



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

2020



MISSION
WACO • WORLD

Children & Youth



Spring 2020

Children The after school program had 70 children from January to spring break. The children participated in theater, art, hip hop, cooking class, engineering club, and bible study.

Youth The after school program had 25 youth from January to spring break. The youth participated in theater, art, BEAR adventures, STEM, book club, and film club. In February, we took 10 youth to Dallas for a discipleship weekend called FREEDOM. We also took a group of high school girls to the T4 conference in Ft. Worth where they heard from speakers and learned different lessons from the bible. During spring break, a group visited Texas A&M, Prairie View A&M, and University of Houston, downtown.

Wellspring Scholarship We had 14 recipients and awarded over \$39,000 in scholarship funds for the 20/21 school year. This is the highest award and number of recipients we have ever had.

Summer 2020

Youth and Children Due to COVID-19, we did not have our usual day camp for the children and youth. We provided a virtual camp for our families. We delivered weekly meals, activities in art, cooking, and STEM, and books for the students to read. We also did a weekly in person bible study for our youth.

Fall 2020

Children and Youth Due to COVID-19, we had to limit our after school capacity to 25 children and 15 youth each day in order to maintain social distancing. The children and youth had the opportunity to participate in theater, ballet, art, hip hop, bible devotional, BEAR adventures and engineering. We also provided a morning tutoring program for children and youth who chose to do their studies online.



Kevin (Waco, TX) has been in our program since he was in first grade. He is now a recipient of our Wellspring scholarship and is studying pre-med at University of North Texas!

Community



The Ark Apartments (top, left) This Christian living community addresses affordable housing and social isolation. Those from various social, racial, and economic backgrounds live in its 18 units. This year, residents participated in leadership and communication workshops. The courtyard was a great meeting space during the pandemic! The Ark remembers our neighbor Larry, who passed away in December.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (middle photo) This year, fourteen different groups totaling about 200 people volunteered at 12 different projects. What a privilege it was to serve alongside some of Waco's finest leaders!

Walk for the Homeless We usually have around 300 participate in walking 1.2 miles visiting the agencies that work together to provide essential services to our friends struggling on the streets. Though we did not have this event in 2020, we were able to give away shoes to 99 individuals! In 2021, We are hopeful to host this incredible event again! Please join us as we seek to understand the issues surrounding homelessness and the ways in which we can be involved in walking alongside this vulnerable population in our city.

Thanksgiving Worship and Lunch (pictured bottom) Instead of sitting inside our Meyer Center, we setup a 100 ft tent outside in the parking lot and invited the public in need to enjoy a time of fellowship and a

good, traditional, Thanksgiving meal. We are thankful to the 60+ volunteers it took to make this annual event take place.

Toy Store Thanks to a donor who loaned a warehouse to us, we were able to carry out this project safely. We celebrated 470 households who shopped for 1,603 children. 431 volunteers from about 21 churches and 15 businesses and organizations served 1,435.5 hours! Cheryl Stephenson (top, right, red) has served for over 15 years by buying and processing toys in preparation of our store. She is now store manager, supervising each phase of the store. Cheryl's favorite thing about volunteering is touching the hearts of the people we serve!



Retail & Economic Development

The Colcord Center - 1500 Colcord

We are pleased to announce that we have officially rented out all three spaces in our recently renovated Colcord Business Development Center. The newest business is Lalo's Coffee and Pastries! Eddy, the owner, says this about his newest endeavor, "As a young Hispanic entrepreneur I strive to bring Waco every ounce of my Hispanic culture. Lalo's is not your ordinary American coffee shop. We want you to feel a small slice of Mexico when you drink your cafecito de olla." This is an incredible business and community development addition to our 15th and Colcord intersection.



World Cup Cafe - 1321 N 15th

The cafe started 2020 strong with catering Mission Waco Mission World's MLK Day event and serving Valentine's Dinner! As the pandemic hit, we operated from a food truck, and then, one month later, we returned to the café for takeout. During this time, we were gifted a generous donation allowing us to close for remodeling. We got new floors, exposed old brick, and painted! The remodel was finished as some restrictions lifted, and we were able to welcome guests back for limited capacity dine-in. Thank you to our patrons and donors alike who kept us afloat and fueled us to keep going despite all the hurdles of 2020!



Fair Trade Market

While closed for three months due to COVID-19, we rebuilt our website to include a full online shopping experience. As we reopened, we were able to do educational activities and held Zoom Fair Trade Talks for various groups. For the holidays, we hosted personal shopping times for those at high risk to shop safely. The Nativity Open House was a success both online and in person. The message of Fair Trade and its powerful transformation is still being spread during this difficult time.

Katherine Best has volunteered with our Poverty Simulation, Friday Morning Breakfast, and Urban REAP. "Through volunteering in the Waco community, I have grown to appreciate the value of learning from members of the community who have so much to give and who desire to form relationships with you and be examples of how to prioritize serving others."



Urban REAP - 1509 N 15th

Despite not being able to have the field trips and workshops we had planned, it has been great to still be able to be a part of some fun programming. We hosted virtual composting seminars in both English and Spanish and other video seminars for classes. We had a great poster contest with some 7th and 8th graders and have been able to give away plants for community garden projects. We have had a good time painting story stones and making Christmas wreaths. We have also been able to expand our capacity for the coming years through doubling our Aquaponics system and building a hoop house to start plants this winter. We are so thankful for the volunteers and student groups who have served with us, and we are excited to begin growing things for the new year.

The Clothesline - 1817 Franklin

Our hours were impacted by COVID-19 guidelines. The store closed in March and reopened in July, operating 4 days weekly with reduced hours. Our customers quickly responded, especially to our "Flash Friday" sales. Profits continue to benefit Mission Waco's Manna House.



The Chapel - 1226 Washington

The Chapel at the Meyer Center is a unique, historic and affordable option for wedding ceremonies, bridal portraits and events. Shown by appointment, by contacting weddings@missionwaco.org or 254-753-4900.

Jubilee Food Market - 1505 N 15th

This was a big year for Jubilee Food Market, and COVID-19 played a major role. Just as our new store manager, Robert Lopez, was settling in, the pandemic hit at full force. These were challenging months, but Robert and his team went to work making sure the shelves stayed full of the essentials. During this time, churches in the area turned to JFM for help as they needed to supply food and paper goods to their own communities. Jubilee put no limits on items, and customers with large families and tight budgets appreciated this. Again this year, we partnered with St. Jerome Catholic Church to provide 150 turkey dinners to those in need. JFM continues to be a light in the community. If you grocery shop each week, would you make one of your monthly stops Jubilee Food Market? What a difference that would make in helping us reach our goals! Stop by, and visit our meat and produce departments. Grab a dozen or two of Heart of Texas organic eggs, a gallon of Mill-King milk, and don't forget the Blue Bell ice cream. We will celebrate our 5th anniversary this year! We look forward to seeing you!



SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS



Manna House

As we have seen across the country, COVID has dramatically increased substance abuse in our communities. Only three months into the pandemic, the CDC reported that 40% of adults were struggling with mental health or substance abuse. While it has been challenging to run a residential treatment program, our staff have continued to create a safe and welcoming environment where men have the opportunity to experience the love of God. We are making sure the men have the structure and opportunity to change their lives for the better. We are looking for a bigger house to serve men seeking relief from addiction so please pray for continued funding and for the right one to come along. We have served 29 men this year, and our graduates have been able to find employment, permanent housing, and continued sobriety after successfully completing the program. All while witnessing the love of God and His healing power.

The Lighthouse

We have six men living at the lighthouse this year, and they all have good paying jobs. Our men are responsible and accountable to those they are living and working with. They are careful about protecting themselves from the virus so others can stay healthy and employed. Our house manager said, "I can't get sick because others depend on me to be well so we can work." Please keep the Manna House and the Lighthouse in prayer.

12:2 Recovery Group

Our relapse prevention group has had difficulty meeting due to COVID-19 and may look very different but it is important groups like these exist to support ongoing recovery. David Richie is the very anointed leader of this group and is very appreciated. Thank you David!

Meyer Center and My Brother's Keeper



Street Sweep Employment Program Funded by First Baptist Church, we began in June 2020. Our efforts complement groups from Keep Waco Beautiful (KWB) and the City of Waco who are tasked with litter pick-up. We cover over 385 properties, including churches, businesses, and homes. We have picked up over 600 bags of trash totaling in over 15,000 pounds of trash! So far, we have employed eight MBK participants. Camaraderie on the team has been exemplary. The participants attend Mpowerment sessions to discuss work and life issues and meet with case workers to facilitate job searches and housing opportunities. Street Sweep gives employment opportunities to MBK participants and serves as a springboard to full-time employment and independent housing. It is an example of how community partnerships can benefit our city and the marginalized of our community.

United Way Grant We received funds to assist those experiencing homelessness currently or within the last two years with rental assistance, utilities, deposits, and grocery gift cards. We served over 40 households!

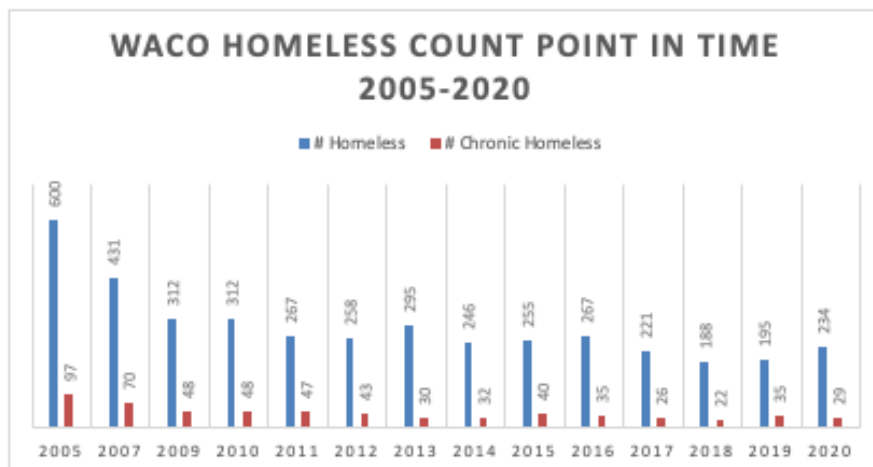
Mission Waco Legal Assistance Program Studies estimated that 80% of the civil legal needs of people in poverty go unmet. We are committed to closing this gap by serving over 1,000 households with direct legal advocacy, free monthly legal advice clinics, and legal empowerment workshops. In 2020, we continued to serve many people in spite of the pandemic's challenges.

Mpowerment This year, we served 20 participants with job training, and eight are currently employed!

Social Services The following are total numbers of daily services received at the Meyer Center in 2020

- 705 benevolence meetings
- 945 social services meetings
- 233 clothing vouchers, 44 bus passes, and 528 hygiene kits given
- 8,571 meals served
- 2,064 loads of laundry washed
- 4,655 showers taken

My Brother's Keeper Shelter Due to COVID-19, we experienced many changes to the shelter this year! Our first decision was to close down the Meyer Center completely and change to a 24/7 come-and-go shelter at MBK during March and April. Mid April, during the shelter-in-place order, we moved to the ROCK (children's center) in order to give our participants a place to have shelter and social distancing. Before moving to the ROCK, we considered a few options such as Camp Hope, a high school gymnasium, and a nursing home to house our shelter participants. At the ROCK, we set up beds and constructed dividers for each bed. The participants were given the opportunity to participate in activities such as guitar lessons, bible study, life skills, counseling, and field trips. After the governor lifted the shelter in place order, we reopened MBK to compliment the Meyer Center. We now provide 24/7 services to those in need, including those who just need to take showers, do laundry, and receive assistance like bus passes, help with ID, Birth Certificates, and case management.



HEALTH CLINIC



Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, we remained open twice weekly with volunteer medical providers and nurses. Our specialty clinics were closed for about two months but are now back to full capacity, with extra-precautions of screening at the entrance, disinfection, etc.

In 2020, there were over 800 patient encounters. The principal diagnoses remain high blood pressure, diabetes, and mental health issues. We have a monthly dental clinic where we screen and then refer patients for tooth extraction to either a local network of dentists (for free) or Family Health Center Dental (for low cost) depending on patients' needs and means.

There is a growing demand for our physical therapy (PT) clinic. We currently have a team of three PT, two PT assistants and two occupational therapists and yet have a waiting time of around four months between the referral and the evaluation appointment. We also host an orthopedic surgery clinic with two orthopedic surgeons who helped 34 patients including one patient who had surgery arranged.

An ENT clinic happens once a month, and we saw 29 patients for consultation. Our ENT surgeon arranged at least two surgeries, and many audiograms at his clinic with the help of his colleague specialist in audiology.

We also continue to have a monthly psychiatry clinic and weekly vision screenings.

We are working on a pulmonology clinic that hopefully should open in 2021.

This year more than ever, we are working toward orienting as many patients as possible toward long term healthcare accessibility options, like the Good Health Card program with Family Health Center or the County Indigent Card program with McLennan County. We even created a new position of Patient Advocacy Intern to help patients to be connected with those healthcare solutions, as well as other social resources.

Mission Waco Health Clinic is treating the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the working poor and homeless while serving as a bridge for getting our patients long-term help.

After volunteering at the clinic for a few years, Emily Atwood (Longmont, CO) was offered an internship position. Serving at the clinic encompassed her main passions: service, people, and medicine. As an intern, she grew in her leadership, teamwork, and medical skills. In May of 2021, Emily will attend UT Health in San Antonio as a member of their Physician Assistant class. Emily shared, "I am confident that my time at MWHC prepared me to be able to effectively work and care for patients as a future clinician. My time at MWHC set a proper foundation for me to be an empathetic and knowledgeable PA."

MOBILIZATION

Interns General interns volunteer throughout Mission Waco Mission World. Academic interns assist with social services, counseling, public health, etc. while working on degrees ranging from bachelor's to doctorate level. Applications for summer 2021 available at missionwaco.org/interns

Other Side of Waco Tour Join us for a 1.5 hour driving tour highlighting Mission Waco history and programs, as well as issues related to poverty, redevelopment and social justice. Sign up or learn more at missionwaco.org/tours

Community Service We provided over 30 people with the opportunity to fill community service hours.

Poverty Simulation In 2020, we hosted two poverty simulations and had to cancel others because of COVID-19. Participants shared many statements such as these: "I learned that the poor are always the first ones to give what they have, out of their poverty." "I learned how I take my shelter, food and bed for granted." "God acts through me, meaning I am the one called to help the poor." Join us for our next simulation:

missionwaco.org/poverty-simulation

Volunteers Words cannot express our gratitude for the commitment of our volunteers during 2020. Because of our volunteers, we were able to transition our homeless shelter, My Brother's Keeper, into a 24/7 shelter-in-place location for our Waco homeless population throughout the summer. We were also able to regularly sanitize all buildings, feed our shelter participants three meals a day, and open most of our programs once the shelter-in-place order was lifted in Waco. We could not have done this without YOU! Thank you so much for partnering with us and helping us serve Waco.

- About 350 volunteers reported volunteering at least one hour - even during a pandemic, wow!
- About 3,200 total hours were recorded by our volunteers.
- We switched to a new volunteer system and gave a new and improved COVID-19 volunteer orientation.
- We had out of town groups come before the pandemic, and the remaining groups that had to cancel due to Covid-19 still donated over \$7,000 to help aid our programs!





MISSION WORLD

MWMISSIONWORLD.ORG

We are in awe of what the Lord has accomplished this year and are so thankful for everyone who has partnered with us! The following are reports of some of the great works that God has done in 2020.

School Sponsorship This year, 350 Haitian families were impacted through school sponsorships, and two sponsor students graduated!

Micro-loans Three hundred trained Haitian parents saved \$3,000 to provide 50 women access to micro-loans. Since the beginning of this program, a total of 200 women have received loans to start a business.

Widows Incubator Business Eight Haitian widows living in extreme poverty were chosen for this business directly impacting their families. Through this program, they have the opportunity to receive training and create a business that allows them to save money.

Clean Water A Ford-150 truck was purchased and shipped to pull the rig in Haiti. This program has provided jobs, education, and clean water. One hundred families have been trained in clean water education and received a water filter for their home.

Wings for Women This business was created to educate Haitians about women's health and to produce affordable and reusable menstrual hygiene supplies. One hundred twenty-five girls from the School Sponsorship received seven pads each to empower her to stay in school during menstruation.

Food We have distributed food to many Haitian families to help families affected by COVID-19.

India One thousand nomads were provided medical care and training through a local hospital.

Mexico Mattresses, blankets, and medicine were provided to 220 orphans. We look forward to expanding our micro-loan program to Mexico in the near future.



FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Meet Taylor, our new Finance Director as of October 2020. Taylor is from Lometa, TX and was first introduced to Mission Waco by volunteering at our Toy Store. Taylor is a CPA and passionate about serving and caring for our community. For this reason, she joyfully accepted the position on staff with us. We are thankful that she did!



Fundraisers

Celebration Banquet (February) Dr. Brian Fikkert, Speaker and co-author of "When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor" provided enriching information to an audience of 750 guests. Net proceeds: \$70,000

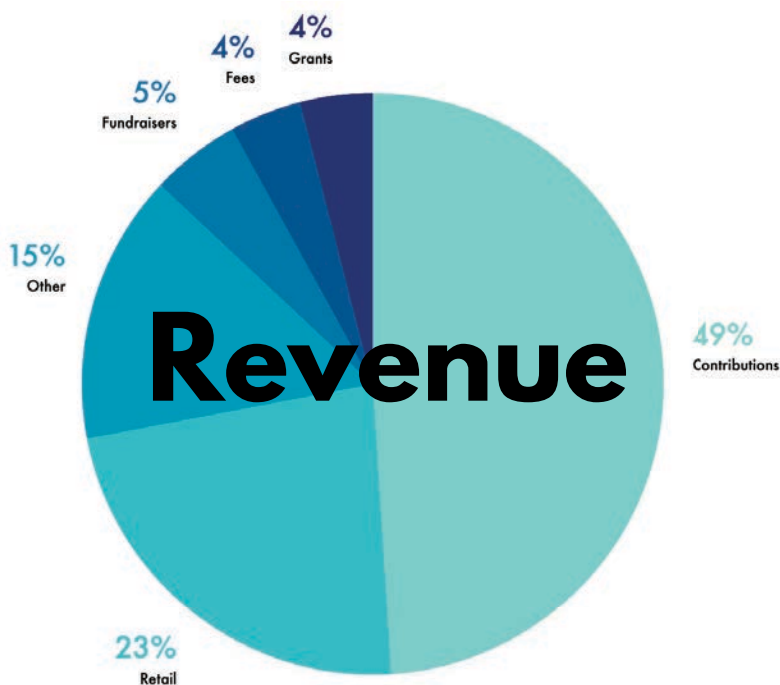
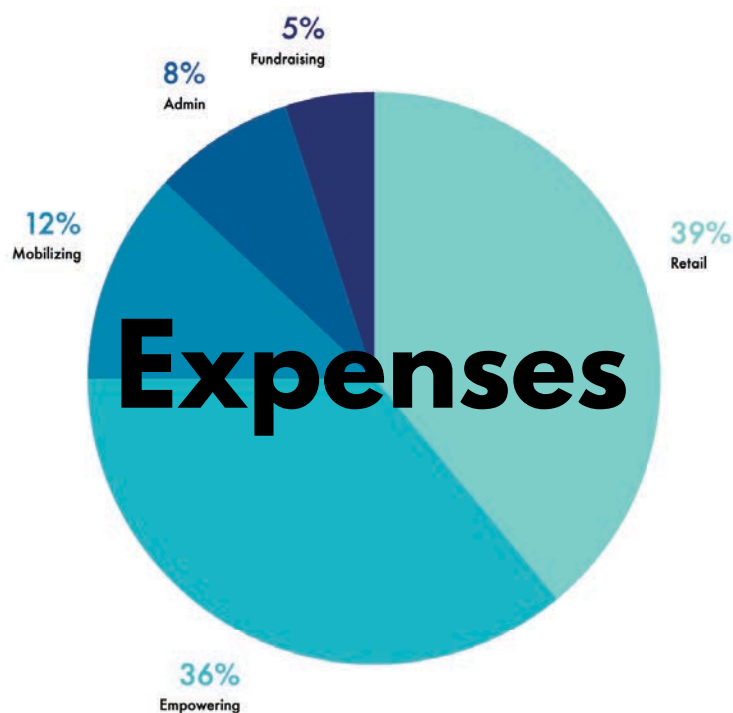
Fashion with a Passion Style Show (May) COVID-19 canceled, but our Underwriters prevailed! Net proceeds: \$22,900

Champions of Christian Service (September) We hosted a virtual event with Baylor's Athletic Director, Mack Rhoades. Net proceeds: \$39,000

Caring Cup Classic Golf Tournament (October) Our outdoor event, welcomed 20 teams. Net proceeds: \$17,400

Operations Staff: 33 full time, 40 part time. Vehicles: 7 vans/buses, 3 trucks, 1 car. Properties: 30 structures, 87 toilets, 27 bathtubs, 24 showers, 140 sinks, 42 HVAC units, 41 window units, 13 lawns, 12 parking lots, 1 vacant lot, 63 fridges/freezers, 33 stove/ranges, 5 ice machines, 4 commercial kitchen fire suppression systems, 7 water fountains, 1 elevator, 16 fire alarm systems, 64 fire extinguishers, 3 playgrounds, 1 climbing wall, 2 sound systems, 26 washer/dryers, 2 fish tanks, 1 composting machine, 1 aquaponics system.

Race ONE Annual 5K & Fun Run with Baylor ATO had to take a break in 2020 due to COVID-19. Register now for our 9th annual race on Saturday, Apr. 24, 2021 at missionwaco.org/raceone. Virtual and in-person available





Our Mission

Provide Christian-based, holistic, relationship-based programs that empower the poor & marginalized.
 Mobilize middle-class Americans to become more compassionately involved among the poor.
 Seek ways to overcome the systemic issues of social injustice which oppress the poor and marginalized.

