

## 2015 Events (July - December)

### July

- **Heritage Christian Church** - We had over 20 students from Heritage Christian Church come serve with us this morning. This group of middle school students helped stock our clothing closet and prepared school supplies and housewares for distribution. They were a big help!



- **McIntosh Trail Kiwanis Club** - Cathy Berggren enjoyed a great lunch with Nadine Tift and the McIntosh Trail Kiwanis Club. They offered great discussion, great food, and great fellowship!



- **Partnering Launch** - It was the launch of partnering together with the Rotary Club of Peachtree City, Grow Counseling, and Pinewood Studios to invest in our high school students and leadership! Cathy Berggren enjoyed sharing how volunteering not only makes a difference, but changes you!



- **Coweta Fayette Rotary Club** - Great night with a great group of folks with the Coweta Fayette Rotary Club meeting at the Senoia Coffee and Cafe. Making a difference together!



- **Rolling Hills Baptist Church Food Drive** - As part of their Missions Mondays, the youth from Rolling Hills Baptist Church held a neighborhood food drive for Real Life Center. This is a great group of students, and we have appreciated their support for the past eight summers.



- **One Magnolia Lane** - Our friends at One Magnolia Lane donated lots of beautiful lunch bags just in time for Back to School. We are so thankful for their generous gift!



- **Business Spotlight** - Greg Bickhart and his team at Thrivent Financial have a true heart for serving their community. You may have read about their partnership with Habitat for Humanity which has been in existence for close to ten years. Greg has personally participated in the build of a home right here in our own backyard in Newnan. “The work was so rewarding”, Greg shared in a recent dialogue. This past Spring, the Real Life Center was the beneficiary of a Thrivent food drive at the Fresh Market in Peachtree City, and the turnout was phenomenal. Thrivent Financial is a financial services organization that helps Christians be wise with money so they can live generously and intentionally. “We help our clients focus on time, talent and treasure, by providing them with a roadmap to achieve their financial goals” Greg elaborates. Greg is married and has three children. In his spare time he enjoys exercising, gardening and cooking. He even knows how to make crab cakes from scratch! Now, that is impressive. Thanks Greg for your servant heart.



## August

- **Legacy Church July Food Drive** - It can be hard to keep our food pantry full during the summer months when families have students home from school. We are so thankful that our friends at Legacy Church continue to hold a month long food drive every July! The congregation was exceptionally generous this year - many thanks!



- **Sigvaris Donation** - What a surprise it was to receive 6 clothing racks and lots of pants hangars for our thrift stores! Our neighbors at Sigvaris are always finding creative ways to support this community through their partnership with us.



- **Panasonic's Donation of Back Packs** - For the second year in a row Panasonic has put together back packs full of school supplies for local families. This year they were able to fill 66 back packs with elementary, middle, and high school age appropriate items. We appreciate the time that the Panasonic Charities Committee devotes to finding ways to support this community.



- **St Andrews in the Pines** - Heidi Bridges and her daughter stopped by with a ton of school supplies that had been donated by the families of St. Andrews in the Pines Episcopal Church in Peachtree City. This can be an expensive time of year for families who are preparing their students to start back to school. A little help with school supplies can make a difference!



- **Abby and Connor Gayda's Generosity** - With Back to School season full swing now, Abby (pictured) and Connor Gayda wanted to help another student with supplies. They pooled their tithe money together, and Abby went shopping. She was able to purchase and fill a cute "Frozen" Backpack with much needed supplies. We want to thank them for their generous gift!



- **Frank Cawood and Associates** - A big "thank you" to Mr. Vern Darley and all the staff from Frank Cawood and Associates for their generous donations during their annual food drive. It is great to have the support of our local businesses!



- **August's Mobile Food Pantry** - We had a big turnout for our Mobile Food Pantry in August with over 200 families attending. There was a good assortment of food items which the volunteers quickly sorted and distributed. Many thanks to everyone for their help!



## September

- **Secondhand Smiles Consignment Donations** - Many thanks to Chrissy O'Neal for the opportunity to partner with her and the Secondhand Smiles Consignment group again this fall. Due to the generosity of many of her consignors who donate the items they don't sell, we were able to receive two trucks full of items this weekend. We had a great group of volunteers helping from the PTC United Methodist Church, and want to thank Anne Ferree for her help coordinating the group.



- **Sigvaris' Donation of Clipboards** - It has been great being neighbors with Sigvaris! Their most recent donation was a large case of over 360 clipboards. We will be able to use a few at the center and share the rest with the families we serve.



- **St Paul Lutheran Church** - Once again we have been blessed by the generosity of the families from St. Paul Lutheran Church. We appreciate their commitment to hold food drives every month that has five Sundays. It is a huge help to keep our food pantry stocked for local families.



- **First Baptist Church PTC** - We love months with a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday because we know our friends at First Baptist Church of PTC will be holding a food drive for us! Their generous support is a great help to us in reaching out to families in need.



- **Target Employees Help with Clothing Swiwithout** - It was great timing to have Crystal and Mary, Target employees, come help as we prepare to switch our clothing closet from summer to fall/winter clothing. We appreciate the partnership we have with Target and their desire to support this community.



- **USDA Food Distribution** - We had a great day at the USDA Distribution on September 10. With the help of wonderful volunteers we were able to serve 122 households! Thank you to everyone who helped!



- **Georgia Military College Volunteers** - It is always a tremendous help having students come from the Georgia Military College campuses. This past weekend we had 18 students help us switch the clothing closet from summer to fall/winter clothing. They worked so fast they were also able to help restock the food pantry and prepare USDA food for distribution. Thanks to their professor, Pamela McKenzie-Rundle, for coordinating this great group of students!



- **Bachelor Party First!** - Over the years we have been privileged to have hundreds of groups come to volunteer with us, but Friday was the first time we ever had a Bachelor Party! The groom, TJ Lopez, had ten of his friends coming to town to help celebrate his wedding. They were all friends from Taylor University and currently live in several states. TJ felt that the group would enjoy spending the morning serving together at the Real Life Center. They spent two hours sorting and stocking food donations and followed up with going out to lunch and a game of Ultimate Frisbee.





- **Fayette Chamber Community Expo** - Thank you for joining Real Life Center at Booth 53 at the **Fayette Chamber Community Expo** on Tuesday, Sept 22 at New Hope Baptist Church - South Campus from 3 pm to 7 pm. We appreciate you giving us the opportunity to thank you, in person, for all your support!



www.FayetteChamber.org

Fayette Chamber  
COMMUNITY  
**expo**  
PRESENTED BY  
**CRONIC**

**25th Annual**

Tuesday, September 22, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
New Hope Baptist Church-SOUTH Campus  
1563 Joel Cowan Pkwy (corner of Hwys. SR 74 & SR 85)  
[www.FayetteChamber.org](http://www.FayetteChamber.org)

- More than 100 exhibitors - under one roof!
- A wide variety of local products and services
- Solutions for home and office
- Food samples, health screenings & more
- Informative...strategic...fun!



**FREE ADMISSION**



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

Event Sponsors:













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Affinity Computers • CaraVita Home Care • Cardinal Waste Solutions • Counterpane Montessori School  
Coweta-Fayette EMC • Dolce Atlanta-Peachtree • Fayetteville Smiles Dentistry • Georgia Academy of Dance & the Performing Arts  
Huntington Learning Center • Regions Bank • Sleep Number • SouthCrest Bank • Trinity Heating & Air • University of Georgia-Griffin

- **Peachtree City Choi Kwang Do** - Our volunteers and staff had another successful self defense class taught by Patrick Boyd at Peachtree City Choi Kwang Do. He discussed many issues that were of concern to them and they all had a great time practicing the techniques.

Self Defense Workshops are available to groups of 5 or more at a very reasonable rate (\$15 per student).

Here's a link to the website <http://www.peachtreekd.com/self-defense-workshops>.



- **Fayette County Board of Realtors** - We are so grateful for the generous donation from Michelle Warren and the Fayette County Board of Realtors! We cannot thank them enough for their support!



- **September Mobile Food Pantry** - We were blessed to serve 199 families at our September Mobile Food Pantry on Thursday, 9/24. Many thanks to all of the wonderful volunteers who served! Everyone worked very hard and with a smile on their face!



- **Genesis Hector's Scholastic Reporting Project** - Pictured is Genesis Hector, age 10, who interviewed Cathy Berggren for her Scholastic Reporting Project. We are looking forward to see how she becomes a future leader!



- **Offering a Hand Up** - Real Life Center is about offering a hand up instead of a hand out during the hard times. Together we truly can make a difference in the life of our neighbor! Did you know that unexpected health issues is just one of the reasons people may need help?



## October

- **Omega Books** - Peachtree City's beloved Omega Books has closed its doors after 30 years. We appreciate their generous donation to the center: 5 book cases, 2 filing cabinets, a roller cart, an office desk, 2 desk chairs, a large metal storage cabinet and 4 folding tables. Pictured below are Karen Duncan and Renee Mittenzwei from Omega. We wish you the best!



- **Thanks to Marilee for Arranging Food Donation** - We were invited to take a tour of the Bishop's Warehouse in Tucker, GA by Marilee Gardner and help pick up a \$500 donation of food that she had lined up through the Fayetteville Stake where she is a member. Thanks to her dear friend, Lisa, for offering to drive her Suburban- otherwise we wouldn't have been able to fit all that food in one trip!



- **Providence United Methodist Church** - The Providence United Methodist Church women's group is back to their monthly commitment to serve with us the first Friday of each month. The ladies that came last Friday helped us sort an entire pallet of toiletries to prepare for distribution. They always have a fun time serving together, and we really appreciate their help!



- **Starr's Mill BETA Club Food Drive** - The Starr's Mill High School BETA club holds a fall semester food drive for us each year. Pictured are Kristen Phillips, our new Food Drive Coordinator, picking up the first load from Kelly Rock, BETA club sponsor and Starr's Mill teacher.



- **Staples Foundation Award** - Real Life Center was just awarded \$3,500 from the Staples 2 Million & Change initiative! The 2 Million & Change philanthropic initiative supported by **Staples** Foundation allows Staples associates around the world to direct more than \$2 million of Foundation funding to non-profit organizations that are focused on education or job skills. We are very appreciative.



2million  
&change

- **Moms to Moms at FBC of PTC** - We are so thankful to Holly Anderson for bringing her friends from the Moms to Moms group from First Baptist Church of Peachtree City to serve with us! They did a great job helping sort our clothing and organizing the clothing closet. We hope to see them again soon!



- **Word of God Lutheran Church** - We are so excited that Word of God Lutheran Church has committed to provide us with another year's supply of laundry detergent with which to bless our client families.



- **Eaton Lighting Division Coat Drive** - Eaton Lighting Division did a phenomenal coat drive for the Real Life Center this past week. They collected over 120 warm coats for our families. These are hard items to purchase, especially when a family is on a limited budget! Not only did the Eaton Lighting group collect the coats, they also helped us sort them and load them into our truck. Thank you to Amalie Dunn and her colleagues in the customer service group for your dedication to our community and your servant hearts! We appreciate you!



- **McIntosh Trail Kiwanis Club** - Our local McIntosh Trail Kiwanis Club has been active to raise money for our community! The Real Life Center is pleased to receive this gift to help our local families. Pictured below is Nadine Tyft, president of the club and Cathy Berggren from the Real Life Center.



- **Keller Williams Sponsors Kares 4 Kids Program** - Letrissa Frieson from Keller Williams of Peachtree City and Cathy Berggren are celebrating some of the gifts from Keller Williams' Kares 4 Kids sponsorship. This is a great reminder of how our community works together!



- **October Mobile Food Pantry** - It was a beautiful day for the Mobile Food Pantry held on October 22<sup>nd</sup>! A huge thank you to all of the amazing volunteers who served! We were able to provide food for 213 families that day! God is good!



- **Nationwide Insurance Food Donation** - We were so happy to have received 81 pounds of food from Lori Koch and her team at Nationwide Insurance! Thank you for your generosity! We are so very grateful!



- **Starr's Mill High School Thespian Society** - The Starr's Mill High School International Thespian Society collected 237 pounds of food during their Trick or Treat so kids can eat event!! A big thank you to all of the students who participated in this event! A special thank you to Alexa Echevarria, the President of the Starr's Mill thespian Society for coordinating this event and making the delivery to the center! We are so very grateful for all that you have done to help support the Real Life Center!





- **McIntosh High School Thespian Society** - A huge thank you to the McIntosh High School Thespian Society! These amazing students collected 872 pounds of food at their Trick or treat so kids can eat event! They also took time out on their Saturday to deliver the donation to the Real Life Center. We are so grateful for their generosity!



- **J.C. Booth Middle School Fall Food Drive** - J.C. Booth Middle School collected an amazing 1,250 pounds of food during their annual fall food drive for the Real Life Center! A special thanks to Georgia Frisch who coordinated the food drive and got all of the students involved! The food that they collected will be such a blessing to many families in our community and we cannot thank them enough for their hard work and kindness. Also, a special thanks to Brad Nolan, the Head Custodian at the school for helping us load all of the food onto the truck. He was so generous to give his time and energy and it was greatly appreciated!



- **Eaton Wiring Devices Customer Appreciation Food Drive** - We are so blessed to have the support of Eaton Wiring Devices who held a can food drive during their customer appreciation week! They were so generous to collect and deliver the food to us! Thank you to all who participated!



- **Dogwood Church October Food Drive** - What wonderful support we had with our fall food drive at Dogwood Church! The members generously gave 210 bags of food to the Real Life Center that day! What a blessing this will be for the families that we serve. Thank you so very much to all who participated! We also want to thank our volunteers who graciously gave their time and energy to help collect and load the food. Clay Van Meter, Quinn Phillips, and Quinn's daughters, Leanna and Gracie Phillips, were such a big help!



## November

- **Fred's Pharmacy Donation** - Thanks to Kem Ragan of Fred's Pharmacy for making the connection for some extra items to be donated to the Real Life Center.



➤ **2015 Community Thanksgiving Dinner**



Community  
Thanksgiving  
Dinner

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in Peachtree City is excited to share with you that we are having our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner!

**WHAT:** Community Thanksgiving Dinner

**WHEN:** Sunday, November 22 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** St. Paul Lutheran Church and School  
700 Ardenlee Parkway, Peachtree City, Ga.

**WHY:** The Sunday before Thanksgiving will be a day when we focus on giving thanks for all of God's many gifts and blessings.

**WHO:** YOU! Anyone who might find themselves eating alone or may not have the energy or funds to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving meal

Come join us as we share Thanksgiving dinner with our neighbors in Fayette and Coweta Counties.

There is **no charge**, but we do ask that you make a reservation by email at [stpaulthanksgiving@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulthanksgiving@gmail.com)

Please let us know **the number of people** in your family who will be attending.

If you do not have access to email, please call Billie Nichols at 770-301-0475 or Gary Nichols at 678-877-7728.

As you register, please feel free to share any of your prayer needs.

See you on Sunday, November 22 between 4:00 and 6:00



## Christmas Wish List

*Christmas is only a few weeks away and many of our Real Life Center families struggle to buy basic necessities.*

*Would you consider helping with this unconventional Christmas wish list?*

### *On the Twelfth Day of Christmas, We Gave to RLC:*

*12 Soaps for Bathing*



*11 Tubes of Toothpaste*



*10 Stove Top Stuffings*



*9 Packs of Charmin*



*8 Mac and Cheeses*



*7 Swanson's Chicken*



*6 Saltine Boxes*



*5 CANS OF CHILI*



*4 Dinty Moore's*



*3 Bottles of Juice*



*2 Laundry Soaps*



*And some...*

*Diapers for the Babies!*

*(Exact numbers and brand names are not important)*

*We appreciate your support and generosity!*



- **Southside Church Small Group Sorts Food** - A big thanks to Ben and Amy Moore for bringing their small group from Southside Church out to help us sort food donations. They were a ton of fun and sorted about a ton of food!



- **Hopewell Women's Group Sorts Food** - We love the Women's group from Hopewell United Methodist Church. They have been serving with us for over 5 years now and came out this past weekend to help sort food donations. Thank you ladies for all your help!



- **2015 T-Shirts for Turkeys** - The JOY FM is helping the Real Life Center and other local food banks stock our freezers for the Thanksgiving Holiday through their T-Shirts for Turkeys Campaign.

Real Life Center will be at the Kedron Kroger at 1101 N Peachtree Pkwy, Peachtree City on Tuesday, Nov 10 from 5pm-7pm and at the Kroger at 805 S. Glynn Street, Fayetteville on Nov 11 from 7am-9am.



- **Two Awesome Schools with a Common Goal** - We are so very grateful for Landmark Christian School's support in sponsoring a food drive for the RLC during their game against Strong Rock Christian school on October 30! These two teams came together with one goal: to have a successful food drive! It was accomplished! 1,524 pounds of food were collected that evening along with a cash donation that they generously donated to the Real Life Center! The elementary students were also encouraged to help by getting to participate in trunk or treating and special games that were hosted by the middle/high school clubs, organizations, and athletic teams if they brought in a food donation! What a great example of our community working together to make a difference in the lives of others! Way to go Landmark Christian School! Thank you so much for your support!!



- **Macaroni Kid Food Drive** – A big thank you to Michelle Schwab with Macaroni Kid for collecting and delivering two boxes full of food! What a blessing it is to have her support!



- **T-Shirts for Turkeys** - We are so appreciative of The JOY FM ATL and 1st Franklin Financial for sponsoring T-Shirts for Turkeys for the Real Life Center Monday evening and Tuesday morning. We collected a total of 558 paper and frozen turkeys. What a blessing for the families of the Real Life Center.

The Joy FM has a few more stops supporting other wonderful non-profits and food banks in our local community. Click [here](#) for their remaining schedule.



- **Thanks to Sacred Ground Farms** - Thanks to Sacred Grounds Farms we were able to share some additional produce for our families. We are grateful to serve fresh healthy produce!



- **Huddleston Elementary donates 395 pounds of food!** - A big thank you to Paula Nellessen and the student council students at Huddleston Elementary for having a fall food drive on behalf of the RLC! The faculty, students, and families of Huddleston Elementary were so generous to give to families in our community. The students were also so kind to help load the truck with the food that they collected! We are so blessed by their continued support! Thank you Huddleston Elementary!



- **Spring Hill Elementary Holds Coat Drive!** - Patricia Scott, the school counselor at Spring Hill Elementary, coordinated a coat drive to help keep children warm this fall and winter. The generosity of the students, faculty/staff, and families at Spring Hill will make a difference in the lives of many families in our community. We are so grateful for their thoughtfulness! Thank you Spring Hill Elementary!





- **Dogwood Small Group Helps Sort Food** - What a fun night working with Gary Koger's small group from Dogwood Church. It didn't take them long to get the hang of sorting and before you know it they had three pallets done! We sure did appreciate their help.



- **Crossfit PTC Holds Annual Food Drive!** We are so thankful for Crossfit PTC and their continued support by having their annual food drive to help our local families! There is so much generosity from this group! There were turkeys, hams, bags of potatoes and much more! Their food drive weighed in at 1,170 pounds! That is just amazing! They even helped load the truck! Thank you Crossfit PTC for all of your help in making a difference in our community!



- **Flat Rock Middle School Builders Club Food Drive!** - A huge thank you to the students, faculty, and families of Flat Rock Middle School for participating in a fall food drive on behalf of the RLC! A special thanks to Mrs. Shoshana Rowell for coordinating the food drive! They collected 468 pounds of food that will certainly be a blessing to many families this holiday season! Thank you Flat Rock Middle School!



- **Whitewater FCA Group Serves Others** - Seven members of the Whitewater HS Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club came to give us a hand preparing medical supplies for distribution. In spite of having very busy school and sports schedules, they generously gave of their time and impressed us with how hard they worked.



- **Troop 175 and Families** – For the fourth year in a row Troop Leader, Steve Blevins, has brought his scouts to come help at Real Life Center. This year the group included moms and siblings who wanted to join in the fun. We had a group of 18 all together and were able to sort clothing and food during the two hours they served.



- **Thank you Sandy Creek High School!** - We would like to say "thank you" to Mr. Jeffery Dykes with Sandy Creek High School for coordinating a fall food drive on behalf of the RLC. We are so thankful to have his support again this year! Mr. Dykes is the advisor for the Graphic Arts Club, National Technical Honor Society and Skills USA, and he and his students collected and donated over 325 pounds of food for the Real Life Center this fall season. Pictured above are two of Mr. Dykes students who helped Dennis Palmer load the food onto the truck. Thank you Sandy Creek H.S.



- **Sandy Creek ROTC Students Give Back!** - Once again the Sandy Creek ROTC students amazed us with their annual fall food drive. The students worked so hard to beat their goal of 3,000 cans. They collected a total of 3,156 cans! One of the students, Evan Tapp, collected over 100 of the cans on his own by asking for support from residents in his neighborhood. A special thank you to Major Shon Dodson for coordinating this food drive. Also thank you to both Major Shon Dodson and Chief Master Sergeant Mark Davidson for showing these wonderful students how important it is to help others in need. Not only did they do such a wonderful job with their food drive, but they also helped load all of that food into the truck. Loading over 3,000 cans of food on a truck is a lot of work! Thank you Sandy Creek ROTC for all that you have done!



- **Davis Chiropractic Center Gives Back!** - A big thank you to Dr. Gary Davis and staff with Davis Chiropractic Center for coordinating a food drive to help families in our community that are going through difficult times this holiday season. They collected over 100 pounds of food, and they were also so generous to make a financial donation to help us stock our food pantry. We cannot thank you enough for your continued support for our ministry here at the Real Life Center!



- **Music Schools Intl's Annual Musi-CAN Food Drive!** We are amazed at and grateful for the generosity of the staff and students at Music Schools International! They had a goal this year of 1,000 cans and they exceeded that goal with 1,168 cans of food! That was over 1,300 pounds of food that will bless many families in our community. It was such a pleasure working with Nicole Simmons, the Customer Relations Director, and Brian Simmons, the Director and head teacher of Music Schools International. We look forward to partnering with them again in the future!



- **Kedron Elementary School's Fall Food Drive** - The generosity of the faculty, families, and students of Kedron Elementary School is overwhelming! 849 pounds of food was collected during their annual fall food drive! Amazing! Thank you to Nicole Douglas, the school's counselor, for making it happen! We are so grateful for you.



- **Thank you La Petite Academy!** A big thank you to Mary Marietta, the Center Director at La Petite Academy in Peachtree City for organizing the school's annual food drive to support our ministry here at the RLC. The sweet children at La Petite

Academy know how to make a difference in our community. Together they collected 276 pounds of food to help stock the food pantry for families in need. Their generosity and kindness will be a blessing to many!



- **Jason Rosier Gives Big!** Jason Rosier, a 10 year old student from Oak Grove elementary school, came bearing gifts for those who are going through tough times. Not only did he ask for food and various items such as fleece throws, hats, and gloves for his birthday, he collected the items and put together kits. Way to go Jason! Thank you for being an inspiration that you are never too young to make a difference!



- **Happy Birthday to Stephen and Autumn!** We have had two very generous students drop off food donations this week. Both Stephen Carter and Autumn Thompson asked their friends to bring food donations instead of gifts to their birthday parties. That is such a thoughtful and selfless way to serve others!





- **Southside Supports Real Life Center** - Every year Southside Church encourages their members to give generously and serve others through their Be Rich Campaign. We are so thankful to all the Southside Groups and families who come to serve with us. This past Friday we had Dave and Jeanie Harrer's small group along with the Spinney family. They helped us sort through two pallets of food! Great group and a great job by all. Thanks so much!



- **November Mobile Food Pantry** - We had a record breaking attendance for our November Mobile Food Pantry. The Atlanta Community Food Bank brought lots of fresh produce which we were able to stretch to serve 240 families! We had a beautiful weather day, and we want to thank the 45 volunteers who gave their time to help bag and distribute over 9,600 pounds of food that morning. Our next Mobile Food Pantry will be December 10.



- **Provision of Thanksgiving Baskets** - Thank you to Championship Martial Arts, St Andrews Episcopal Church, and All Saints Anglican Church for providing Thanksgiving baskets for many of our families this year. We thank you for your hearts to serve. Your caring support means the world to our client families!



- **Southside Church's Gift Through BE RICH** - Southside Church blessed the Real Life Center with a check from their BE RICH campaign. This gift will help us purchase hams for Christmas dinners, a trailer for the orchard equipment to help other organizations, and a small used truck. Thank you Southside Church for such an awesome gift! Watch the response in this [video](#) as one of our volunteers accepts the gift. Read this great [article](#) in The Citizen.



- **The Harbin Agency's Food Donation** - Meet our new Partner, The Harbin Agency, a company in Tyrone with a warm and philanthropic culture. This was evident during their Thanksgiving Celebration where Real Life Center received a generous donation of non-perishable foods for distribution during the Holiday season. This will be a treat for our families! Since 1963 The Harbin Agency's mission has been the proactive stewardship of their clients' insurance needs and service with integrity, responsibility, and compassion. Their dedicated team of professionals

offers peace of mind through comprehensive assessments of their clients' financial risks, lifestyles, and goals.

*“At The Harbin Agency, your policy comes with something extra...Real People...”*

For more information check them out at [www.harbinagency.com](http://www.harbinagency.com).



## December

- **Crabapple Lane Elementary Continues to Give Back!** Thank you to Crabapple Elementary School for helping families in our community by holding their annual fall food drive! The amount of support from the students and families of Crabapple Lane Elementary School is always amazing. Over 1,125 pounds of food was donated to families in need through their fall food drive! We are so grateful for Stacey Patterson, Crabapple Lane Elementary School's counselor, for coordinating this food drive to help us stock our pantry. Every bit of help that we receive from our community makes a big difference in the lives of others and we cannot thank you enough!





- **The Joseph Sams School Makes a Difference!** Thank you to Mr. Zach Stutts with The Joseph Sams School for organizing their annual food drive on behalf of the Real Life Center! The students, staff, and families were so generous in their giving to help those going through difficult times in our community this fall season. We are so grateful for their support, and it is always a pleasure partnering with The Joseph Sams School! Thank you for helping us share hope with those in need.



- **Aventure Aviation Business Spotlight** - Aventure Aviation blessed the Real Life with 3,961 pounds of food and household products during their November drive. What a phenomenal achievement. Their secret? A friendly competition among three teams: Team 1 collected 1,011 pounds, Team 2 collected 808 pounds and Team 3 collected 2,142 pounds! Persistence, commitment and passion are a strong part of their culture as we learned first-hand during a recent site visit. Aventure Aviation is a leading aftermarket aviation parts supplier dedicated to providing unique, reliable solutions that exceed the demands of the market and the expectations of their customers. They provide parts and component repair management for commercial airlines, regional operators, military air forces, and MRO facilities worldwide. For more information, visit [www.aventureaviation.com](http://www.aventureaviation.com). Thank you to a wonderful group of people.



- **Parkside Dental Food Drive** - The staff at Parkside Dental has been a huge support to the Real Life Center this past month. In addition to the food drive they held for us, they all came out to help us decorate the lobby for Christmas and sort food donations. Donna even brought in ornament hooks from her car when we ran out! The lobby looks very festive - thank you so much!



- **Kiewit Infrastructure Helps Families in Need!** A big thank you to Kiewit Infrastructure for continuing to support the ministry of the Real Life Center! This year they coordinated a food drive with their company fall Chili cook off! A very special thank you to Mindy Nicholas for coordinating the food drive and making it all happen. Kiewit Infrastructure and many employees also came together and provided the Real Life Center with a generous financial donation to help us stock our food pantry. We are so grateful for their support and we could not help all of the families that we are able to help without the involvement from our community. Thank you Kiewit Infrastructure for your generosity!



- **Gritton's Training System Collects Food For Families!** We are so thankful that we can count on having the support of Gritton's Training System this time every year to help us stock our food pantry! They held a food drive on behalf of the Real Life Center during the month of November. Katherine McMackin, the lead trainer and coach at Gritton's Training System, delivered the food to us. Thank you Gritton's Training System for helping us help people who are hurting in our community. We look forward to partnering with you again!



- **Starrs Mill High School Beta Club Makes a Difference!** We just cannot put into words how grateful we are for the Starrs Mill High School Beta Club! They held a three month long food drive to help stock the Real Life Center food pantry. A special thank you to Kelly Rock, teacher and Beta Club Sponsor at the High School, for coordinating the food drive and for showing her students the importance of helping our neighbors in need. Over the three months, the students and families of Starrs Mill donated a total of 3,236 pounds of food! It is amazing to see what a difference we can make in the lives of others by working together. Thank you Starrs Mill High School for being a perfect example of that!



- **Dogwood Life Group Provides Toys and Gift Cards** - A big thank you to Sandi Scalise and her Dogwood Church small group for bringing toys and gift cards to the Real Life Center to share with our client families for Christmas!



- **Kathryn Switzer's Bible Study Group Serves** - Many thanks to Kathryn Switzer who invited her Bible Study group to come serve with us. They helped us with several clothing closet projects and did a wonderful job! Thanks ladies; we hope to see you again soon!



- **Suzanne Stone's Bible Study Group Serves** - We had four special ladies join us last night from Southside Church. Suzanne Stone, having volunteered with us before, wanted her Bible Study group to come join us as well. They were able to help us sort cereal by date, so that it will be ready for the first of the year. Thank you for your time and help ladies!



- **Curves Continues to Help Families in Need!** Thank you to Debbie Sanders with Curves in Fayetteville for coordinating a food drive on behalf of the Real Life Center. Her continued support for our ministry will bless so many families in our community that are hurting! A big thank you to everyone who participated in the Curves food drive!



- **A Special Gathering for Our Seniors** - We had a wonderful time celebrating the Christmas season with our seniors. It was great sharing holiday memories and reminiscing. Cookies and punch were served, and the sweet sound of Christmas carols filled the halls. A special thanks to Kem Williams and Grace Church for making this happen!



- **Kids R Kids Donates Food to the Real Life Center!** We can always count on having the support of Sally Weaver with Kids R Kids! She coordinates a food drive every year to help families in our community that are in need. Thank you to everyone from Kids R Kids for your kindness and generosity. What a blessing it will be to many!



- **Carriage Lane Presbyterian Holds Food Drive** - We are so thankful for Carriage Lane Presbyterian Church for holding a food drive to help families that are hurting in our community. The church collected 756 pounds of food that will surely bless many families this Christmas season. A special thank you to Grace Schwartz for coordinating the food drive and helping make it a success!



- **Parkside Dental Practice Gives Back!** Parkside Dental Practice held their first food drive on behalf of the Real Life Center in November! They were so very generous in their giving and collected 349 pounds of food that will bless many families in our community. It was a pleasure partnering with them and we look forward to working with them again in the future. Thank you Parkside Dental!



- **Kids R Kids Helps Others in Need!** The staff, children, and families of Kids R Kids on Lexington Pass in Peachtree City were so kind to have a food drive in November on behalf of the Real Life Center! Thank you to Megan Lewis for coordinating the food drive and getting the school involved in making a difference in our community. We are grateful for your generosity and continued support of our ministry.



- **St. Paul Lutheran Church Continues to Help Those in Need** - Thank you to St. Paul Lutheran Church for holding a food drive to help families that are going through hard times in our community. St. Paul Lutheran Church holds a food drive several times a year to support our ministry. We are so thankful for their generous giving. It makes it possible to serve many more families in our own community who are hurting. Thank you St. Paul Lutheran Church! A special thanks to Joanne Shepard for coordinating the food drive!



- **First Baptist Church of Peachtree City Holds Food Drive!** What great support we had from First Baptist Church during their food drive in November! They continuously help us keep our food pantry shelves filled with our most needed items. Ciska Harrelson did a wonderful job coordinating the food drive and getting everyone involved. It was such a success and we look forward to partnering with them again at the end of December for their Christmas Eve food drive! Thank you First Baptist Church for helping us share hope!



- **GA Military College Helps Stock Food Pantry** - A big thank you to GA Military College, Fayetteville Campus, for holding a food drive on behalf of the Real Life Center! It was amazing to see everyone at GMC come together to make a difference in the lives of others. It was a pleasure partnering with Lauren Harris, Dean of Students, in coordinating the food drive. The Fayetteville Campus is GMC's newest campus and it is such a beautiful school that holds a lot of opportunity for many people in our community. What a blessing it is to have their support! We are looking forward to working with them again in the future.



- **Christmas Cheer** - These cute girls from Daisy Troop 16313 shared with us the Christmas ornaments they made for the tree in our lobby. The cinnamon stars look great and smell even better! We want to thank the girls and their troop leader Kelly for this special gift!





- **Fun with Fifth Graders!** The Fifth Grade class for Landmark Christian School came out to serve and for a tour of the Real Life Center. Their teacher, Ms. Lisa Higgs, brings her class each year to give them the opportunity to learn about giving to others. The students helped fill over 200 bags of rice and beans for distribution through our food pantry. Great Job!



- **Christmas Dinners** - For five years now the families from Word of God Lutheran Church have donated bags full of all the items needed to make a Christmas Dinner. This year they provided 130 bags which will make a real difference this holiday for the families receiving them. We are so thankful for Word of God and their desire to serve others! Thanks to the Simmons for delivering the bags each year!



- **Southside Be Rich** - We had two groups come serve last weekend from the Southside Church as part of their Be Rich Campaign. Friday night we had 18 girls and their two leaders from the Ninth Grade Bible Study group, and Saturday we had a group of 12 individuals. It was such a great help having everyone come to sort food and restock our food pantry!



- **Hoshizaki America Gives Back in a Big Way!** Wow! We are truly grateful for the generosity of the employees of Hoshizaki America in Peachtree City! They collected an overwhelming 4,680 pounds of food that will bless so many families who are hurting in our community. Their kindness and generosity will surely make a difference in the lives of many!



- **Dunlap Wealth Strategies Helps Families** - A big thank you to Ray Dunlap and the employees of Dunlap Wealth Strategies for having a food drive during their Holiday luncheon. Their food drive will benefit many families in our community who are going through difficult times. Thank you to all of the employees who were so generous to donate non perishable items to help stock our food pantry. It will make a difference!



- **Thrivent Financial's Donation** - We are so thankful to our friends at Thrivent Financial for their commitment to this community and support of Real Life Center. Even during their Christmas Celebration they were focused on giving back by collecting food and cash donations. Their generosity is much appreciated!



- **Meals for Christmas** - We love to have families join us in reaching out to families in need. This holiday Laurie Radar and her family wanted to give back by purchasing items for ten Christmas Dinners. This is such a blessing!



- **Thanks to Friends from Chick-fil-A** - We enjoyed a night out with our friends from Chick-fil-A, and we are honored to partner together!



- **Dogwood Women's Christmas Event** - He had a great night enjoying the gift of friendship, inspiration, and celebrating the season together with the women of Dogwood Church. The women collected much needed items to share with women going through tough times. Thank you to all of the women who brought gifts!



- **Gift From the Atlanta Air Cargo Association** - Thanks so much to the Atlanta Air Cargo Association for allowing the Real Life Center to attend their holiday luncheon. We are grateful for their generous \$1,000 gift. The Atlanta Air Cargo Association has a tradition of over forty years of service to the air cargo industry. We invite you to look at their Facebook page.



- **Optimist Club Donates Christmas Baskets to RLC!** What a blessing it is to have received 15 boxes of Christmas baskets from the Optimist Club this December! These baskets will make a difference in the lives of many families this Christmas season! Rich Rye, the president of the Optimist Club, and George Uhrin, were so kind to make this delivery to us! Thank you Optimist Club for your continued support!



- **Somerby of Peachtree City Helps Families in Need!** Thank you to Somerby of Peachtree City for having another food drive in December to help us share hope with families in need in our community! The generous residents and employees collected food during November and December and we just cannot thank them enough for their support. We look forward to partnering with them again in the future!



- **Braelinn's Kindness Kids Club Makes a Difference!** We are amazed at the generosity of the Kindness Kids Club at Braelinn Elementary School! They collected 750 cans to help families in our community who are going through difficult times. They were so very generous in their giving and excited about helping others in need. They even helped us load all of the boxes onto the truck. A very special thank you to Kathy Caldwell, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and Kindness Kids Club Sponsor, for coordinating the food drive and showing her students how to share hope with others this Christmas season! We look forward to partnering with this sweet group of children again in the future!



- **Living Faith Youth** - We had a large group of students from Living Faith Fellowship join us to help sort some of our recent food donations. They only had an hour to serve but were still able to get through two pallets of food. What a hard working bunch!



- **Students from First Baptist Church of PTC** - Due to finals week, these students got out early from school and wanted to spend the extra time serving with us. What a thoughtful group they were, and they did a great job sorting food for us.



- **Edward Jones in PTC Holds 3rd Annual Food Drive!** A big thank you to Edward Jones for holding a food drive during their Christmas party to help us restock our pantry! Their generosity will make a difference in many families' lives. This is their third year in a row helping others in need in our community by having a food drive on behalf of the Real Life Center. We are very grateful for their support and look forward to working with them again next year!



- **Merry Christmas From Keller Williams** - Thanks to Keller Williams we were able to give 27 gift cards to our families to help provide Christmas for the teenagers. Thanks for making Christmas special for all!



- **Fayette/Coweta EMC Helps Stock Food Pantry** - A big thank you to Fayette/Coweta EMC for having a Can-a-thon for Christmas! We are so grateful for everyone who participated. Not only did they collect and deliver the food from their can-a-thon, but they gave a generous financial donation to go towards stocking our food pantry. So many families will be blessed by their generosity. Thank you EMC!



- **Peachtree City Fire Department's Annual Santa Run** - We can always count on PTC Fire Department to help stock our food Pantry with their annual Santa Run! They delivered two huge truck loads of food right before Christmas! What a wonderful blessing it is to have their support. We would especially like to thank Chief Stoney Lohr for coordinating the food drive and delivery. It is always a pleasure to work with the PTC Fire Department!



- **World Gym Fayette Helps Families in Need!** Thank you to World Gym for sharing hope with families in need in our community! They were so kind to have an angel tree on behalf of the Real Life Center this Christmas. They brought in so many wonderful gifts that will bless many families. The gifts included gloves, hats, socks, underwear, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant and all kinds of toiletries and necessities for all ages! What a difference these items will make! We are so grateful for everyone at World Gym Fayette and their generosity. A special thank you to Amy

Moore, group fitness instructor, and her sweet family who delivered all of the items to the center just before Christmas. It was a pleasure meeting this dear family.



- **Prohealth Physical Therapy gives back!** Thank you to Prohealth Physical Therapy for their generosity in having a food drive during the month of December on behalf of the RLC! Every year they take the time to help families in our community by collecting food to help us stock our food pantry. We are so thankful for their partnership!



- **Uniglobe Accent Travel in PTC Holds "12 Days of Christmas" Food Drive!** A big thank you to Uniglobe Accent Travel for organizing a "12 Days of Christmas" Food drive! A very special thank you to Elaine Pierce for delivering all 62 pounds of some of our top needed items that were collected to help families in need in our community!

