

Real Life Center



2010 Annual Report

~Providing Necessities for Living; Equipping People for Life~

Meeting Needs, Sharing Christ, Changing Hearts, Changing Lives



Fourfold Strategy:

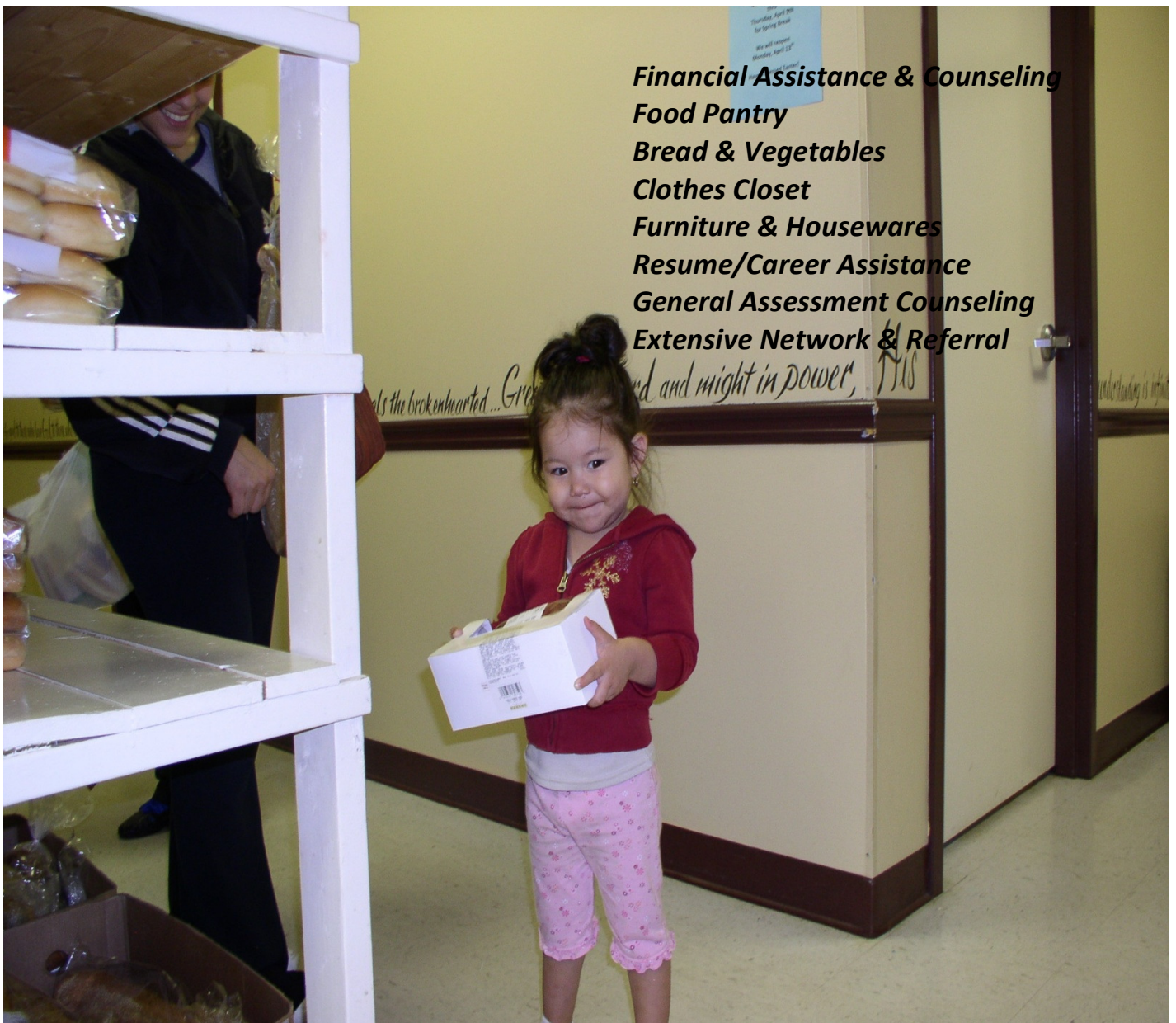
Focus: We provide a safe place to build relationships.

Address: We care for the whole person (family) since every part of the whole (physical, emotional, relational, financial, and spiritual) is interrelated.

Develop: We assist the individual with developing an action plan, setting goals, and connecting him/her to resources within the Real Life Center and the Community.

Achieve: We achieve success by investing in the individual for a one year period to provide accountability, encouragement, networking, and resource connection.

At the Real Life Center we recognize that life can be hard and that people from all walks of life face unexpected circumstances. We seek to provide a safe place where individuals and families can come to receive a "hand up" rather than a "hand out". We do this by reaching out and investing in individuals by walking along side them to help them as they navigate through the tough times.



Financial Assistance & Counseling
Food Pantry
Bread & Vegetables
Clothes Closet
Furniture & Housewares
Resume/Career Assistance
General Assessment Counseling
Extensive Network & Referral

In 2010, we distributed 143,902 lbs of food, bread and vegetables. This was an increase of 27% from 2009. Also 3,520 families accessed at least one program in 2010.

Volunteer hours served:
Real Life Center: 6,816
Real Life Store: 2,621
Total: 9,437

2010 Highlights:

Nicole Moore, Store Manager

We welcomed Nicole as a part-time Real Life Store Manager. She comes with many years of working with and loving people and an eye for retail. We are grateful to have her join our team and share her expertise!

Dan Nelson, Store Manager

Dan is a new face on the Real Life Store team as a part-time Store Manager, coming with experience in management and a heart for people. We are very glad to have him as part of the team to share his expertise as well!

Real Life Store: *The Real Life Store team has continued to work tirelessly to raise money to assist with the needs of those who are hurting. Many creative sales, displays, and events took place in 2010, with overall net proceeds of \$60,000 to transfer back to the Real Life Center.*

Overall Success: *Based on our follow-up process we continue to track stability as well as help families with setting and meeting goals throughout the year. Out of those we were able to contact at the three month point, 97% were stable in their homes; at the twelve month point 70% had met at least 50% of their goals.*

Payless Shoe Partnership: *Payless Shoes contributed 100 free shoe vouchers for many of our client families. This was a special gift at Christmas!*

Food Drives: *We collected and distributed a record amount of food in 2010. We are especially grateful to J93.3, Grace Church, St. Paul Lutheran Church, First Baptist of PTC, Curves, The US Post Office, Boy Scouts, Master Gardeners, Two Doves Farms, Pearson Farms, Kedron Kroger, Publix (N 74), ROTC of Sandy Creek as well as many other churches, schools, businesses, and individuals who collected food. We distributed 113,292 lbs of food, bread and vegetables in 2009 and 143,902 lbs in 2010 - up 27%. * See list below*

Holidays Meals and Gifts: *We offer a special thanks to Champion Martial Arts and J93.3 for the gift of Thanksgiving meals and turkeys! The T-shirts for Turkeys sponsored by J93.3, Fayette Piedmont Healthcare and Chick-fil-a yielded approximately 3,000 turkeys for our surrounding community. Along with help from some additional churches, we were able to distribute approximately 500 meals/turkeys! A special thank you to the many families who adopted families to provide Christmas gifts for; Ruth's Pearls for the handmade gifts, as well as Toys for Tots and Gary Davis Chiropractic Center providing toys for our client families. Along with this, Southside Church provided 218 filled shoeboxes and shoes to provide children for an extra gift! Reaching out together to make a difference!*

Dress for Success: *Thanks to a partnership with the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce and Clayton State University, we launched the Dress for Success Program designed to provide interview clothing for high school seniors looking for employment.*

Winter Coat Program: *We also partnered with the Fayette County School counselors to help ensure no child went without a winter coat, providing 159 winter coats.*

Back to School: *Our back to school program provided supplies to 275 children, along with helping another 100 children in partnership with the Bridge, Target, and many others providing back to school basics to children in our community.*

CSI Leasing/Office Depot: *Our expansion project is complete! Thank you to CSI leasing for the computers, Office Depot for the office furniture and supplies, Grace Church for making that happen and Barnard Construction for creating our space. We added additional space and are also able to sublease to God's Eyes Ministries – providing them the opportunity to expand.*

5k Run: *Thank you to Spring Hill for raising money through their 5k run benefiting RLC!*

Change for a Changed Life: *Thank you to the many businesses who have continued to put out the change jars raising change for families! Atlanta Bread Company in Peachtree City is just one of the many great places collecting change.*

Grants: *We are extremely grateful for the grant opportunities we received in 2010 for a total of \$53,513. A special thanks to the following:*

*Atlanta Community Foundation
United Way
EMC Round Up Program
Wal-Mart
FEMA*

We also had the opportunity to partner with UW and the Fresh Start Program to provide additional Financial Assistance to families in our community. This allowed us to distribute an additional \$243,309 of assistance.

Partnerships: *Thanks so much to all of the churches, individuals, businesses, civic groups and schools that partnered with us during the year. You have made a tremendous difference!*

Volunteers: *We are especially thankful to the 100 plus volunteers who faithfully served throughout the year and to a variety of groups who came and served!*

Staff and Board of Directors for 2010

Executive Director: Cathy Berggren
Assistant Director: Dana Eisfelder
Client Care Coordinator: Jan Fender
Volunteer/Food Drive Coordinator: Vicki Troyer
Bookkeeper: Dave Howard
Real Life Store Bookkeeper: Jeanie Horton
Real Life Store Managers: Dan Nelson, Nicole Moore

Board of Directors:

Michael Ray, President
Dan Rankin, Secretary/Treasurer
Tom Beal
Dennis Parman
Ken Brackett
Beth Geeslin
Kelly Fix

End of the Year Financials

2010 Income:

Contributions: \$ 272,930
Other Income: \$10, 127
Estimated In-Kind: \$ 302,035
Grants \$ 53,513
Store Revenue: \$121,106
Miscellaneous: \$ 8,086
Saving Interest: \$ 424
Total Income: \$768, 221

2010 Expenses:

Programs: \$ 459,178
Administrative- Center: \$213,270
Administrative-Thrift Store \$72,853
Total Expense: \$745,301

**Fresh Start contributed an additional \$243,309 towards financial assistance through a onetime program. This program was administered by and made available to eligible families in Fayette County through the Real Life Center.*

2010 Food Drives

Providence United Methodist Church
Sandy Creek ROTC
Rolling Hills Baptist Church
Rising Starr Middle School
Spring Hill Elementary
Crabapple Elementary
Curves of Peachtree City
Southside Church
North Fayette Elementary
Dr. McPherson
First Baptist PTC Kindergarten - All school year
Starrs Mill High School BETA Club - Fall semester
St. Paul Lutheran Middle School Shine Club
Frank Cawood and Associates
Kiewit
Kids R Kids (Robinson Rd)
Kids R Kids (Hwy 74)
Outpatient Imaging
Carriage Lane Presbyterian Church
Upscale Pizza Comedy Night
Jennifer Hamilton's 5th grade Landmark Christian School Class
Katie Cucumano's 4th grade Landmark Christian School Class
ASAP Courier Company, Inc.
Flat Rock Middle School
CARE Clinic
The PTC Optimist Club Santa Run
Word of God Lutheran Church
Homeowners in the Interlochen and Smokerise Subdivisions
Dogwood Church
St. Paul Lutheran Church/Youth Group
Providence United Methodist VBS
First Baptist of Fayetteville
Peachtree City First Baptist
Heritage Christian Church VBS
Rinnai
Woodcreek Waves
Dogwood Student Ministry/Children's Ministry
Peachtree City and Tyrone Post Offices - Stamp Out Hunger
Boy Scouts of Fayette County
Braelinn Elementary
Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Cleveland Elementary
Huddleston Elementary
Grace Evangelical
Joey Potter with Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Peoples Elementary
AWBA – McIntosh Chapter