



1st Quarter Newsletter 2018

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Are you being productive?" This was a very odd question I received when speaking the other day to a group of supporters. "Are you being productive?" The person who asked the question elaborated... "are we making these people change their lives".

I forget people don't understand the population we serve. I forget the stigma of poverty which says they are lazy people who won't get off their feet and work. I forget people don't understand who the face of poverty is in Maury County.

Productive? Sure, I guess you can say we are being productive. When our elderly neighbors who live on a small fixed income have to make the choice between eating and paying for medication and we can make that choice a little easier for them, I think that is being productive. When a family of four with both parents working has a broken-down car and they have to make the decision between paying for repairs or paying their rent and we can help, we are being productive. When we help 507 families provide a Thanksgiving turkey and the trimmings for their families and feel thankful for the love and support of our wonderful community, I think that is being productive. When we know 631 children will have presents under the tree like their classmates, no matter what the circumstances of the parents... we are being productive.

We are able to help the homeless find permanent housing. We have helped folks find jobs and get off the system, and we have helped people learn to budget their money better to not need us. But that is not the bulk of who we are seeing. Jobs are plentiful here in our community. If someone can work, they do. The majority of the people we help are those unable to work or who are working, but still can't make it. Productivity for these individuals is rated a little differently than what is traditionally expected.

We serve a very small population of people that can work but refuse. However, our policies and procedures make it hard for them to abuse our services. We are here to serve all that request assistance in hopes that one day, even these folks will turn around and help themselves.

The face of poverty in Maury County is the child standing next to yours in the school lunch line, it is the elderly couple sitting on the park bench, it is the mother getting off a 10-hour shift at work and having to take care of the kids while her husband works the night shift. It is you and me.

We are productive, not in ways people can easily understand. We are productive by just being here, for those in need, in many different ways. We are a place people can count on to fill the need whether it be with food, financial assistance, school supplies, Thanksgiving turkeys or Christmas presents. Because of supporters like you, this is productivity at its best!

With Love and Gratitude,



Dawn Taylor
Executive Director

Upcoming Events



***Big Payback
May 2nd***

WHAT IS THE BIG PAYBACK?

The Big Payback is a 24-hour, online giving day to increase philanthropy in the 40 counties served by The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee. The goal is simple - inspire Middle Tennesseans to come together, show their pride in their community, and contribute to the life-changing work of local nonprofit organizations.

This collaborative, inclusive event shines a spotlight on LOCAL giving and creates a new sense of energy around philanthropy. It touches the lives of virtually every person in Middle Tennessee.

[Click here to donate!](#)

Please join us at Fire Station No. 1 - 1000 S. Garden Street in Columbia, between 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Help inspire change. Help inspire community. Celebrate Middle Tennessee's spirit of generosity on Wednesday, May 2 during the fifth annual BigPayback's 24-hour, online giving day!

THERE WILL BE FOOD TRUCKS THERE AS WELL!!!



Belk Charity Day

May 5th

6-10 a.m. In Store Only

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the Family Center.



Common Threads

We are so blessed by this community. Our little thrift store is continuing to grow and thrive. If you haven't been to the store yet, now is the time to come by to see what all the buzz is about.



We appreciate everyone that has helped us spread the word about this easy way to give back to those in need. All proceeds from the thrift store sales come back to the Family Center to help with our programs. Your donation or purchase will help someone with food, utility or rental assistance. Please continue to send people to the store and

shop! If you would like to donate items, you may do so anytime the store is open. We are always in need of purses, jewelry, books and small furniture. The store is located at **1300 Hatcher Lane** next to Dr. Wilhite's Dental office. (931-398-5658)

Store Hours: Tuesday-Friday 11-5 & Saturday 10-2

Volunteers Needed-
If interested, please contact Gina to
find out how you can get involved.

LOOK
WHAT
HAPPENED™



**Woodard Elementary School students
collected hygiene items for our pantry.**



**Andy Meldrum donated meat
for our freezer.**



**Williamsport Baptist Church collected 800
canned good items for our pantry.**



"Night at the Movies"

[Click here to view entire album from "Night at the Movies"](#)

Future Educational Opportunities

*Budgeting Classes-May 16, June 12 (evening class)

*Anger Management Classes- as requested

*Mind, Body & Soul Classes- May 30, June 27

If you would like to teach a class, please contact Teresa
at 388-3840 or teresa@familycenter.org.

2018 1st Quarter Statistics

	Families Served	YTD	Amount Paid 1st Quarter	Paid YTD
Columbia Power	159	159	\$17,308.66	\$17,308.66
Mt. Pleasant Power	12	12	\$1,032.33	\$1032.33
Atmos Energy	59	59	\$13,113.37	\$13,113.37
DREMC	32	32	\$7,438.89	\$7,438.89
Rent	49	49	\$7,850.00	\$7,850.00

Eyeglasses	14	14	\$1,563.00	\$1,563.00
Emergency Lodging	0	0	\$	\$
Columbia Oil	0	0	0	\$
MRMC Foundation	14	14	\$1,607.37	\$1,607.37
Bus Ticket	0	0	0	0
Mt Pleasant Water	2	2	\$192.33	\$192.33
Miscellaneous	5	5	\$900.00	\$900.00
Kroger Cards	15	15	\$475.00	\$475.00
Pantry	1189	1189	\$2,765.88	\$2,765.88
Common Threads Support Cards	46	46	\$2,325.00	\$2,325.00
Total	1596	1596	\$53,771.83	\$53,771.83

Extreme Givers: Thank You!

Berea Church of Christ	Columbia Academy
Bigbyville United Methodist	Cornerstone Cowboy Church
Blue Springs Free Will Baptist Church	United Daughters of the Confederate
First Family Baptist Church	Homer & Brenda Martin
First Presbyterian Church	Grace Church of Nazarene
First United Methodist Church	Farm Bureau Health Plans
Highland Park Baptist Church	Carlton Wright
Maury Baptist Association	Cruz Law, PLLC
Maury Hills Church	Nell Evers
Pleasant Heights Baptist Church	Dorothe Horne
Riverside United Methodist Church	Salvation Army
Rock Springs Baptist Church	United Way
St Catherine Catholic Church	Riverview Baptist Church
St. Peters Episcopal Church	Viola Baptist Church
Central Presbyterian Church	McCain's Church

Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church

Trinity Family Church
Williamsport Baptist Church
Arrow Rock Church of Christ
Sue Franks
Porter King
Shaun Crowell

South Point
Church of Christ

Trotwood Garden Club
Highland Corporation
Thomas Napier Gordon
Eastern Stars
David & Connie Adcox

Jennifer Archibald
Program Assistant



We are excited to introduce you to our newest staff member. Jennifer was born and raised in Maury County and graduated from Central High School. She is married to Robert Archibald and the mother to three wonderful young men. Her compassionate and giving heart makes a great fit for The Family Center. As the

Program Assistant, she will help enhance and grow all the programs at the Center. We look forward to having her serve this community along side us.



Special Recognition



The Family Center would like to recognize First Cumberland Presbyterian Church for their generosity during the holiday season. They were so gracious to allow us to use their building for Santa's Workshop. We took over their back gym for over a week in December. Myrtle Brooks was there every time the staff needed to set up, clean up and during the entire event. We couldn't have done it without her. THANK YOU for your hospitality and your willingness to help us make the season bright for those in need.

Volunteer Spotlight!



Jerry Wilson is one of our new Thursday volunteers. He likes to keep busy and is always in shorts. Yes, even when it's cold outside! Jerry has proven that he's willing to do anything that is needed...even climb stacks of canned food. Thank you Jerry for always helping us with any task we throw at you!

Partner Spotlight!



We would like to thank Belk for their continued support of The Family Center. The past several years they have included us in their Belk Charity Day sales which benefit many organizations in the community. This is a wonderful

way to give back to non-profits in the area and shop local. This past Christmas season Belk allowed us to place Salvation Army kettles at many of the registers and have Bell Ringers outside the store right before Christmas. We are excited to add them to the list of stores that will be on the schedule this year. THANK YOU Belk!

Ways to Help!

Kroger Community Rewards!

Kroger Community rewards is a new program that helps Non-Profit organizations by earning money as the community shops. By registering your Kroger card and selecting The Family Center's number **89559**, you will help us earn points every time you shop. The points turn into dollars for The Family Center which turns into assistance for Maury County residents. Help us by enrolling in the rewards program today! [Click here to enroll!](#)



Good Samaritan Program	I would like to add:
<small>You can add to your utility bill each month to help pay the electric bills for a needy citizen in Maury County. Simply fill out this registration card and return to Columbia Power & Water Systems (CPWS) for processing.</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$3.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00
<small>I (we) do hereby authorize and empower CPWS to increase my utility bill to support the Good Samaritan Program. This and all sums collected pursuant to the Good Samaritan Program will be paid into a fund to be administered by the Family Center for the purpose set forth above.</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ to my bill each month.
<small>This authorization obligates me to pay the additional sum per month until such time as I deliver to CPWS a written request that this obligation cease. Upon receipt of written request, CPWS will terminate my Good Samaritan Program participation as of the next regular billing cycle, and I will no longer be obligated to make said payments.</small>	Name: _____
	Account No.: _____
<small>Columbia Power & Water Systems</small>	Address: _____
	Signature: _____
	Date: _____

Plus 1\$

Columbia Power and Water Services, Mt. Pleasant Power, Atmos, and Duck River Electric Membership Cooperation all have programs that allow you to add a few dollars to your utility bill. We can use this money to help pay utility bills

for our families. Please contact your utility company for more information



You shop, Amazon gives

Did you know you can help The Family Center by purchasing items on Amazon Smile? This is similar to Amazon website but a portion of your purchase will be sent to The Family Center as a donation.

[Click here for more information!](#)

Atmos Assistance!

Do you know someone that needs assistance with their **Atmos** Gas bill? The Family Center can pay their old bill, current bill or reconnection fee for the next few weeks provided we have not already assisted them with their Atmos bill this year. **There is no income limit!** Please do not let someone go cold this year because of an old bill or reconnection fee! Call 388-3840 for an appointment.



This offer is only for Atmos bills. All other utility assistance must meet regular Good Samaritan eligibility requirements. We cannot pay reconnection fees or past bills on other utility bills.

Get To Know Your Board Members

Frank Bellamy, President

Susie Baxter, Vice President

Suzanne Jordan, Secretary

Donnise Warf, Treasurer

Ed Campbell

Wade Kincaid

Debra Dooley

Cindy McCann

Betty Gibson

Pamela Nelson

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Jimmy Phillips

Terry Hendrickson

Jennifer Tiger

Lori Hughes

Raquel Waters

Staff Members

Dawn Taylor, Executive Director

Cathy Stoltz, Volunteer/Office Coordinator

Jennifer Archibald, Program Assistant

Gina Russell, Common Threads, Manager

Lisa Frierson, LBSW, Good Samaritan Coordinator

Tina Bullock, Common Threads, Assistant Manager

Teresa Prinzo, Family Services Coordinator

Plus 25 Volunteers!

Dawn Taylor
Executive Director
931.388.3840

[**Click Here to Donate!**](#)

Bridging those in Crisis

STAY CONNECTED

