

2016 Board of Directors and Staff

Officers:

Suzy Fitzgerald—Chair
Tim Turner—Vice-chair
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Iris Toner—Treasurer

Members:

Jarrold Bailey	Bobbie Malcolm
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Karen Steele	Ken Clark

Staff:

Jesse Carswell	Executive Director
Chris Hoover	Case Manager
Felicia Griggs	Shelter Coordinator

Shelter Managers:

Ayla Rutherford, Brandy Brittain
& Wendy Smith

Our Wish List:

Coffee, Coffee Filters, Paper Products,
Laundry Detergent, Canned Food, Fresh
Fruit, Milk, Dry Creamer, Cleaning Prod-
ucts, Fresh Meats, Ironing Board, Office
Supplies, and anything you are willing to
donate.



**WE ARE IN NEED OF TWIN
MATTRESSES AND BEDS!!!**

VOLUNTEERS MATTER!!!

- ◇ We need individuals who can provide temporary relief when shelter workers need to be away from the Burke Shelter for Women and Children or we have a need for emergency coverage. If you are interested in volunteering for 2nd shift or 3rd shift on an “as needed” basis, please contact our office at (828) 432-5659.



Where HOPE meets OPPORTUNITY:
Ending Homelessness

**THE MEETING PLACE
MISSION**

One North Square-Suite 5
301 E. Meeting St.
PO Box 2861
Morganton, NC 28680
(828) 432-5659

IN THIS ISSUE...

- ⇒ Information on our new program: Rapid Rehousing to begin in the Spring.
- ⇒ We celebrate the work of new interns and staff at The Meeting Place Mission.
- ⇒ Our statistics of success from 2015—your support in action!
- ⇒ Success stories from our assistance programs
- ⇒ Our “Needs List” and Areas for Volunteering

Where Hope Meets Opportunity

NEWS FROM THE MEETING PLACE MISSION

MARCH 2016

TMPM To Start Rapid-Rehousing

Beginning in the 2nd quarter of this year, The Meeting Place Mission will be undertaking a new program to serve the homeless and those at risk for homelessness in Burke County—Rapid Rehousing. This program is designed to assist individuals & families who are at risk of losing their

HOUSING



housing through temporary financial assistance and case management. The program is also equipped to assist those transitioning from emergency shelters and transitional housing into their own residence. The scope will be limited because this is a “trial year,” but we have high hopes. The State DHHS will provide some reimbursement support for this initiative, but, as always, we will be leaning on our Compassionate Community to help us meet the important goals of serving those in need. We look forward to sharing the success of this program with you throughout the year.

With Holy Week and Easter upon us, the Board, staff, and clients of The Meeting Place Mission would like to extend our prayers and gratitude for all that you do! The reason we can serve our community is because of your support of our efforts. For that, we sayTHANK YOU!

The Meeting Place Mission
P.O. Box 2861
Morganton, NC 28680
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Sheltering People In Need Since 2004

Are you interested in keeping-up with information about the Meeting Place Mission???

You can follow us on:

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/MeetingPlaceMission>

Twitter

@MeetingPlaceMis

Website

www.meetingplacemission.org

or by signing-up for our **newsletter or e-mails** by sending

an e-mail to:
info@meetingplacemission.org

We would love to have your support and suggestions!

2016 Community First Initiative—Supporting Partners

If you have a business and would like to become a partner of The Meeting Place Mission as a Community First Initiative participant, please contact us for more information. In 2015, we had three businesses support our cause on a quarterly basis. We also are inviting individuals to become a “Supporting Partner” by making a commitment to support this mission on a monthly or quarterly basis. We are looking forward to adding more partners in 2016!

WE LIKE TO TALK...

One of our favorite activities is sharing the work and stories of The Meeting Place Mission within our Compassionate Community. If you are involved in a church, church group, community group, or other association and would like to hear from us, please contact our Executive Director, Jesse Carswell, at jesse@meetingplacemission.org. Jesse loves to engage groups and talk about our work with the members of our community.

F.A.C.E.S.

In 2015, F.A.C.E.S. had a 100% success rate in assisting families with children make their transition from homelessness to housing. Our organization is extremely proud of these families—single parent households with children—and the hard work they demonstrated making the transition. Their success is another evidence of how important this program is to our county.

If anyone is interested in providing supplies for the FACES program—gift cards, linens, food, etc.—please let us know by emailing our executive director at:

jesse@meetingplacemission.org or by calling our office at (828) 432-5659. Our families are always in need of extra support as they make their way through the program.

Women & Children’s Shelter

The Burke Emergency Shelter for Women and Children served over 125 individuals and 19 families in 2015. This marks the largest number of families served by our Shelter. Much of this success is based upon the tremendous efforts of our guests and the excellent care received from our Shelter Coordinator and House Managers. In addition, we have increased the number of hours our Case Manager engages guests, which has also made a difference in reducing the number of night stays experienced between homelessness and alternative housing.

If you would like additional information or want to help the Shelter, please contact us at (828) 432-5659 or by email at: jesse@meetingplacemission.org.

THANK YOU...

- ◇ **Oak Hill United Methodist Church** for allowing us to be a part of your community outreach event in Lent.
- ◇ **Grace Episcopal Church** for allowing our Executive Director to speak to your church in January.
- ◇ **Linville UMC, United Methodist Men** for inviting us to speak at your breakfast in April.
- ◇ **North Morganton UMC** for providing financial support during the inclement weather this winter.
- ◇ **First Presbyterian, First Baptist, St. Charles & Arneys-Fairview Churches** for supporting us on a monthly or quarterly basis.
- ◇ **First United Methodist Church** for allowing our organization to benefit from the “Night of Light 5K & Family Run/Walk.”
- ◇ **Everyone** who provided much needed support during the winter months, especially this past December. We are indebted to you for your great kindnesses!



Support us at our Bojangles' Share Night: **Tuesday, April 12th from 5 until 8pm.** We will receive 10% of sales this night.

Join us at the Bojangles near K-Mart!

TMPM Welcomes New Staff/Interns

In January, we welcomed a new Shelter Coordinator, Felicia Griggs and new Shelter Managers: Ayla Rutherford, Wendy Smith & Brandy Brittain. These ladies are excelling in their work of making the Shelter a comfortable and safe place for women and children.

We are also pleased to announce Appalachian State BSW interns, Mandy Edwards and Richard Pisano, and WPCC intern Whitney Conway have joined us this term. These students are doing an excellent job of learning and leading in the work we do here in Burke County. We are very proud of them!

In 2015—thanks to our many supporters—we served over 250 men, women, and children in our three programs. The success rate in 2015 for our transitional programs was 87%, more than 10% higher than the average in NC.

From Homelessness to House Manager

In 2015, Ryan S. became a client of our Men's Transitional Program at Burkemont. In less than 7 months, Ryan transitioned from our Phase I program to our Phase II program, while continuing to maintain excellent grades as a degree-seeking student at Western Piedmont Community College. Because of Ryan's extraordinary efforts, we offered him the opportunity to become the House Manager for our program at Burkemont, providing support and encouragement to new men entering into our programs. Since Ryan's transition, our program has benefited from his tenacious work ethic and unique ability to connect with new clients. **Ryan's story is a success story.** And we continue to serve men in our community because of individuals like Ryan who are able to receive a “hand-up” and watch miracles happen in their lives. We are so proud of Ryan and all the men who have made great success in our Men's Transitional Program.