

## Mary Sturdevant

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**From:** Mary Sturdevant <sturdevant.mary@swbell.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2018 9:07 AM  
**Subject:** November and December 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.



### *TEAM's Fundamentals*

As this year draws to a close, I would like to share with you TEAM's mission, strategies, and goals. I would also like to THANK YOU for all the many ways you contribute to – and through – TEAM to make our community a better place to live and serve.

#### **OUR MISSION...AND MORE**

##### **OUR MISSION (what we are doing)**

##### **Building Community & Changing Lives, Through Relationships And Service, To Shine Love & Hope Into Our Community**

We are **building** community through partnerships with businesses, organizations, churches, and individuals. We are **strengthening** community, one individual and family at a time, by providing help, hope, and guidance to our neighbors in need. In our Fiscal Year 2018 (closed September 30) TEAM provided assistance with food and/or financial aid to 12,887 individuals.

*And this commandment we have from Him: whoever loves God must also love his brother. (1 John 4:21)*

##### **OUR STRATEGY (how we are doing it)**

##### **Neighbors Serving Neighbors**

We offer opportunities to our community partners to use their time, talents, and gifts to give back by serving and transforming the lives of others, as well as their own, through volunteering, donating, praying.

*In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)*

## **Program Specific Strategies**

**Short-term Assistance:** Providing help, hope, prayer, and encouragement to those experiencing a short-term crisis by offering food, clothing, and/or financial assistance.

**Long-term support:** Providing food support on a monthly basis for the underemployed, elderly and disabled living on fixed incomes. In 2018, 73% of our families/individuals fell into this category.

**Outreach:** Offering monthly food support to low-income Lone Star College students and to Tomball ISD students during the summer, as well as seasonal programs for low-income families at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and back to school.

**The Tomball Benevolence Network:** Coordinating community resources and services with needs through partnerships with businesses, churches, and individuals. Examples include auto and home repairs, and mental health counseling.

**Health Services:** Providing financial assistance for emergency medical or dental treatments, prescriptions, and vision needs, and offering diabetic-friendly food through Core Connections, a partnership with TOMAGWA and the Houston Food Bank.

**Resale:** Offering opportunities for others to support our ministry through donations of in-kind goods and volunteering. Our Resale Shop not only provides vouchers for clothing and household items to our clients, but also offers goods at a great discount to all shoppers!

## **OUR GOAL (how we will measure our success)**

### **Success Will Be Measured By Transformed Lives**

Individuals living with hope, and making healthy and sustainable life choices. Neighbors walking alongside each other, supporting and caring for each other with sacrificial love.

## **OUR VISION (where we believe God is leading us)**

### **Service With And To God And Our Neighbors, Resulting In A Community Of Caring And Unity**

Along with our partners, creating a community where needs can be met, and relationships of caring dominate the culture. A place where churches, businesses, and individuals care and support each other, where lives are transformed and hope is the norm, where the saving grace of the gospel of Jesus is proclaimed in word and action.

*And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were*

being saved.  
(Acts 2:43-47)

May God richly bless You now & In the year to come.

Grace and Peace,

Becky Loving, Executive Director, TEAM

### ***TEAM's inaugural participation in the Tomball Holiday Parade!***

TEAM's new box truck (thanks to the generosity of participants in our spring fundraiser and Honda of Tomball), with its new TEAM wrap, made it possible for TEAM to be in the Tomball Holiday Parade November 17. Several TEAM volunteers decorated the trailer it pulled and rode or walked alongside to share in Tomball's wonderful holiday spirit.



Check out more pictures at this link on TEAM's website: [TEAM in the Holiday Parade](#)

## ***Quick Update on the Tomball Benevolence Network (TBN)***

- Meeting held with Packers Plus located on Hufsmith-Kohrville, an oil/gas related company. Great interest was expressed in providing various kinds of support to TEAM and I will help them develop their assistance program.
- First-time presentations made to First Free Will Baptist Church, St. Anthony Orthodox Christian Church, and WoodsEdge Church. Awaiting their responses. Re-connected with several other TBN churches. WoodsEdge will not become a TBN church but will potentially provide funding through a grant in 2019.
- TBN Service Providers recently helped one client with budget counseling and one with A/C repair.
- TEAM has been adopted as one of BJ Services' top community charities! They are in the process of arranging employees to work at TEAM on company time by 2019, providing TEAM with warehouse space and conference room usage, as well as other opportunities. They also want to market TEAM to their business partners to increase participation with TEAM!
- Seeking 2019 fundraiser sponsorships is now a top priority! Meetings are in the works with multiple businesses in the community, which allows TEAM/TBN presentations to be given too.

God Is at Work!

Karen Guiles, TBN Community Liaison

## ***Stop by the Resale Shop and see our improvements!***

We have recently replaced all of the lighting in the portion of the Resale Shop where the clothing and the cashier's counter are located. This area is now much lighter and brighter to aid your shopping experience. And a second dressing room has been added to reduce wait times for our customers wanting to try on clothes.

## ***TEAM is so grateful for support from these generous people:***

- **Nick Rama:** Nick Rama, from Berkeley Eye Center, held a successful Food Frenzy benefit for TEAM at 403 Eats on Friday, November 2nd, Donations, auctions, and raffles for TEAM: totaled \$1,778! Thank you so much to Nick and his team!
- **Salem Lutheran Church and Harris County Precinct 4:** A HUGE thanks to Salem for sending a team out right away to assist an older couple who still needed remediation from Harvey and to Harris County Precinct 4 for helping the wife, who has stage 4 cancer, to get her gold card reinstated. What a blessing to have such a compassionate and timely response to needs in our community!
- **Tomball Health Coalition:** We are grateful to this coalition for approving TEAM's application for a \$15,000 medical grant. This funding enables TEAM to provide clients with financial assistance in paying medical bills.
- **The many organizations providing food for Thanksgiving baskets for TEAM's clients:** Huge thanks to all of the groups who donated Thanksgiving holiday type foods to TEAM in order for clients to enjoy a generous holiday meal. Food drives were held by Brookshire Elementary, Decker Prairie Elementary, Frank Elementary, Klein Oak High, Tomball Elementary, Tomball Joy School, Wildwood Elementary, BJ Services, Tomball UMC, Southwinds Baptist's Sunday School classes, Woodlands VFW, Klein Trails Girl Scout community (with a special thank you to Susan Huff, the service project coordinator, for organizing their participation), Kids World, America's, and Parkway Chevrolet. The Church of Latter Day Saints once again donated frozen turkeys and chickens. Tomball UMC donated 121 bags of "sides in a sack" to go along with the turkeys and chickens to provide a full meal. Thanks to H-E-B and Patty

James for their donations that enabled us to purchase 250 pounds of margarine to include in the baskets. Below you can see people from Tomball UMC along with grateful Food Pantry volunteers after delivery of the “sides in a sack” contributions, TEAM’s Jim Gattis, Jeff Love, and Becky Loving as they pick up the donations from BJ Services, and kids from ChristBridge’s Tomball Joy School delivering their contributions.





And thanks to the [Wehmeyer](#) family for helping distribute the Thanksgiving baskets (pictured below are Katie, Cole, and David) David moved almost 3,000 lbs. of turkeys before noon, while Katie and Cole gave out eggs, flour, and sugar. This wonderful family is such a blessing to TEAM. They have been helping with our Thanksgiving meal distribution for 9 years.



- **Potpourri Club:** The Potpourri Club of Tomball and Magnolia has been supporting TEAM since 1985! They recently presented us with a donation of food and a gift of \$700. A big thank you to these ladies for their work in the community and continued support of TEAM!



- **The Tomball Veterans of Foreign Wars:** The VFW blessed us with blessing bags for homeless veterans. These precious veterans will appreciate the thoughtfulness and generosity that filled these bags!

**Mark your calendars!**

**SAVE *the* DATE**

*"In the Heart of Tomball"*  
*A celebration benefitting*

**TEAM**  
Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministries

Friday, March 22, 2019  
La Tranquila Ranch at 6:00 pm

GUEST SPEAKER:  
JIM McINGVALE  
"MATTRESS MACK"

 *Building Community, Changing Lives*

***Please meet Renae Cotton***

Renae, our hardworking Operations Support Specialist, started volunteering at TEAM after Hurricane Harvey. She spends most of her time in the Assistance Ministry area, but is also ready to lend a hand in the Resale Shop – or wherever she is needed Here’s a link to learn more about her volunteering at TEAM: [teamtomball.com/meet-operations-support/](http://teamtomball.com/meet-operations-support/)

***How about holding a TEAM food drive in your organization:*** Please consider holding a food drive in your church or organization if you don’t currently. If you want to focus on holiday meals, please recommend: canned sweet potatoes, cake mix and canned frosting, pie crust mix and canned pie filling, flour and sugar; and always appreciated: paper and plastic grocery bags. Your support makes a wonderful difference to families suffering food scarcity and other hardship, especially at this holiday time!

***Volunteer Corner - These Special Volunteers are still needed:***

TEAM is looking for individuals to fill these special volunteer leadership positions:

***Prayer Warriors***

TEAM’s president, Rocky Alexander, is putting out an all-call to individuals to sign up for prayer time with clients in short shifts per month on ministry days. You choose the time slot each month and come ready to pray with our sweet neighbors who are struggling, are open to a Word from our Lord *and* a word of

encouragement from you! Email Mike Pitzer at [mike.pitzer@teamtomball.com](mailto:mike.pitzer@teamtomball.com) for more information and to sign up.

### **Public Relations/Marketing 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, promoting and advertising sales at the Resale Shop, attending community meetings and functions, and promoting TEAM's mission and programs within Tomball. Experience is preferred. Please contact Becky Loving at [karen.guiles@teamtomball.com](mailto:karen.guiles@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](mailto: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](mailto:becky.loving@teamtomball.com) or 832-221-6572.

### ***Please keep TEAM in mind for your end-of-year donations!***

Here we are near the end of the year. Please prayerfully consider TEAM in your end-of-year giving. The holidays are especially stressful and difficult for TEAM's clients and your donations will help TEAM make a positive difference for them. You can mail a check to TEAM or make an on-line donation at [teamtomball.com/donate](http://teamtomball.com/donate).

***Follow us on social media:***    when you see posts from TEAM, please like and share!  
And check out our website: [teamtomball.com/](http://teamtomball.com/)

### ***Want to save even more money at TEAM's Resale Shop?***

There are always wonderful deals at TEAM's Resale Shop. Sign up online at [teamtomball.com/resale-shop](http://teamtomball.com/resale-shop) to get advance notice of sales and promotions!

### ***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. Details at [teamtomball.com/shopping-rewards/](http://teamtomball.com/shopping-rewards/)

***Everyone at TEAM hopes all of you*** had a blessed Thanksgiving celebration and will have a Holy and joyful Christmas! Thanks so much for supporting TEAM during 2018!

Contact TEAM at 281-255-6967 with questions or if support is needed, or visit TEAM's website at: [teamtomball.com](http://teamtomball.com).

If you wish to be removed from future distributions of this email, please reply to me with that request.

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