



The
**Christian
Outreach
Center**

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

We exist to help people towards self-sufficiency
and restored dignity through employment.



Learn more about how to make a
change in the Baton Rouge community at
christianoutreachcenterbr.com

TINA'S STORY

"I have been in and out of prison most of my life. When I wasn't in prison, most of it was lived without a home. **I knew God was calling me out of darkness, but I couldn't find the road.** I couldn't tell you how many times I have been released from jail or prison, Bible in hand, and with every intention of staying clean and doing the right thing. But it didn't stick.

In 2018, I got out of prison for the last time and I voluntarily went into a program that had me take a job training class at the Christian Outreach Center. **Everything was different this time.** It was the first time I was introduced to a family (the COC) that has been there for me, supporting me and believing in me. So I guess you could say I met the staff at COC through job training, but it didn't stop there. **They treated me like I had value. It impacted me so much that I came back to the next class as a volunteer. That part of the journey is amazing in itself, but it was so much more than that.**

About one year after my release from incarceration, I reached a fork in the road and my next step was not clear. The people that I leaned on during that time were the staff from COC. I ended up teaching job readiness for three sober living houses which eventually expanded into a management position. My new career often involved people who were in need of birth certificates or ID's, but they didn't have the resources. **So now the COC has become an ever-present help in my assisting others. Today I am actually a case worker who has the privilege of helping others who don't have homes. The other day I had a series of meetings (one of them being at COC), and I had a moment where I did not recognize myself.**

Did I tell you that I was even nominated for a returning citizen award (getting out of prison and doing the right thing)? That is what the COC is about."



OUR CORE VALUES



Expressing Christ-Centered Compassion and Love for Greater Baton Rouge



Transforming Lives with the Gospel



Creating Relational/Healing Communities



Working with People to Discover Their Purpose



Making Long-Term Impact through Employment



Pursuing Meaningful Partnerships with Other Agencies



A PEEK INTO MINISTRY IN 2020

In 2020, ministry looked far different than we could have anticipated. Our typical services were temporarily suspended as we sought to exercise wisdom and safety for our clients and staff. However, new opportunities arose to meet needs presented by the pandemic. **Through Housing the Homeless, the COC was able to provide beds and household items for 105 households. Over 200 adults and children who were experiencing homelessness during the pandemic now had safe, welcoming places to call home.** COC provided clothing, shoes, hygiene kits, and other essential items for each person. During the second phase of the project, COC assisted clients with obtaining vital documents such as birth certificates and IDs. The third phase was a fall campaign, Housing the Homeless which was a collection of household items to help clients transition from the temporary housing and hotels to permanent housing.

WHAT WE DO

1. BASIC SERVICES

As a hand-up ministry, there are times when “triage” services are needed to provide immediate relief. This includes food, clothing, hygiene items, and other basic necessities. By meeting the practical needs of those struggling in our community we create an opportunity for them to step into more sustainable life change as well.

2. EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Employment is one of the most effective means for creating sustainable life change in individuals experiencing homelessness. Through partnerships with people like you, individuals experiencing homelessness are able to work toward discovering their purpose.”

3. PRISON RE-ENTRY SERVICES

Louisiana has the highest incarceration rate in the world, and each month, hundreds of formerly incarcerated persons are released in the Baton Rouge area. These individuals are often without resources, education or support, and many find themselves in a cycle of homelessness. Stigma leads some potential employers to not want to hire someone who has been in prison, and without something as simple as access to a regular paycheck, many people end up going right back into the system. We help the formerly incarcerated to become self-sufficient, reduce the rate of recidivism and transform our communities and our city.

MINISTRY IMPACT

50

Over 50 graduates from job training programs from 2019-2020.

39

39 individuals employed before graduation.

16

16 individuals served per day on average through triage services.

6,000

6,000 interactions with individuals experiencing homelessness in 2020. alone.

DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

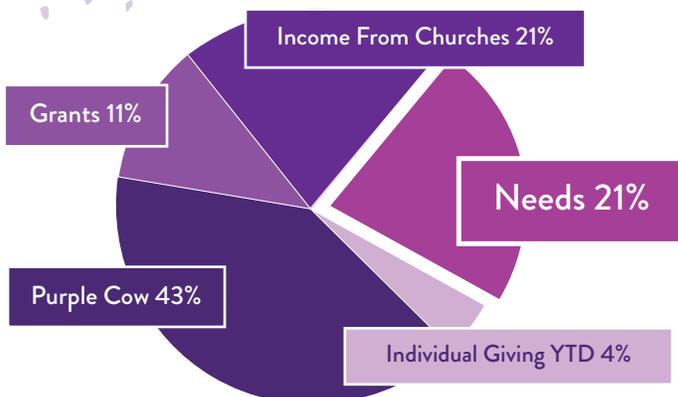
In 2021, the COC will need to raise \$65,000 to continue our ministry and pursue future growth.

A NOTE FROM THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

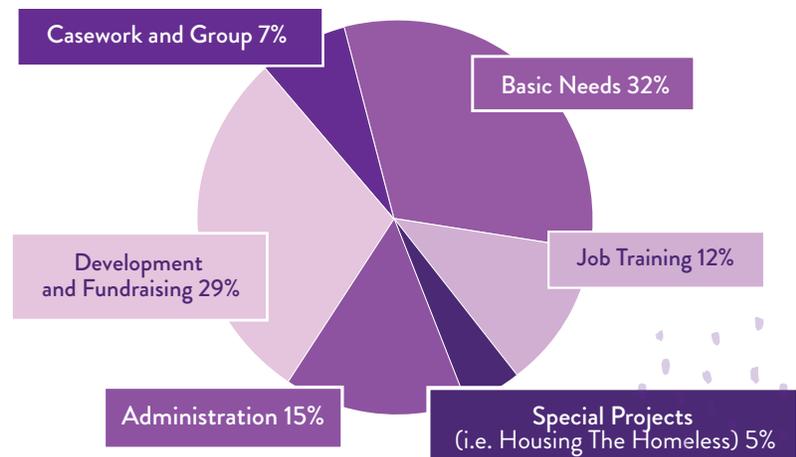
“2021 will be a year to create lasting change in our community to see hope restored, work with people as they discover their purpose, and provide sustainable lifestyle changes and job opportunities.”

- Michelle Robe, Development Director

PROJECTED 2021 FUNDING



PROJECTED 2021 EXPENSE





The
Christian
Outreach
Center

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

30 Years of Ministry

“2021 is the 30th Anniversary of The Christian Outreach Center’s founding. This is going to be an exciting year of opportunity with our various projects and partnerships. We believe this will be a year of meaningful, impactful, life-transforming endeavors.”

– Brian Sleeth, Executive Director



GET ENGAGED

GIVE

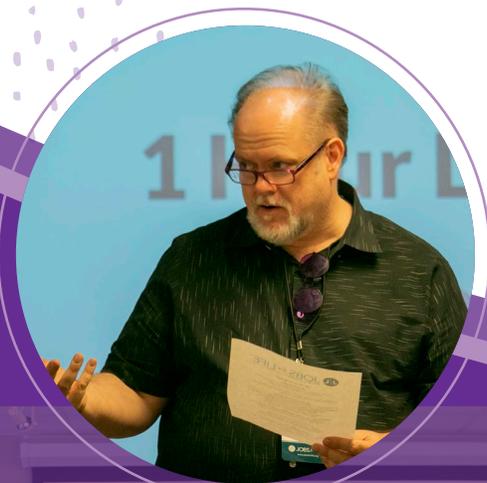
Your financial support creates cycle-breaking, sustainable change right here in the Baton Rouge community.

STAY IN TOUCH

Follow us on social media for stories of the real people being touched by our ministry.

PLUG IN

Sign up for our newsletter to be notified of new opportunities to serve and partner with us through job trainings, life skills courses and other opportunities.



(225) 978-1034
1427 Main St
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Learn more about how to make a change in the Baton Rouge community at
christianoutreachcenterbr.com

**the Christian Outreach Center is a 501(c)3 organization all donations are tax deductible*