



Mission Statement

Churches United is a nonprofit organization of Bemidji area churches lead by the Spirit of Christ to work together to meet the emergency needs of homeless and low-income people in a prayerful way.

"Welcoming the Stranger as Jesus"

Monthly Newsletter
May 2018

HIGH POINTS: VALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS

If you have been following the monthly reports included in these newsletter you will have seen that Churches United has been helping with rent, utilities, and other larger emergency needs.

Quite often it happens that the need in these cases exceeds the budget limits of Churches United. It is then that we attempt to form partnerships with other organizations.

In April there were a total of 34 requests for assistance with rent, utilities, or other large emergency needs. Of these, 11 have been approved for assistance by Churches United and 1 is still pending. One of those

approved was paid in May. A 12th case was paid in total by one of our partner organizations. There was only 1 case where there was not a partnership formed as the need was within our budget limits.

The total that Churches United covered was \$1,772.85. The total covered by partners [including the client in 5 cases] was \$2,774.62. The total need met was \$4,547.47, 61% of which was covered by partners.

Many of these partners would not be able to meet these needs without our support.

Till next month, *Wanda*

Current Needs

- Travel size lotion, shampoo, conditioner, & deodorant
- Snack items for sack lunches: cheese & crackers, peanut butter & crackers, granola bars, fruit cups, juice boxes, fruit snacks, & bottled water
- Large, clear plastic bins with lids [3] for sorting hats, mittens, etc.
- Toilet paper for clients

BUS TICKETS:

Over the past few weeks we have had several people come to Churches United asking for bus tickets to the cities. Churches United no longer does Salvation Army vouchers, so we are not doing bus tickets. If you have someone come to your church requesting this type of help they may go to the Law Enforcement Center downtown and ask for the Sergeant on Duty. He/she might write a Salvation Army voucher for them.

PASTOR TO PASTOR:

As a kid, if I said, "I'm bored," my mom would tell me to go scrub the bathroom. I thought of it as a punishment, but in retrospect, it was a way to serve my family. We are all called to serve the larger family of God and what better way than Churches United? Perhaps we could ask our congregants, "Is anyone bored? I have a great opportunity for you!"

Pastor Pete

MONTHLY OVERVIEW - APRIL 2018

Total Intakes	153	Laundry Vouchers	33	Employed/Disabled/Retired .	64
Total Cash Value		totaling	\$165.00	Unemployed	97
Distributed*	\$5,194.93	Bus Tokens	108	Initial intakes included:	
Requests Accepted.....	122	totaling.....	\$162.00	Rental assistance	16
Requests Denied	23	Other Vouchers.....	0	Electric shut-off notices.....	18
Request Pending	8	totaling.....	\$0.00	Propane/Natural gas shut-off notices.....	4
Rental Assistance.....	4	Clothing Vouchers	16	Other assistance.....	6
totaling	\$767.00	Diapers [bundles of 10]	15	Revenues:	
Utility Assistance.....	6	Lunchables/Bottled Water	32	Member Churches:	\$2,176.43
totaling	\$1,000.93	Quilts/Blankets	12	Private Donations:	165.00
Other Assistance.....	0	Toiletries	39	Other:.....	0
Totaling	\$0	Total number of individuals		Total Revenues:	\$2,341.43
Food Vouchers	81	assisted	362	*Note that cash value distributed	does not include diapers, wipes, lunchables, & water.
totaling	\$2,015.00	Adults	211		
Gas Vouchers.....	48	Children	151		
totaling	\$1085.00	Homeless.....	34		

PRESENTATIONS:

I am currently scheduling presentations for 2018.

If your church would like me to do a short address to your board or congregation, please contact me at 218-444-1380 or email cunited@paulbunyan.net to set up a time and venue that works for you.

Thank you, Wanda

Office Hours: noon - 4:00 p.m.
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