

Jeremiah's Place

Expanding Our Reach



2018 Annual Report



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Matthew Hoyle

A message from the Chairman

Six years ago, a small group of men came together out of concern for the homeless in our region. They formed a corporation -- this corporation -- to deal with it. Over the course of two years, this group of men and others who joined them captured the imagination of a community, inspired business leaders, and formed an army of volunteers to build Jeremiah's Place to minister to homeless families in our region.

Jeremiah's Place has been in operation for three years now. It serves our community well, and its successes are borne out in the statistics. We are humbled and proud to be a part of a ministry to our community that is improving the lives of so many so profoundly. But there is more to do, and there are people who are homeless who currently are not eligible for Jeremiah's Place. It is time to expand our reach and put our experience to work to touch that needy population.

We have commissioned a committee to propose solutions to other categories of homelessness in our region. When Jeremiah's Place was under development, substantial involvement of the community was necessary, and it rose to the occasion. The same level of involvement will be necessary moving forward, too. We saw miracles take place to make Jeremiah's Place become a reality, and we need to lean on God's strength and provision as we move forward in this new effort, too.

This will be good work and, with God's help and the prayers and sweat of the caring people of Lumpkin County and its neighbors, this project will come to fruition.

Won't you join me in it?



Apartments are decorated, cleaned and made ready for tenants by local churches.



Fiona McDaniel
Executive Director

Become an NGIM Advocate

- Contribute financially
- Donate needed items
- Volunteer
- Serve on committees or serve on the Board of Directors
- Participate in fundraisers and other events

From Our Executive Director, Fiona McDaniel

2018 was a busy year for us, and Jeremiah's Place achieved so much, thanks to a caring community, generous donors, and many volunteers.

In 2018, we were able to house 24 adults and 31 children, who otherwise would not have had a safe place to stay. We provided over \$5,000 of financial support with the help of our community partners. We taught budgeting, life skills and peer counseling, offered financial workshops to parents and teens, and provided over 4,000 bed-nights to our neighbors in need. In addition, we have adopted a second phase of our program that allows a family to extend their stay with us for up to one year under certain circumstances.

At Jeremiah's Place, we meet the families where they are. No two families are the same. They are special and unique, and are faced with different situations. For some families, the struggle is making it from one paycheck to the next without borrowing money or pawning their car titles. For others, it is a struggle getting their children to school and themselves to work on time. Whatever confronts them, we are there to help overcome the things that contribute to their homelessness.

My staff, our volunteers, the partnering churches, and our supportive Board of Directors are committed to helping our neighbors.

We cannot do this good work without your donations and sponsorships. If you are not yet a supporter of Jeremiah's Place, would you please consider joining with us to address homelessness in our area? Together we will make a positive impact in the lives of these needy families and expand our reach.

God bless you.

www.lumpkincountyhomeless.org

706-867-5404

lumpkincountyhomeless@gmail.com

Letters from those we serve...

Dear Fiona,

Jeremiah's Place has been an absolute Godsend for my family.

Prior to coming here, many days were filled with anxiety and tears because we didn't even know if there would be enough food for us. Being here, we have been able to focus on a good life for our children. We have been able to address health issues with our son, budget, save money, and we are learning vital skills that will strengthen our foundation in moving forward to self-sufficiency.

It is such a blessing to be reminded that people selflessly care for one another.

B.C.



Dear Fiona,

Words cannot explain how grateful I am that you took a chance on me. This ministry is truly an answered prayer to my situation.

My family was broken and we were all separated and divided. I am proud to say that God has reunited and restored my family. Because of Jeremiah's Place, we continue to thrive every day. You gave us a place to live, time to heal, taught us life skills and, most of all, how to handle our money through budgeting and saving. This will stick with us throughout our lives.

We now have a financial foundation to build upon. We have a savings account for the first time in our lives. That's a huge accomplishment for us. Thanks to you we have come up with a plan to build our credit score and apply for a home buyer's loan as part of Phase 2 of the program.

Life skills and money management were not things that we were taught. We never knew what to do or where to start until we found you. Your tough and disciplined weekly meetings WORK. It took me awhile to break my old habits, but with lots of patience and guidance from you, I would rather save than spend these days.

I am forever grateful for the time you have invested in my life. I came to Jeremiah's Place seeking a temporary fix and I am leaving with a life-long game plan. Jeremiah's Place has truly exceeded my expectations. We have a new found hope for the future.

Thanks again for giving us the opportunity to be part of this amazing ministry. God is good.

B.S.

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Facilities

Several upgrades and improvements were made over the course of 2018 as a result of generous corporations, community groups, students, and churches.

Safety and security has been improved with the replacement of the security cameras with an updated and more capable system. Security lights and cameras were installed on the property to improve the safety of the residents in Jeremiah's Place.

In addition, a host of volunteers contributed to improving the aesthetics of Jeremiah's Place. Porches were restained by University of North Georgia students. These students also painted and did a general property cleanup. The UNG Chestatee Restoration Group adopted Jeremiah's place to address some erosion issues, spreading 14 truckloads of mulch on bare spots. Lakewood Baptist Church stained picnic tables, and students from the University of North Georgia stained the decks for all the units.

We have been fortunate to have few major maintenance issues at the property, and the generosity of volunteers and local businesses to maintain a safe environment for our families.



Jeremiah's Place, Units 3 and 4

Our Staff

Jeremiah's Place has two full-time employees and several part-time employees.

Our Executive Director is Fiona McDaniel, a person with years of experience in benevolence ministry and local and federal social programs. Fiona is in charge of the day-to-day operation of the ministry, and interfaces with other agencies and ministries in the execution of our mission.

Our Facilities Manager is Carl Gibson, who oversees the safety and condition of the buildings and grounds at Jeremiah's Place.

Janet Miller is our bookkeeper.

We are blessed with several regular volunteers who help manage the day-to-day workload. These people include Doreen Dunlap, Administrative Assistant, and Joe Henderson, Volunteer Coordinator.



Carl Gibson

Funding Jeremiah's Place

Jeremiah's Place is funded in three ways: With donors, (corporate or individual, regular or one-time donations), fundraisers, and grants.

Most of our funds come from donations. The Spaghetti Supper (held in April) and First Night Dahlonega (held on New Year's Eve) are our two fundraisers, and they make up approximately half of our annual funds.

Grants will make up an increasing percentage of ministry funds, but currently contribute to a small percentage of our annual need.

No government funds are sought or accepted.

Enough funds are held in reserve to support a year of operating expenses.



First Night Dahlonega Fundraiser

Jeremiah's Place Events

Jeremiah's place held the fifth annual Hearts for the Homeless Spaghetti Supper in April at the Dahlonega Baptist Church, Dahlonega United Methodist Church, and St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church. Nearly 1,000 meals were served collectively. Dozens of volunteers helped out at each location to set up, cook, server, clean up, and more.

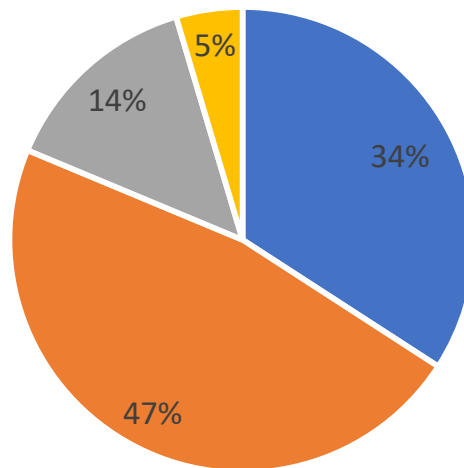
For the fifth year in a row our North Georgia communities were treated to First Night Dahlonega — a family-friendly New Year's Eve celebration — thanks to performers and volunteers who donated their time and talents in support of Jeremiah's Place. The venues for performances included the Dahlonega Baptist Church, Dahlonega United Methodist Church, St. Luke The Evangelist Catholic Church, and The Holly Theatre. In addition there were outdoor performances at Hancock Park and on the Square. The highlight of the evening was the Golden Nugget Drop at midnight with 1,300 revelers celebrating the arrival of the New Year.

Our newest event was a 5K road race held in October. This event will grow in the years to come and be an important part of our fundraising schedule.

These fundraisers depend mostly on sponsorships and donors for their viability as a good source of revenue for Jeremiah's Place. As the value of this ministry becomes recognized by more people and businesses, we look forward to the fundraisers growing.

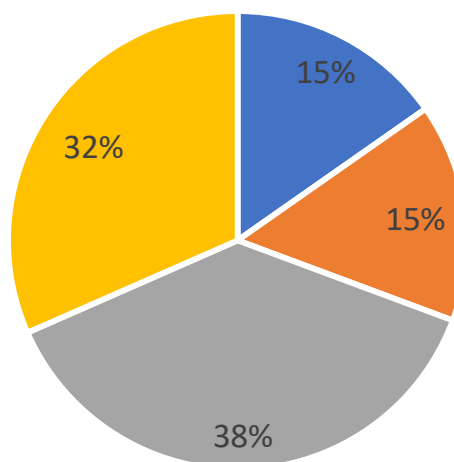
Jeremiah's Place Financials

Income



- Donations
- Fund Raising Income
- Grants
- Transitional Housing Income

EXPENSES



- Administrative/Operations
- Fund Raising Expense
- Program Expense
- Transitional Housing Expense

Financial Contributors to Jeremiah's Place

Many in our county have contributed to Jeremiah's Place financially with donated material and equipment, and with their labor. The ministry works only because of people giving — there is no funding from Local, State, or Federal governments for our programs. The following lists of donors include memorial donations as well.

Individual Donors

Norman and Judy Adams
Jack and Gerry Alexander
Bob and Carol Allen
Neal Allen
Ames Anderson
Suzanne Anderson
Tony Anderson
Robert and Sandra Andriakos
Christopher Andrus
Van and Joan Bareither
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Al and Fran Barr
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Murl and Sue Jones

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Doyle and Sandra Kennerly
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David and Bobbie Lancaster
Kay and Wayne Langermann
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Gary McCullough
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Fiona McDaniel
Samantha and Matthew McElhaney
Thomas and Traci McElhaney
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Sheila McLemore and Ed Loesche
Joe Meyer and Elsa Ann Gaines
David Miller
James and Margaret Miller
Janet Miller
Judy and Brian Miller
Gerald and Tammy Mize
John and Mary Moffatt

Individual Donors (continued)

Ashely Moore
Max and Amelia Moore
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Elizabeth and Trent Mulloy
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Hoyt Robinson

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Derrell and Carolyn West
Matthew Westberry
Gene and Joyce Westmoreland
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Laura Wharton
Joseph Wilson
LP Wimpy
Al and Ann Wimpy
Kathleen Wimpy
Wes Winkler
Haring Witherspoon
Laura and Jim Witt
Richard and Edith Woodard
Geraldine Woodward
John and Bettylane Yates
Ruth Zimmerman

Sustaining Members

Robert and Sandra Andriakos
Bethlehem Baptist Church
Susan Bridgforth
Challengers Sunday School Class
Dahlonaga United Methodist Church
Edmund and Fiona Devenney
James and Marie Faulkner
Michael and Patsy Ferguson

Sharon Hamilton
Linda and Robert Herman
Gary and Judith Hulsey
Robert and Louise Keller
James and Margaret Miller
Mt. Gilead Baptist Church
Rick and Debbie Nielsen

Mary and John Palmour
Bill and Margaret Poitevint
Oliver and Joanne Sale
Helen Smith
Sally Trapnell
Laura and Jim Witt
Greg and Pamela Utterback

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Corporate Donors

4-14 Wall Warriors, Inc
Adams Insurance Agency
Alienated, LLC dba Gustavo's
Alliance Electrical Inc
Amy's Attic LLC
Anderson Feed
Anderson Roofing and Sheet Metal LLC
Auto Owners Insurance
Anne Green Small Group
Art by Rayneri
Auraria Community Club
Balfour Beatty Construction
Banister Funeral Home
BB&T Corporation
Bourbon Street Grille
Capers on the Square, Inc
Chestatee Ford
Dr. Trent Conner DMD
Connie's Ice Cream and Sandwich Shop
Dahlonega Action Dogs
Dahlonega Chiropractic Life Ctr
Dahlonega Electrical Supply
Dahlonega General Store LLC
Dahlonega Pharmacy
Davis Towing
Dahlonega Jaycees
Dahlonega Lion's Club
Dahlonega Pharmacy

DAR Trahlyta Chapter
Davis Engineering & Surveying
Davis Towing
DockCo, LLC
Dover Realty
Farmhouse Produce & BBQ Kitchen
Flynt Plumbing
Gold Rush Quilter's Guild
Grapevines Italian Restaurant
J. Douglas Parks P.C.
Jayne Hanlon Realty
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Knepper Heating & Air Conditioning Inc
Law Office of Andrea Conarro
Lawrence Pharmacy
Lily Creek Lodge
Longstreet Ladies
Modern Woodmen
Mt. Sinai Wellness Center
Mullins Pharmacy
Northeast Georgia, Inc., McDonalds
Northview Associates
Parts Brokers
Picnic Cafe
PolyPortables
Prime Pump & Well, Inc
Pueblos, Inc
RefrigiWear

Rotary Club of Dahlonega, Sunrise
Rotary Intl Club of Dahlonega
Scouting Arts
Shenanigans Irish Pub
Shepherd Center
Sigma Alpha Epsilon Georgia Delta
St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
St. Luke's Men's Club
St. Luke's Women's Guild
St. Peter Lutheran Church
St. Vincent DePaul Society
St. Luke Catholic Church
State Farm—Donna Minnich
Stringer Insurance
The Church at Dahlonega
The Gold Shop
The Smith House
Townley Portable Toilets
Trammell Tire Pros
United Community Bank
United Methodist Women
Wes Winkler Air Conditioning
West Carpet Cleaners
WMU—Dahlonega Baptist Church
Youth Outreach Unlimited

Partnering Churches

Our Partnering Churches assist the ministry by “adopting” apartments at Jeremiah's Place, and take care of cleaning, decorating, and minor maintenance when their apartment is unoccupied. Their efforts ensure that incoming tenants are greeted with a clean, cheery, and well-stocked apartment.

Bethlehem Baptist Church*
Dahlonega United Methodist Church*
Yahoola Baptist Church
Concord Baptist Church

Mt. Gilead Baptist Church
Dahlonega Baptist Church
St. Luke's Catholic Church

*Sustaining Members

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“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
Jeremiah 29:11



Dedication of Jeremiah's Place, December, 2015



Jeremiah's Place

Serving the homeless in Lumpkin County and beyond