Meeting people at their point of need

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“What is important is not how much we do, but how much love we put into doing it. Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.”

MOTHER THERESA
“Cancelled”, “shut-down”, “pandemic”, “COVID-19”, “protests”, and “racial equity” are all phrases and words that have become a part of daily life these last several months. When I think of CCPC and our team’s response to all that has happened this year, I think of words like: “resilient”, “nimble”, “compassionate”, “relentless”, and “sacrificial”. I have never been more proud of our staff than I have been this year: first, for their response in the face of adversity, and second, for the incredible impact CCPC has had on our entire region this year, which is a direct result of the actions and attitudes of our staff, donors, and volunteers. THANK YOU to all who supported us so generously!

During the entire COVID-19 crisis we never shut our doors. We kept our food pantry open, moved our Basic Needs Assistance program online, and continued offering critical mental health counseling to those in need. So far this year, we have given nearly $1 Million in rent assistance and served thousands with food. Mental health counseling sessions increased by 40% during COVID-19, and the need for counseling scholarships increased by 85%. Additionally, our Counseling Center’s APRN saw a 150% increase in new patients over the last few months, again highlighting our community’s need for advanced mental health care.

Our ability to respond during this crisis reflects the remarkable character of our staff, but it would not have been possible without the astounding generosity our community demonstrated. Neighbors, friends, families, and organizations came together to make sure no one fell through the cracks during this crisis. Perhaps this year more than ever, CCPC’s mission to “meet people at their point of need as an expression of God’s love” was lived out by our entire community. We are so grateful.

One of my favorite quotes by Mother Theresa is:

“What is important is not how much we do, but how much love we put into doing it. Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.”

As I reflect on this year so far, our 20th anniversary year, I marvel how the Christian Center team has been able to do great things with great love, in the face of great adversity.

Thank you for partnering with us so that together we can continue creating a community where every person is met at their point of need.

DR. ROB HARTER
Executive Director
CCPC | rob@ccofpc.org
Heber Highlight

Our Heber campus is growing by leaps and bounds! This year we added Case Management services to our Heber location, expanded our Snacks in Backpacks program to feed even more children in Wasatch County schools, officially opened our Heber Thrift donation receiving operations, and have seen record sales numbers in the store. Additionally, our Operation Hope program in Wasatch County will serve close to 1,000 children this year—a 20% increase over last year’s numbers.

We would not be able to meet the growing demands for services without the help of our hard-working staff and volunteers and the many valuable community partnerships we have in Wasatch County.

Heber Pantry by the numbers

- **350** households monthly in the pantry
- 1,200 pounds of food
- **MORE THAN 1,000 SNACKS** in backpacks meal bags delivered to local schools monthly
- **RESCUED 30,000 LBS OF FOOD** from grocery stores in 2020
Matt had received rent assistance from the Christian Center’s Basic Needs program. Through his interactions with the staff, he learned about the Counseling Center. One afternoon he found himself in tears seeking help for his son who had just been admitted to a psychiatric hospital. Being a refugee, he didn’t know how to navigate the health care system and lacked understanding about what his rights were as a parent. Through working with a therapist, he was able to connect with our case manager. Together, they helped him process his stress and provided guidance on how to get connected with long-term services for his son. Throughout the process, he continued to share how once things had settled in his personal life, he desires to volunteer at the Christian Center to give back.

This story illustrates the holistic care our Basic Needs Assistance program provides. Our two county region was hit hard by COVID-19, leaving many in the Latinx community especially vulnerable to housing insecurity. As a result, Basic Needs Assistance was needed more than ever. Roughly 1,400 unique households applied for assistance during this time.

Thanks to an amazingly generous response from our community, we received over $1,000,000 in financial support dedicated to our Basic Needs Assistance, which was distributed in the form of 2,255 checks for nearly $922,000 in assistance so far. Nearly 90% of this assistance has gone to rent assistance, while the rest went to utility bills, car repairs, and medical bills.

According to Park City’s own housing needs assessment in 2016, the Latinx community:

- Makes up 1 in every 8 households
- Has a median household size of 4.8 persons
- Has a 90% chance of renting
- Has a 50% chance of living in poverty
Overwhelmed, anxious, depressed, alone: these are the words clients of the Counseling Center are using to describe their lives amidst a pandemic. The need for immediate mental health care and increased access to treatment has never been greater for our community.

This year the Counseling and Wellness Center at CCPC has already seen a dramatic increase in both overall counseling sessions and the use of scholarship funds for those unable to pay for the treatment they require. Our Counseling Center has already given over 4,200 counseling sessions, of which 777 have used scholarship funds. In response to the mental health needs of the community, our Counseling and Wellness Center has added 6 mental health specialists this year, for a total of fifteen staff. The Counseling Center is now able to offer a variety of specialties including medication management, EMDR therapy, child therapy, health coaching, Enneagram coaching, and case management.

"Once the ski shop closed down, I didn’t really know what to do with my time and started to drink.

It was a really dark period and brought up a lot of memories from my past. Usually, I would go skiing or biking to manage but things were closed so I just watched TV. I was so grateful that the counseling department was willing to see people in person so I could connect face to face. Through therapy, my drinking is starting to decrease and I’m developing new skills to manage my thoughts and emotions. I was also able to get connected with medication management. It was a night and day difference. I had been taking the same medications for 10 years with a very brief annual check-in. Linsey was so comprehensive when we met, and she took 90 minutes to understand my situation."

“I thought I was going to be fine with this COVID-19 thing since I like being alone, but this is something else. I have felt so alone and isolated. I relapsed because I was bored and depressed. I mean what else was I supposed to do? I’m alone and stuck inside. I’m so grateful that the Christian Center is providing scholarships and support during this time so I can work on my sobriety. I look forward to therapy every week just so I have someone to talk to and process with.”

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At the height of the COVID-19 quarantine shutdown when grocery store shelves were empty and local unemployment reached 22%, our food pantry served over 1,000 individuals each week via a drive-through pantry model we developed.

During that time it was not uncommon to see a line of cars stretched around the building waiting to receive food at our Park City campus. Our Heber campus also served many households during the height of the pandemic and adapted to meet the needs of Wasatch County residents.

Though many people have been able to return to work, there continues to be an elevated number of unemployed and under-employed in our community. Families are struggling with debt from reduced work hours and previous unemployment, and we see our food pantry as a critical service, providing nutrition and financial relief.

By the numbers

**SERVED 9,878 HOUSEHOLDS**
18,624 INDIVIDUALS

**Food Distributed:**
652,848 pounds of food
$1,089,197 worth of food
543,511 meals

*Numbers are Jan 1, 2020 through Aug. 31, 2020*

“**You fed us, yes, but you also nourished us, nourished our souls.**

My family and I picked up our boxes of food from the Christian Center after losing our jobs due to COVID19. We wish we could have been out of state with our elderly parents, but alas. Upon getting home the first blessing was revealed to us when my kiddos immediately started playing with the empty boxes. The older child used the empty milk crate to exercise in lieu of his cancelled sports and the younger child took scissors, tape and markers to a banana box and repurposed it as a dog bed.

My husband and I stood back and marveled at the bounty of food and realized we had luckily, randomly received the exact ingredients that make up Grandma’s legendary meal which was the nostalgic favorite when I was growing up. That night I cooked the delicious, nutritious meal and took photos and sent the photos to Grandma and Grandpa of their grandkids sitting at the dining room table enjoying it. It was as though we were all together in the kitchen, cooking and at the table eating ~ together. Voila! Thank you.”
Volunteer Profiles

Luther Creed

Not many volunteers are willing to wake up extra early, year round, to help pick up rescued food from local grocery stores. Luther Creed is one of those rare people who enjoy early mornings lifting boxes alongside our pantry staff. Luther says the pantry staff are what keep him coming back, even during a pandemic. He says the staff work hard, represent the center well, and are great to be around.

When not volunteering, Luther and his wife enjoy outdoor activities. They have called Park City their full time home since retiring here in 2016 and are fully in love with this community.

By the numbers: (Jan 1, 2020 - Aug 31, 2020)

- 6,127 VOLUNTEER HOURS
- 672 INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERS
- 9.11 HOURS = AVERAGE VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT PER MONTH

Gladys Anampa

Gladys originally hails from Peru but has called Park City her home since 2015. She has been serving as a CCPC volunteer in our stores and at events since 2017, and sees her volunteer work as a way to help people, make friends, and practice her English with staff and customers.

Gladys shares the mission of CCPC with those she meets, and says “I meet many people in stressful situations and I tell them CCPC is there to help everyone in need.”
Goshute Tribe Initiative

Although COVID presented many challenges, we were still able to make three trips happen this year by implementing social distancing and mask-wearing, which led to a whole lot of outdoor fun!

In June, we met members of the tribe in Yellowstone for a camping and national park adventure. In August, a group tribal members came to Park City for mountain biking and community building. In October, we helped to organize a group from the Goshute Tribe to travel to the Grand Canyon to explore indigenous heritage and history.

A huge thank you goes out to American Express and Ally Bank for their longstanding and generous support of this initiative. Their support has allowed us to continue expanding our programs and services to the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation.

We also have been able to deliver much needed water and water tanks to Navajo communities in southwestern Utah, continuing a tradition that CCPC took part in nearly 20 years ago.

Back to School Basics

Despite the uncertainty surrounding school reopenings, we knew children would still need new clothing and supplies to help set them up for success in learning. We were so glad we could provide this program again this year, even despite restrictions on crowd sizes. Modifications to the original event format included spreading the event out over several days, wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. Back 2 School Basics 2020 turned out to be our largest B2SB event ever! 856 kids were able to shop for back to school clothes and receive school supplies and backpacks. This program served children from Summit County, Wasatch County and the Goshute Tribe.

A special thanks goes out to: Westgate Park City Resort & Spa, Wasatch Community Foundation, Mountain Life Church, and Outlets Park City.
Many people first get acquainted with CCPC through our donation drop off. Donated items are sorted and sent to our three stores where they are sold to generate funding for our outreach programs and services. In Park City, we have both a Thrift and Boutique selling everything from kitchen goods to high-end clothing and accessories. In Heber, we have a Thrift store that sells everything from clothing to furniture of all shapes and sizes. When you shop at CCPC’s stores you can enjoy a double bottom line: saving money while supporting our outreach programs and services.

During this past year we have been in the midst of a unique “moment” in our country concerning issues of racial equality and racial justice. There have been protests, town hall meetings, and panel discussions about these critical issues. In light of all this, CCPC planned two events that created safe spaces for meaningful discussions around these difficult issues.

This summer, in partnership with Capital Church and Utah’s MLK Jr. Human Rights Commission, we invited several key leaders from the black community to come together for a virtual town hall discussion, with the purpose of learning from their perspectives and experiences around racial justice and racial equity.

Then in the winter, we hosted a panel discussion that focused specifically on issues of race, diversity and the winter sports world. In partnership with local artist and illustrator Lamont Joseph White, we also hosted a special art exhibit of his work entitled: “Skiing In Color”.

Award Winning Stores
On Jan. 1 2000, the Christian Center opened its doors at a 3,000 square foot space on Iron Horse Drive housing two classrooms, a bookstore, and a small counseling center.

In the past 20 years we have distributed well over 20 million dollars’ worth of food, clothing and household goods to those in need in Summit and Wasatch counties. Our two food pantries, three stores, state of the art mental health Counseling and Wellness Center provide a safety net to people in our community, so that they can not only survive, but thrive. From the start, our vision has been to create a community where every person is met at their point of need.

As we look back over the past 20 years we recognize there is no way we could have done this on our own. We thank YOU, our wonderfully generous community, for helping us improve the lives of people through meeting immediate needs! Because of your investment of time, money, and support, we have been able to provide a safety of services to our community.

Credit: Utah Style and Design magazine
Investing in Hope

HOW TO DONATE: THREE EASY WAYS TO GIVE

Send a check in the mail to our mailing address:
Christian Center of Park City (CCPC)
PO Box #683480
Park City, UT 84068

Give by going on our website and clicking on “Donate” or donate here:

DONATE HERE

Make a stock gift directly to CCPC. Call our Director of Finance at #435-649-2260 to walk you through this brief process.

Thank you for helping us serve this community for 20 years!