

Mary Sturdevant

From: Mary Sturdevant <sturdevant.mary@swbell.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 2:28 PM
Subject: July What's Happening at Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministries?

We want to be sure you continue to know what is happening at TEAM! Please feel free to share any sections of this newsletter with your organization or friends and to publish any portion(s) that you wish. Please also help us by forwarding this email to others who would be interested and let me know if this should go to others on an ongoing basis.



Ministry Partners

As recipients of this monthly newsletter, you are probably familiar with the usual things TEAM assists with, like food, clothing, rent and utilities. But there is so much more that goes on behind the scenes. There are things that we do, and that others do for us, that not only make a difference in the lives of those we serve, but that also make a difference within our *own* hearts and lives. They are what define us as a “ministry” and not just a social service organization with church support.

Just a few examples come to mind of ways in which our dedicated volunteers, at the expense of their own *personal* time and money, have become the hands and feet of Christ to those who are desperate and hurting in our community.

- Extending hands of friendship by taking a distraught client out for lunch at the Mustard Seed, in the middle of a busy ministry day!
- Taking a client who was fighting the demons of substance abuse and loneliness to the Tomball Renewal Center. The caseworker and client met with Director Aaron Edwards, who shared coffee and big dose of comfort
- Meeting a stranded and desperate client in Spring who had run out of gas at 7:00 p.m. to provide a tank of gas, then meeting that same client on the following Sunday afternoon to take him to Autozone for a replacement battery
- Personally making trips during very hot and cold seasons to purchase fans and heaters for clients, and at times purchasing car seats, tents, sleeping bags and tires
- Delivering food and, at Christmas, gifts to the homes of clients who could not make it to TEAM to pick them up

- Pooling personal funds to provide \$200 for a single mom when TEAM was unable to come up with the full \$1,100 that was needed for her rent
- Sharing sandwiches and treats with our clients and/or their children who were clearly hungry
- Going next door to our store to dig through mountains of donations in the warehouse to find a specific article a client needs, from pots and pans after a fire to medical equipment to a crib for a newborn
- Making a home visit to a client who was unable to find transportation to TEAM
- Making arrangements for a client who was in distress about his long hair to get a haircut at a local salon - this may sound rather trivial, but sometimes it's the small things that make a big impression and difference to someone whose life is falling apart
- Purchasing a new bike for one of our regular homeless clients when his was stolen
- Purchasing a blender for a client with health issues who couldn't eat solid food
- Purchasing a bus ticket to a city in the northeast for a young man just wanting to get home; then gathering water and snacks from our food pantry, giving him cash for the trip, and driving him to the Conroe bus station, using the drive time to listen with a compassionate ear to his story

While meeting life's basic necessities for our Tomball neighbors in need is certainly *one* of our ministry goals, it is not our only goal. Our *primary* ministry at TEAM, as demonstrated by these myriad acts of kindness by our caseworkers and volunteers, is to exhibit God's love by putting our faith into action.

In His service,

Becky Loving, Executive Director, TEAM

In Memoriam: It is with great sadness that we share the news that Mary Burrows, a long time volunteer in TEAM's Resale Shop, passed away recently after a courageous battle with cancer. Her strong and lively spirit energetic approach to any and all tasks will be sorely missed. A service for her will be held Sunday, July 22, at 2 pm at First Presbyterian Church on 249.

TEAM received Grant from United Way

TEAM is blessed and grateful to be one of just three organizations in Harris County to receive a Basic Needs Initiative Grant from United Way. They recently awarded TEAM \$33,000.00 to enable TEAM to better provide financial assistance to our clients for rent and/or utility bill payments, help with car repairs or transportation needs, and other financial requirements. Thank you, United Way!

TEAM is grateful also for support from these generous people:

- **Judy Cintron:** Judy, a TEAM Board member from Real Life Ministries of Texas, recently used her creative and construction talents to craft a great display board for the Assistance Ministry area. It holds information about various job openings in the Tomball area and special holders for flyers from our sponsor churches. This information will help clients looking for work and those who don't currently have a church home to find one.



- **Klein UMC youth group:** These energetic teens recently were at TEAM to volunteer and were willing to complete a big job. They moved the CD and record section across the store. It was amazing to watch such energy, good thinking, and wonderful attitudes. They got it done and we were back to selling records and CDs within just a few hours. Music and movies are now located behind books in our Resale Shop. Stop in and check out their handiwork. Here they are with Lucy Harvell, our Volunteer Development Coordinator.



- **Several generous donors to the Food Pantry:** TEAM is so grateful to the many donors to the Food Pantry. These contributions support the summer Good Eats program for Tomball school children and our regular clients and enable TEAM to help them all. Here are some recent examples:

Andrew, an employee at **First Community Credit Union** recently delivered their donations to our Food Pantry, handing them off to Linda Chandler, one of our volunteers. Donations like this make it possible for TEAM to serve those in our community who need a helping hand. We appreciate the donations!



We have such amazing Main Street neighbors! **Pain Train Salsa** donated several cases of delicious tortilla chips to our food pantry. What a great "extra" to be able to send home with our pantry clients!



ChristBridge Fellowship delivered loads of kid-friendly food to support our Good Eats summer food program.



Graceview Baptist Church provided snacks for our Good Eats summer food program. Thank you Brenda Allen, their Board member, for delivering their food collection to TEAM , shown with Susie who volunteers in the Food Pantry:



Manna, Bread of Heaven continues to generously provide their day old products (bread, rolls, etc.) for TEAM's Food Pantry each Tuesday and Thursday. TEAM's clients are very grateful for their delicious items! Please stop in and thank them for these donations – and enjoy some for yourself! They are on southbound 249 just north of NorthPointe Blvd. Here is a picture of their store front and another one of the owner, Kristin, and her son Joseph:



GOOD EATS: SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM FOR KIDS

Since there are no free or reduced breakfasts or lunches during summer break for our Tomball children, TEAM and Tomball ISD have developed a program to support the children receiving these meals during the school year. Please help us keep our kids healthy and ready to learn when they return to school in the fall. Thanks for your help!

LIST OF KID FRIENDLY FOOD Needed This Month:

JUICE BOXES

CANNED MEATS: Tuna, Vienna sausage, canned ham

CANNED OR MICROWAVE MEALS: Stew, soup, ramen noodles

CEREAL OR MICROWAVE OATMEAL

HEALTHY SNACKS: Protein bars, juice boxes, Sunchips, peanut butter crackers

Note: we have plenty of jelly for right now

How about holding a TEAM food drive in your organization: Many churches and organizations deliver to TEAM non-perishable food collected during regular or occasional food drives. Please consider having **one** if you don't currently. Here are items TEAM particularly needs now: juice boxes, canned fruit, and small packages of cookies for the Good Eats program; laundry soap (liquid or powder) for general client use, and always appreciated: paper and plastic grocery bags!

Volunteer Corner

Thanks to our cashiers in the resale shop. We recently all had breakfast together to celebrate their dedication and skills. It was good to get to know each other a little bit better, to break bread together, and to discuss the ins and outs of being a cashier.

We have a few open shifts. If you know anyone who might enjoy becoming a cashier, please have them contact me at harvelllucy@gmail.com.



Remember to tell all your friends to donate, shop and volunteer at TEAM. Word of mouth is a free and fabulous way to increase donations, to add to our customer base, and to acquire new volunteers.

Lucy

TEAM Volunteer Development Coordinator

409-673-1058 or harvelllucy@gmail.com

These Special Volunteers are still needed: TEAM is looking for individuals to fill these special volunteer leadership positions:

Public Relations Manager

This individual will be responsible for developing and maintaining the public image of TEAM. This will involve promoting and issuing press releases, overseeing digital marketing, coordinating fundraising initiatives, attending community meetings and functions, and promoting TEAM's mission and programs within Tomball. Experience is preferred. Please contact Becky Loving at becky.loving@teamtomball.com or 832-221-6572.

Marketing Manager for Resale Operation

This individual will provide expertise in retail sales of clothing, furniture, housewares, and toys to support the TEAM Resale Shop. Experience in pricing, display, promotions, etc. needed. Please contact Jim Gattis at retiredjim@earthlink.net or 713-248-4809

Caseworkers

Additional caseworkers are needed in the Assistance Ministry area; being bilingual is a plus! After a period of training, caseworkers will work with clients to assess their needs and provide food, clothing, financial, and other assistance to them. Caseworkers volunteer one or more days a week. Please contact Becky Loving at becky.loving@teamtomball.com or 832-221-6572.

Resale Shop Cashiers and sales floor personnel

Additional cashiers and sales floor personnel are needed in the Resale Shop to ensure good shopping experiences for our customers. Any needed training is provided. Please contact Sandi Sollinger at skollinger@yahoo.com or 713-419-1049.

Grant Writer

This individual will research grant application opportunities and assist in developing the grant application and related materials. Please contact Becky Loving at becky.loving@teamtomball.com or 832-221-6572.

Follow us on social media:    when you see posts from TEAM, please like and share!
And check our website: <http://www.teamtomball.com/>

Community Events now available on the TEAM website!

Is your church or organization hosting an event that is open to the community? You can now include the TEAM website in your promotional activities! Here's the link to see events currently posted and to find a link for sharing your event: <https://teamtomball.com/community-events>

How to save even more money at TEAM's Resale Shop!

There are always wonderful deals at TEAM's Resale Shop; but here is information on how to save even more money. You can sign-up online to get advance notice of sales and promotions!

NEVER MISS A SALE



Sign up to receive emails about upcoming sales at TEAM's Resale Shop, and we'll send you a 25% off coupon in your first email.

Sign up at teamtomball.com/resale-shop

Shop at Amazon, Kroger and Randalls and help TEAM!

Please pass the word on: TEAM is a participant in rewards programs from all three of these. See details on our website: <https://teamtomball.com/shopping-rewards/>

A big THANK YOU to every one of you! We appreciate your being one of TEAM's backers and for all you do to support TEAM in our community!

Please let us know at TEAM if you have questions about our ministry services or if you have needs we could support. You can contact TEAM at 281-255-6967 or visit our website at: teamtomball.com.

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