thought, ‘I’m still alive. I’ve got to change my life. I’ve got to change the way I’m doing everything.’”

Deedra knew she couldn’t do it on her own. She had been to Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County before ... but this time, she was determined to move forward. The deciding factor in Deedra’s recovery was turning her life over to God.

“I was baptized, and that was a beautiful event! Now I don’t make any decisions without going to God first,” Deedra tells us. “I know that Jesus is with me, that I am precious to Him. That has given me a whole new way to look at myself.”

When Deedra looks at herself today, she sees a woman who respects herself and has strong values. “I feel successful. I went from having nothing, not even the will to live, to having a job, a safe home to live in, a place to celebrate my God. I couldn’t ask for more than that,” she says gratefully.

“I have everything in front of me to enjoy my life. I have joy that comes from within. I’m ready for



the next chapter. I don’t know where I would be without UGM-TC. I’m very blessed.”

When we asked Deedra to share her story she said, “This is the first time someone looked at me as a success. I tell the story, but God gets the glory!”

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I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU IN THE WAY YOU SHOULD GO;  
I WILL GUIDE YOU WITH MY EYE.

*Psalm 32:8 NKJV*



**IN 2023, YOUR SUPPORT HELPED:**

- Provide 12,842 sheltered nights to resident women
- 57% of women in our program move into permanent housing

## TRANSFORMATION STORY: ALISHA

# “I WANT MY CHILDREN TO HAVE OPPORTUNITIES.”

**A**lisha and her children needed a new start, so they left Arkansas and came to Texas. At first they stayed with Alisha’s godmother. But traumatic circumstances forced them out. For two months the five of them shared a small hotel room.

Life greatly improved when they came to Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County. “At first, I went through what any mom would go through,” Alisha admits. “This was my first time in a shelter. I felt guilty and depressed. But there was nothing for my children back in Arkansas. I want them to have opportunities. And they need stability.”

Feeling safe, they started to build a new life. With help from her case worker, Alisha replaced her children’s essential records left behind in Arkansas. She also took parenting classes.

Above all, Alisha enjoyed refreshing her relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in Alpha class.

Alisha tells us her children have also grown in their love for the Lord – and for one another. “They have grown closer. They pray together,”



she says. “Every night, I’m just grateful to have them all there and pray with them.”

Today, Alisha looks toward a brighter future for her family. They have recently moved into a place of their own. Currently working in a nursing home, Alisha plans to become certified as a Licensed Practical Nurse with a track toward becoming a Registered Nurse. In the meantime, she wants to be a Peer Recovery Support Specialist, so she can encourage people going through tough times and help them move forward, just as you helped her.

I PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL FOR THE PRIZE  
OF THE UPWARD CALL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.

*Philippians 3:14 NKJV*





**IN 2023, YOUR SUPPORT HELPED:**

- Provide 16,267 sheltered nights to family residents
- Positively affect the lives of 115 boys and girls in our family program
- Allow 56 students to receive structured tutoring

## VOLUNTEER PROFILE

**G**reg and Debbie Blackwell started serving meals at the Mission 15 years ago. Then Debbie was asked to head up the single women's and family Alpha programs. She now coordinates and organizes volunteers for Alpha – and Greg, an Alpha leader, is one of them.



**In 2023, 960 volunteers contributed 16,389 hours of time.**

The Blackwells find great reward in spending time with residents. Debbie says, "It's an opportunity to see what God is doing in their lives. You get to witness the transformation as He works on their hearts."

Asked about leading small groups in Alpha, Greg says, "To be able to play a role in someone's recovery and spiritual development is the most satisfying thing you could hope for."

Both Greg and Debbie have made deep and lasting friendships through Alpha. "We think we're serving them, but it's really mutual," Debbie says. "It's encouraging and faith-building."

To anyone thinking about lending a hand at UGM-TC, Greg says, "Quit thinking and do it!"

## HEALING SHEPHERD CLINIC

**H**omeless men, women and even children are frequently exposed to harsh weather, malnutrition, disease and lack of sanitation. Many are unaware they have chronic health conditions like diabetes, heart disease or mental illness. Since 2008, the Healing Shepherd Clinic has provided education, preventative care and medical treatment to homeless individuals in a climate of compassion and dignity.

Our services are the first stop for residents experiencing a health issue, keeping emergency rooms clear. With your help, Healing Shepherd Clinic cares for the mental, physical and spiritual well-being of our residents and guests.

### IN 2023, YOUR SUPPORT HELPED:

- Care for 282 UGM-TC residents and tenants at the Vineyard on Lancaster
- Provide 3,032 office visits to UGM-TC residents and tenants at the Vineyard on Lancaster
- Distribute 152 pairs of prescription eye glasses at no cost

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

Last October, we dedicated our new Community Outreach Center. Featuring a state-of-the-art training facility, fulfillment center warehouse, distribution center and the Carl R. Brumley Community Room, the COC helps individuals qualify for better-paying jobs that will sustain themselves and their families.

In addition to job training, the COC offers case management and other services to help men and women transition permanently out of poverty.

Daley Miller, development director for the COC, says, "It's not just about getting someone

certification and a job. It's about making them a rising person and removing all the barriers to their success."

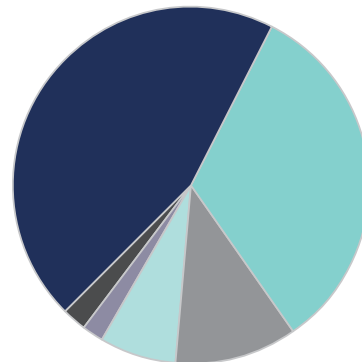


## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### OUR ANNUAL INCOME

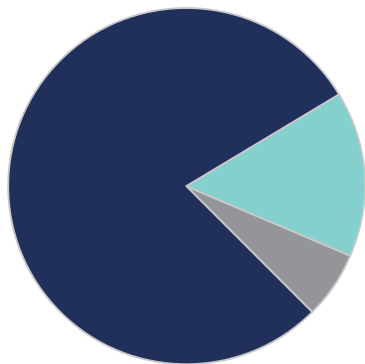
<b>2023</b> UGM-TC:	\$20,514,739
Healing Shepherd Clinic:	\$342,578
<b>Combined:</b>	<b>\$20,857,317</b>

### SOURCES OF REVENUE



- **45%** Individuals
- **33%** Foundations & Community Organizations
- **11%** Estates
- **7%** Companies
- **2%** Charitable Trusts
- **2%** Churches

### WHERE YOUR DONATIONS GO



- **78%** Program Services
- **14%** Marketing & Development
- **8%** Management & General

*Note: Figures shown are unaudited. A complete audited statement is available upon request.*

## MISSION

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To provide love, hope, respect and a new beginning for the homeless, offering a program of care that leads to true, lasting healing.

## VISION

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To continue meeting the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of people who come to us for help.



1321 E. LANCASTER  
FORT WORTH, TX 76102  
(817) 339-2553  
[WWW.UGM-TC.ORG](http://WWW.UGM-TC.ORG)

