

*"With God all things are possible." — Matthew 19:26*

METRO  
LUTHERAN  
MINISTRY

## Bringing Hope To Metro Kansas City

# METRO LUTHERAN MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT



**W**ith almost unbelievable generosity and support as its foundation, MLM achieved great successes in 2015. Helping the homeless and needy of Greater Kansas City took many forms (clockwise, from top left): Applicants waited to sign up for the Christmas Store; volunteers assisted with the

Easter Basket Packing Party; MLM's Stephen Barbee helped lead a Job Readiness Fair; volunteers built one of dozens of ramps to help restore independence to the elderly and those with disabilities; MLM and St. James Lutheran Church broke ground for a new Northland Service Center.

Fiscal Year Ending  
June 30, 2015

**Metro Lutheran Ministry: With vision, purpose and compassion since 1971.**  
MLM affirms the right of all people to food, clothing and shelter, while promoting self-sufficiency and hope through direct client services and advocacy.

*Metro Lutheran Ministry: Making Life Better... One Life at a Time*

# MLM: Providing Lasting Solutions for Individuals and

*Metro Lutheran Ministry (MLM) provides clients a clear path to self-sufficiency through a continuum of care that immediately addresses short-term stability and then helps clients to achieve long-term sustainability.*

During 2015, 20,195 at-risk and homeless individuals and families received assistance from MLM.

## Empowering Families: A Lasting Solution

The goal of the Family Empowerment Program is to help families in crisis first become stable and then move forward to achieve self-sufficiency.

## Meeting Basic Needs...

The path to self-sufficiency can sometimes begin at the most basic level of need. MLM food pantries average 50 clients per day who each receive 21 meals per month for their families.

## 2015 Highlights:

- 5,901 households received food from our pantries, including 3,564 children, 1,411 of whom were new clients.

- 560 BackSnacks were given to students in order to prevent hunger during weekends.

- 475 older adults were provided with Senior Commodities or large food boxes, 63 of whom were homebound clients who had their meals delivered. MLM increased its delivery services almost threefold over last year.

- The Learning to Earning Program distributed over 1,129 sack lunches to clients seeking jobs.

- The Saturday Breakfast Ministry provided 13,517 meals to Kansas and Missouri residents.

- MLM received in-kind food donations worth \$745,000. This accounts for 90 percent of all food distributed by MLM.

- MLM's Christmas Store, one of the largest gift-giving programs in Kansas City, distributed gifts, bibles, blankets and food to 812 families (2,600 individuals).

## Keeping Families at Home...

Self-sufficiency is not possible without warmth, shelter and a roof over your head. MLM helps families with minor home repair,

rent, utilities and helps those facing eviction or homelessness.

## 2015 Families at Home Highlights:

- 566 households with 622 children received utility assistance (gas, electricity and water).

- 268 households with 279 children received housing assistance, preventing them from having to face homelessness (rent, deposits and temporary lodging).

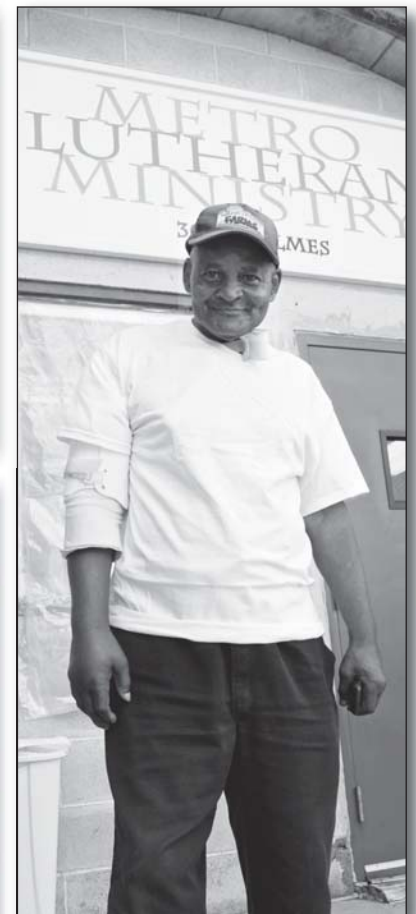
- 24 fans were distributed to keep 64 individuals cool during the hot summer months.

- 51 homes received were repaired by the Minor Home Repair Team.

## Lasting Solutions...

Once basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter are met, families are able to grow dramatically on the path to self-sufficiency as they break out of the cycle of poverty and crisis. MLM provides long-term support in the areas of case management, education and employment to help individuals truly reach their goals.

*MLM supports an enormous variety of individuals and families who need a little help to get on their feet and regain independence. Thanks to generous supporters and volunteers like those in our food gardens, our clients get what they need to earn solid incomes—and earn deserved pride.*





# Families Throughout Metropolitan Kansas City

## 2015 Lasting Solutions Highlights:

- 63 households received year-long case management, a 230 percent increase over 2014. Services included long-term assistance with housing needs, employment support, referrals for supportive services, financial literacy, household skills and assistance with items such as clothing, bus passes and personal identification.
- 1,124 individuals sought assistance from the Learning to Earning program to earn high school diplomas and attain employment. Two individuals successfully earned their high school diplomas and 205 individuals attained employment.

## Shelter for the Most Vulnerable

MLM operates three permanent housing locations to serve the needs of chronically homeless, disabled and mentally ill individuals. Permanent supportive housing has been shown to be the most effective method for addressing long-term homelessness, especially for this population.

The first priority for this effort is to get individuals off the streets. However, MLM

also provides a number of individualized supports in the areas of physical and mental health, socialization, alcohol and smoking cessation and healthy living. This includes exercise, gardening and nutrition.

Within our three homes; Luther Johnson Homes, Grace Homes and Project Care, 44 individuals were served. Although our housing is permanent and clients can stay indefinitely, six individuals were able to discharge to independent housing.

## Called to Serve: 2015 Volunteer Highlights

Volunteers continue to be a critical and necessary component of MLM's service structure, allowing MLM's clients to achieve self-sufficiency.

In 2015, more than 1,605 volunteers provided over 16,000 hours of service.

- **Planting Orchard and Gardens:** Volunteers, ranging from pre-teens to older adults, worked in the garden and orchard throughout 2015. They built garden beds, installed rabbit fencing, weeded and mulched the orchard and greens beds, mowed and

thinned fruit from the orchard. They also trimmed the orchard throughout the year.

- **Minor Home Repair:** Throughout 2015, the Minor Home Repair Team completed repairs on over 60 homes. This includes the Congregational Servant Event in which volunteers from area congregations spent the first Saturday in May making minor repairs and painting homes throughout Kansas City.

- **Christmas Store:** This year, volunteers filled over 350 volunteer spots to assist 812 families (2,600 individuals) that were in need of Christmas Store assistance. Volunteers helped sort gifts, set up, assist clients in selecting gifts and helping carry gifts to clients' cars. Throughout the year, volunteers across the Kansas City Metro area donated items for the Christmas Store.

- **Breakfast Ministry:** Over the course of a year, volunteers served 13,515 hot breakfast meals to hungry residents of Kansas City, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri on Saturday mornings. Many have a passion for this service and choose to serve throughout the year.



*"Empowerment" is a much-used word that has real meaning at Metro Lutheran Ministry. MLM's Education Center is a great example, but so are efforts like a job re-entry program (at left). Also impressive is the huge support from staff, volunteers and donors, including those at the Power of Each One event (below).*



## Metro Lutheran Ministry and Affiliate

### Consolidated Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets Year Ended June 30, 2015

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
<b>REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT</b>			
Contributions and grants			
Foundations	\$317,922	\$544,178	\$862,100
Individuals	451,321	95,373	546,694
Member congregations	93,329	4,125	97,454
Other congregations	10,737	2,102	12,839
United Way	199,075	33,318	232,393
Corporations	154,602	350	154,952
Other organizations	17,775	20,755	38,530
Special events	47,300		47,300
In-kind contributions	1,563,113		1,563,113
Special event revenue	7,440		7,440
Government grants and contracts	573,812		573,812
Program fees	51,992		51,992
Investment income, net and other	42,235		42,235
Other income	1,400		1,400
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>451,827</u>	<u>(451,827)</u>	
Total revenues, gains and other support	3,983,880	248,374	4,232,254
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program services			
Service centers	2,630,912		2,630,912
Minor home repair	35,713		35,713
Christmas store	146,658		146,658
Learning to earning	222,169		222,169
Supported housing	<u>612,401</u>		<u>612,401</u>
Total program services	3,647,853		3,647,853
Supporting services			
Administration	325,443		325,443
Fundraising	218,072		218,072
Direct benefit to donors	<u>34,377</u>		<u>34,377</u>
Total supporting services	577,892		577,892
Total expenses	<u>4,225,745</u>		<u>4,225,745</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(241,865)	248,374	6,509
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,386,778	571,338	1,958,116
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$1,144,913</u>	<u>\$819,712</u>	<u>\$1,964,625</u>

## Board of Directors

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## Metro Lutheran Ministry and Affiliate

### Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses Year Ended June 30, 2015

	Community Support Services						Program Total	Administration	Fundraising	Total
	Service Centers	Minor Home Repair	Christmas Store	Learning to Earning	Supported Housing					
Salaries and wages	\$293,485	\$4,705	\$7,977	\$101,723	\$168,084	\$575,974	\$172,942	\$87,964	\$836,880	
Employee benefits	38,821	74	134	19,657	33,496	92,182	24,553	17,026	133,761	
Payroll taxes	26,507	74	636	8,697	13,537	49,451	15,155	7,588	72,194	
Client assistance	2,155,738	29,187	135,178	61,072	308,497	2,689,672	-	-	2,689,672	
Telephone	6,444	36	66	1,654	8,578	16,778	4,184	1,041	22,003	
Postage and shipping	1,379	10	105	287	467	2,248	1,482	3,447	7,177	
Supplies	7,782	20	36	5,469	3,903	17,210	5,066	2,679	24,955	
Professional fees	2,460	19	34	511	4,220	7,244	17,248	442	24,934	
Contracted services	9,894	25	44	963	17,938	28,864	36,673	50,230	115,767	
Equipment rental and maintenance	3,798	34	62	1,128	1,527	6,549	2,731	799	10,079	
Insurance	10,125	346	526	342	3,865	15,204	6,469	296	21,969	
Printing and publications	1,774	5	8	122	201	2,110	2,556	10,146	14,812	
Occupancy	25,077	122	228	5,152	22,500	53,079	8,462	2,870	64,411	
Depreciation and amortization	20,921	283	510	7,584	12,543	41,841	12,399	6,564	60,804	
Travel	4,819	246	134	2,814	4,378	12,391	2,644	1,285	16,320	
Special events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,635	17,635	
Other expenses	<u>21,888</u>	<u>527</u>	<u>980</u>	<u>4,994</u>	<u>8,667</u>	<u>37,056</u>	<u>12,879</u>	<u>8,060</u>	<u>57,995</u>	
TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES	<u>\$2,630,912</u>	<u>\$35,713</u>	<u>\$146,658</u>	<u>\$222,169</u>	<u>\$612,401</u>	<u>\$3,647,853</u>	<u>\$325,443</u>	<u>\$218,072</u>	<u>4,191,368</u>	
Direct benefit to donors									34,377	
TOTAL EXPENSES									<u>\$4,225,745</u>	