

Report to the Community

As we approach 30 years since the meager beginnings of We Care's Thrift Center, we pause to reflect on the many blessings that are possible when a supportive community partners with an organization to empower and encourage self-sufficiency. That generosity in providing donations of quality clothing, furniture and appliances has provided a quality shopping experience for many and in turn, provided assistance in the development of other services. We are grateful for that continuing partnership and are excited about the future opportunities for service to Rhea and surrounding counties through We Care Community Services.

In these difficult economic times our thrift center becomes the only outlet for some families to meet their basic needs. An increase in customers, items sold and items shared through our "free box" program bore out that fact during the past year. These conditions were also evident at our Food Pantry and Food Club with a fifty-three percent increase in families seeking assistance through our food bag program.

Our Sparrow Village apartments, for individuals receiving behavioral health services, who are able to live independently, remained fully occupied, as did our Haven House shelter. Our Emergency Assistance Program provided help to families in crisis through utility, clothing and rental support; our Counseling services remained the largest private server of TennCare mental health recipients in the area and we were able to provide another family with an opportunity for home ownership, with the completion of our fifth H.O.P.E. Home in Evensville.

Our efforts to fully develop a "respite" home for children & adolescents, who through no fault of their own, find themselves in need of temporary shelter, was not immune to the economic downturn as we struggled to identify ongoing funding for operating the recently remodeled facility in Spring City. We are committed to finding the needed resources, even as federal, state and local governments also struggle with funding issues.

We present this report to the community with thanks to those who donated their labor, time and resources to make these results possible.

Gratefully,



J. Walter Ring, Ed.D.
President and CEO

Programs and Services

Thrift Center

We Care's Thrift Center is the largest thrift store in Rhea County and provides a wide variety of quality merchandise for families that need affordable prices. The Thrift Center is supported entirely by donations of clothing, toys and household items from area residents. All of the money generated from Thrift Center sales is reinvested in the community through We Care's various assistance programs.

Ina Carol Ring • Thrift Center Director
423-775-6595 • iring@wecaredayton.org

Emergency Services

We Care provides support to individuals and families in crisis through its Emergency Assistance Program (EAP). The EAP seeks to assist local residents who need help to pay their rent, utility bills, acquire heating fuels, purchase prescription medicines and assistance in referral to other organizations.

Kim Arnold • Social Services Director
423-775-4333 • karnold@wecaredayton.org

Food & Housing Programs

Our Food Pantry provides food for families and individuals in both emergency situations and on a monthly supplemental basis. In addition to our partnership with the Chattanooga Food Bank and Second Harvest, many local community organizations, churches and individuals collect and donate food to our pantry. We were greatly encouraged this past year through Wal-Mart's "Feed America" program which donated over 40,000 pounds of food for distribution to our food pantry participants. Bi-Lo and the United Way also made contributions to assist in our efforts. Our Food Club continued to provide another means for people on fixed income to stretch their food dollars.

Sparrow Village is a 14 unit apartment community for formerly homeless individuals who suffer from mental illness, but are capable of living independently.

Project H.O.P.E. helps working-poor families in Rhea County to purchase their own home for the first time through no-downpayment, low-interest mortgages. We entered into our fifth successful venture this past year.

Haven House, a transitional shelter, serves individuals and families, with children, who are in need of emergency shelter.

Our **Safe Haven Light** facility in Spring City can provide temporary shelter to eight children and support two houseparents when operating funds become available.

Laura Olmstead • Food & Housing Programs Director
423-775-1000 • lolmstead@wecaredayton.org

Counseling

We Care provides a wide range of personal therapy and family counseling through its Mental Health Center. The counseling staff includes Dr. Walter Ring and Dr. Mark Offenloch, both licensed psychologists. We Care Health Services accepts most insurance including Medicare and TennCare.

Dr. Walter Ring, Ed.D. • Licensed Psychologist
423-570-1900 • wring@wecaredayton.org

Help us help your neighbors

We Care provided services to more than 10,000 citizens of Rhea and surrounding counties during our 2010-2011 program year, but the need is still great, as our area continues to be uniquely impacted by the sluggish economy.

We Care is ministry focused. All of our resources go to support and deliver programs and direct services to the needy of our area. Our efforts in the past have proven successful in helping people help themselves toward self-sufficiency. We count on the good will of the community to partner with us to help empower the powerless and provide a "hand up" to those in need.

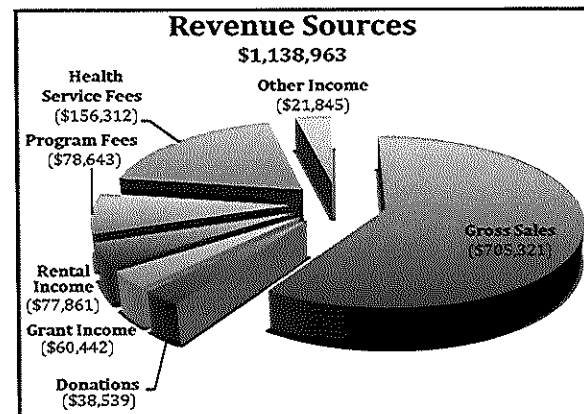
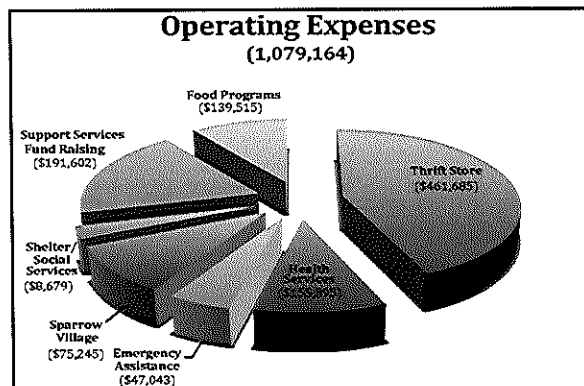
There are many ways you can partner with us

- donate quality clothing, furniture, appliances and other household items to our Thrift Center
- encourage your church or community organization to support our Food Pantry through food drives or direct contributions
- sign up to support We Care through Bi-Lo's community support program
- volunteer to assist in our programs and services or special projects
- make a personal contribution to We Care to support our Safe Haven Light respite home

For more information about how you can assist in our community efforts, contact us at 423-775-4333 or www.wecaredayton.org

All contributions to We Care Community Services are tax deductible

Financial Information, 2010-11



Services Provided 2010-11

FOOD PANTRY

Bags of Food Distributed 17,724

THRIFT CENTER

Customers 69,272
 Items Sold 356,525
 Avg. Cost per Item \$1.64
 Free Box Items 267,020

HAVEN HOUSE SHELTER

Residents 168
 Bed Nights 2,310

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Individuals Served 237
 Total Assistance \$7,015

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY COUNSELING

Total Sessions 2,400

A 2010-2011 fiscal audit is available at the We Care Community Services Administrative offices at 1273 Dayton Mountain Hwy., Dayton, TN 37321

Mission & Philosophy

We Care's mission is to serve the economically disadvantaged residents of Rhea County, particularly by enabling people to help themselves.

Recognizing that a free handout often confirms the recipient's feelings of worthlessness, the philosophy of We Care is to offer a hand up. We endeavor to foster a sense of self-worth and independence in people who are struggling to become or remain self-sufficient.

Our motto is "Building self-reliance for a better community," and our unofficial slogan is "Offering a hand up, not a handout."

Staff

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Dr. Mark Ofenloch, Ph.D.

Licensed Psychologist

Board of Directors

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Corporate Offices

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 Dayton, TN 37321
 423-775-4333

Counseling Center

423-570-1900

Food & Housing Programs

423-775-1000
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 Bi-Lo Plaza
 420 Market St.
 423-775-6595



We Care

Community Services Inc.

2011 Report to the Community

www.wecaredayton.org