

NEWSLETTER



*Meeting needs
& improving lives
by serving as the
hands of Christ*

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A History of Community Ministry of North Augusta



Ribbon cutting at 608 West Avenue in 1985

Prior to 1984, the churches of North Augusta had individual food pantries and clothes closets to help those in need. However, several area churches felt that a community ministry was needed, in which they could share resources and provide unified assistance to their neighbors. In 1984, six local churches successfully banded together to create Community Ministry of North Augusta (CMONA).

The Thrift Store first opened on March 28, 1985, at 608 West Avenue in a house provided to the ministry by Margaret Callicott. The thrift store moved to the Genesis Building at Grace United Methodist Church in 1987 and was officially incorporated as a non-profit organization on December 29, 1990.

In 1994, Community Ministry relocated to the old SCE&G building on Five Notch Road at Georgia Avenue for a cost of \$5.00 a year. With the larger building, the ministry was able to expand services. The building was renovated by church members and citizens of North Augusta. The ribbon cutting was held on July 9, 1994. By 1995, there were seventeen sponsoring churches.

In 1999, SCE&G sold the property to McDonalds. Community Ministry found it necessary to make another move. The Board of Directors agreed it was in the best interest of CMONA to purchase a building. A capital Funds Campaign Committee was formed, and a search was started to find a suitable building. The citizens of North Augusta raised \$241,822 to buy and renovate the building at 646 E Buena Vista Avenue and opened the new location in October 1999.

In 2010, twenty-two churches were supporters of the ministry, providing donations and volunteers to help CMONA keep up with the growing needs of our North Augusta community.

Due to the lack of privacy, difficult accessibility, crowded workspaces and inadequate food pantry space, the Board of Directors felt that a new campus would enable the Ministry to serve more clients, more effectively, with the goal of becoming a "one-stop-shop" for area residents in need. A new capital campaign, Forward in Faith, began in November 2017 with a \$2.0 million goal.

January 2019 saw pledge totals of \$1.4 million, sign unveiling and artist renderings of the new facilities. September 19, 2019, was the official date of our groundbreaking ceremony. Over 100 people attended, including pastors, volunteers, staff, community leaders and elected officials. August 16, 2021, was the official ribbon cutting and dedication of the new buildings.

Thank you to our North Augusta community for making these improvements to our ministry possible!

Member Churches



In 1984 six local churches, Our Lady of Peace, Fairview Presbyterian, Second Providence Baptist, Grace Methodist, Saint Bartholomew and Holy Trinity banded together to create Community Ministry of North Augusta. By 2023, CMONA had grown from the original six to twenty-eight member churches.

Each member church gives \$1.00 per year for each active church member. The churches pledge to support the ministry with donations to the food pantry and the thrift store. Member churches also staff both the ministry and the thrift store with volunteers and support the mission of CMONA in prayer.

- Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity
- Behind the Veil Church
- Bel-Ridge Baptist Church
- Belvedere United Methodist Church
- Crown Kingdom Cultural Center
- Fairview Presbyterian Church
- First Baptist Church of North Augusta
- First Christian of Belvedere
- First Providence Church of Belvedere
- First Providence Baptist
- Grace Fellowship
- Grace United Methodist Church
- Hammond Grove Word Power Ministry
- Holy Trinity Lutheran
- Immanuel Baptist Church
- Midland Valley Community Church of the Nazarene
- Mt. Transfiguration Baptist Church
- North Augusta Baptist Church
- North Augusta Church of Christ
- North Augusta Community Fellowship
- Old Storm Branch Baptist Church
- Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church
- Pine Grove Baptist Church
- Second Providence Baptist
- St. Bartholomew's Episcopal
- Sweetwater Baptist Church
- True North Church
- Victory Baptist
- Warren Belvedere

Thank you for your continued support!!



Community Ministry
of North Augusta
Thrift Shop

**Shop. Donate.
Change a Life.**

531 Belvedere-Clearwater Rd, North Augusta • cmona.org

Celebrating 40 Years of Service



Opened Thrift Shop on West Ave
in 1985



1987



Renovated SCE&G building
1994



Ribbon Cutting for new location
at SCE&G building - 1994



Food Pantry Construction 1994

1984

CMDNA founded
& operated out of
608 West Avenue



Thrift Shop moved to
Grace Genesis Building 1987



Nancy Thornton with supplies for
Food Pantry - 1998



1992 Genesis Building moved to
First Providence Baptist Church location

1994



Nancy Thornton, Joyce White,
Marianne Harlan & Mildred Weeks - 1994

2024



1st Annual CharityFest hosted by
Riverside Antiques & Treasures



1st Believe in Belvedere
Community Fair - 2023



Thrift Store Setup
2020



Former Executive Directors
Elizabeth Morris & Nancy Joyce
celebrate completion of new building

2023



David & Doris Shellhorse at
CharityFest 2024



2nd Believe in Belvedere
Community Fair - 2024



Thrift Store open for business!
8-23-2021



Dr. Ron John Thompson, a founding pastor, and Executive
Director Elizabeth Morris tour new meeting building with
Shirley Thompson, Forward in Faith Team member



Ribbon Cutting at E Buena Vista location
1999



Eddie Brooks &
Peggy Edwards



646 E Buena Vista renovations
1999



Food Pantry Setup by volunteers
1999



Director Nancy Joyce celebrates
CMONA's 25th Anniversary!

2010



Sue Morris at an event held for
Director Elizabeth Eaves in 1996

1999



First Store at Buena Vista Location



Celebrated 35 years of service at our
E Buena Vista Location! 2019



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Dedication
8-15-2021



883 LUNCH FOR A BUNCH
Presented by CMONA in partnership with the City of Augusta



2019 - Construction of new facilities at
531 Belvedere Clearwater Rd began

Forward in Faith
capital campaign
began in 2017

2017



Food pantry setup by volunteers
2021



Barb & Store Manager Sabrina moving
out of the E Buena Vista Location 2021

2021



Thrift Store Moving Day!
2021



Meet Our Leadership!



Tammy Butler
Executive Director
Damascus Baptist Church



Mary Johnson
Board President
Bel-Ridge Baptist Church



Marty Bruce
First Vice President
TrueNorth Church



Anne Comer
Second Vice President
Grace United Methodist Church



Neil Crossley
Board Treasurer
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church



David Shellhorse
Board Secretary
Fairview Presbyterian Church

Board of Directors

Jane Carter	Fairview Presbyterian Church
Dr Ron Bryant	First Baptist Church of NA
Bob Bigger	Grace United Methodist Church
Rich Salizzoni	Our Lady of Peace
Don White	First Baptist Church of NA

Pat Carpenter	First Baptist Church of NA
Rev Elaine Davis	Mt. Transfiguration Baptist
Cheryl Jones	Crown Kingdom Cultural Center
Rev Leonard Hodges	2nd Providence Baptist Church

Partner Organizations

Community Ministry of North Augusta has expanded its partnerships, which allows for collaboration between agencies to better serve our community.

CMONA has partnered with the following agencies because we believe that people with substance use issues, mental illnesses, trauma and others who have experienced severe emotional distress, are often the object of misunderstanding and stigmatizing attitudes. Much of the homelessness and poverty that we encounter is a direct result of substance use or mental health issues.

Each of these agencies along with CMONA have pledged to treat each client with respect and dignity. We provide safe and therapeutic environments that promote self-sufficiency. We offer a hand up, not a handout.



Aiken-Barnwell Mental Health

The mission of Aiken-Barnwell Mental Health is to support the recovery of people with mental illnesses. Each person receiving services is treated with respect and dignity. ABMHC believes that people are best serviced in or near their homes. Through our partnership, clients can be referred to ABMHC for immediate evaluation and assessment.

Aiken Center

This expansion will enable Aiken Center to offer substance use treatment and recovery support services to the North Augusta area. A lead counselor for opioid use and Medication Assisted Treatment and a Peer Support specialist will be housed in the ministry building and see clients by appointment. It is our hope that we as a ministry, in partnership with Aiken Center, can engage families and walk with them through their recovery journey.

Cumbee Center

Community Ministry of North Augusta continues its partnership with The Cumbee Center to assist abused persons. The mission of The Cumbee Center is to support and empower domestic violence victims, sexual violence victims, and their families. A lead case manager and DSS liaison is housed in the ministry building on the third Wednesday of every month. Clients in the North Augusta area are seen by appointment.

Rural Health Services – Clyburn Center for Primary Care

The mission of Rural Health Services is to provide accessible, quality, comprehensive primary healthcare services in a dignified and culturally competent manner. Through a funding grant, the Clyburn Center for Primary Care Mobile Medical Van will be available to see patients every Thursday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, in the parking lot of Community Ministry of North Augusta. Any client or resident of Aiken County can receive medical treatment at no or reduced cost.

La-Z-Boy Southeast

La-Z-Boy Home Furnishings & Décor selected CMONA as one of their seven charity partners. During their Trade-In Sale, the company raises around \$22,000 each year for their charity partners and sends 7 to 10 truckloads of gently used furniture donations to organizations that help people in need.





How we made a difference in 2023

Our food pantry fed 3,483 individuals
from 1,360 families



6,070.5
volunteer
hours



3,483
individuals
served



\$116,716
in utility
assistance



2,046 bags
of food
(\$164,964 worth)

\$12,579 worth
of furniture
& clothing

We have an online giving portal!
Scan the QR code to donate online.

After donating, a portal login can be
created to manage your giving.

