

CONESTOGA VALLEY CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

ADDRESSING NEEDS CHANGING LIVES!



Dignity.

Accountability.

CONESTOGA VALLEY
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Transformation.

Self-sustainability.

1. OUR MISSION:

WE PROVIDE *FOOD, CLOTHING, MENTORING, & MINISTRY* FOR OUR STRUGGLING NEIGHBORS **TO IMPROVE THEIR STANDARD OF LIVING.**

OUR HEARTBEAT IS TO LEAD OUR CLIENTS TO A PATH OF **SELF-SUSTAINABILITY.**

WE FULFILL OUR MISSION WITH INTEGRITY AND CREDIBILITY WHILE PROTECTING THE DIGNITY OF THOSE WE SERVE WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION.



1. OUR MISSION:

IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE DIGNITY OF OUR CLIENTS, WE USE CAREFUL DISCERNMENT TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN:

- RELIEF:** MEETING AN URGENT NEED. TEMPORARY; NOT MEANT TO BE A LONG TERM SOLUTION. **TRAGICALLY, IN CHARITABLE CIRCLES, SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF CASES ARE TREATED AS RELIEF SITUATIONS EVEN IF SOMEONE IS NOT TRULY IN NEED OF RELIEF.*
- REHABILITATION:** WORKING ON HELPING CLIENTS BECOME STABLE & SELF-SUSTAINING. GUIDING THEM BACK ON TRACK.
- DEVELOPMENT:** WORKING WITH CLIENTS TOWARDS ONGOING, LONG-TERM CHANGE. GETTING THEM TO A BETTER POSITION THAN BEFORE.



2. HISTORY:

THE STORY OF **CVCCS** BEGAN WHEN A MAN STRUGGLING WITH HOMELESSNESS SOUGHT REFUGE FROM THE FREEZING PENNSYLVANIA WINTER TEMPERATURES INSIDE A LEOLA CHURCH.

THE PASTOR LEARNED THAT HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY WAS A SERIOUS ISSUE FOR MANY IN OUR COMMUNITY.

THEREFORE, IN **2010**, THE CONESTOGA VALLEY MINISTERIUM (A COALITION OF LOCAL CHURCH PASTORS) STARTED **CVCCS**. CVCCS INITIATED WITH SETTING UP SEVERAL FOOD AND CLOTHING BANKS AT AREA CHURCHES.



2. HISTORY:

IN **2014**, SEEING THE NEED TO CONSOLIDATE SERVICES UNDER ONE ROOF, CVCCS MOVED INTO THE LAPP ELECTRIC BUILDING ON GEHMAN LANE IN LANCASTER.

- THE GOAL WAS TO BE A **ONE-STOP-SHOP** FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED.



3. REAL LIFE STATS:

PEOPLE MAY BE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY IN LANCASTER COUNTY PRIMARILY RESIDE IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER.

• **BUT DID YOU KNOW, 70% LIVE OUTSIDE THE CITY?**

LANCASTER COUNTY POPULATION: 536,494

- **10.2%** LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE; 10.3% IN CV SCHOOL DISTRICT.
 - 16% ARE CHILDREN.
 - 14.8% CHILD FOOD INSECURITY RATE.

*STATS ACCORDING TO CENSUS REPORTER | CENTRAL PA FOOD BANK | FEEDING AMERICA
| COALITION AGAINST HUNGER | HUNGER FREE LANCASTER | USDA | WGAL



3. REAL LIFE STATS:

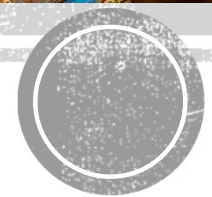
THE “WORKING POOR”

THERE ARE A GROWING NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE ‘FALLEN THROUGH THE CRACKS’ IN LANCASTER COUNTY, DESCRIBED AS THE **“WORKING POOR.”**

- THEY MAKE TOO MUCH MONEY TO QUALIFY FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND ARE LIVING PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK WHILE BARELY GETTING BY.
- **ACCORDING TO THE UNITED WAY OF PA, 26% OF TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS IN LANCASTER COUNTY MAKE UP THE WORKING POOR.**



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Our food bank is **client choice** and provides to people in need that live or attend church in the **CV School District** and meet financial guidelines.

- Clients may use the food bank once every 30 days by appointment only. A personal shopper assists clients with navigating the aisles.

Our food bank is stocked with:

- *Non-perishable foods* • *Fresh produce* • *Dairy* • *Meats*
- *Bakery items . . . and much MORE!*

Uniquely, we give our clients everything they need to make full meals for breakfast, lunch, and dinner!



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Our products are obtained largely through donations from **individuals, churches, schools, and local businesses.**

We also have strong partnerships with Giant, Sheetz, Flowers Baking Co., Central PA Food Bank, and Community Action Partnership.



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES



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Our clothing bank is **client choice** and provides seasonally appropriate **new & gently used** clothing to clients who live **anywhere in Lancaster County**, referred to us by an agency, school, or church.

- Adults may visit 2 times a year & children up to 4 times a year.
- First-time clients must obtain a referral from a school social worker, church, or agency.



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Our clothing bank is client choice, and stocked with:

- *A variety of clothing* • *Shoes & socks*
- *Coats, hats, & gloves* • *New underwear*
- *... and much MORE!*

A personal shopper assists clients with navigating the racks of clothing, and folds and bags items for clients.

- Clothing Bank items are obtained through **donations from individuals, churches, schools, and local businesses.**



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Lancaster County is home to one of 23 Church World Service (CWS) refugee and immigration offices in the United States.

CVCCS shares a special relationship with CWS as we partner to clothe Lancaster County refugees.

“The Word at Our Door.”



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES





4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Rooted is an afterschool program for children, grades 4-5, in the **CV School District**.

- Students are referred to the program by a school counselor.
- If approved by their parent/guardian, each student is then paired, one-on-one, with a mentor for the program year (Tuesdays | September through May).

Rooted specializes in:

- . Mentorship
- . Character Development
- . Structured Relaxation
- . Biblical Teaching



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

We provide students who struggle with **food insecurity** in the **CV School District** with bundles of food to take home each weekend during the school year.

- The food bundles are prepared by our volunteers and include: *2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 2 Dinners, Snacks and drinks.*
- The food packed in the bundles are quick, individually sized items that can be easily prepared.



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Every June through August, our Summer Lunch Club serves approximately **3,000** lunches to kids 18 and under in the **CV School district** facing food insecurity over the summer.

Meals are served several days a week at various locations deemed to have a high concentration of low-income housing.

- We partner with local churches who host our Summer Lunch Clubs either at their facility or a nearby public park.



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Before the start of each school year, we provide backpacks and school supplies for families in need in the **CV School District.**

- Each year we give on average over **100 backpacks filled with school supplies.**

Many neighbors have shared to provide this backpack & school supplies. We invite you to share & give back to our community!

Here are 10 ideas to get you started:

1. Donate clothes your family no longer needs.
2. Donate toys/books you no longer use.
3. Do an extra chore to help out at home.
4. Do a chore for a neighbor.
5. Recycle at home.
6. Recycle at school.
7. Write an encouraging note for a family member or friend.
8. Read or play a game with a younger child.
9. Learn from a senior citizen.
10. Use your manners; smile and say Hello!



Additionally, with every backpack given, we encourage kids to make a difference in the CV community through our “Back Pack Give Back” initiative!



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Created in **2017**, Back on Track assists **hard-working families** impacted by an **unavoidable financial hardship**.

- Back on Track offers clients customized financial counseling, limited financial assistance to address immediate needs, and mentorship in planning for a **self-sustaining future**.
- Back on Track clients also have access to our Food and Clothing Banks.



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES



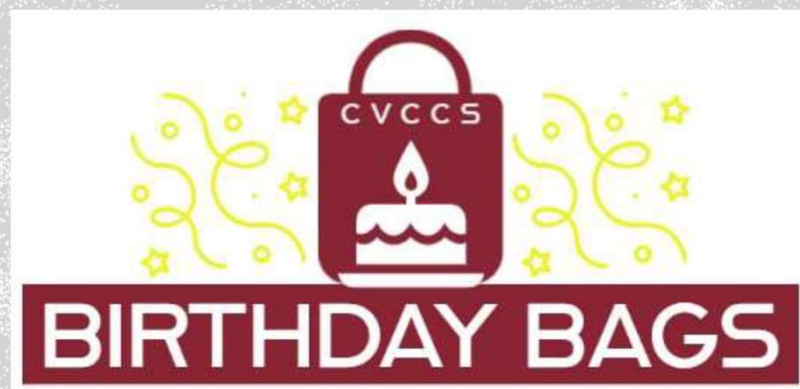
4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

A recent Harvard University study reveals the following regarding loneliness in America:

- **36%** of respondents reported serious loneliness (feeling lonely “frequently” or “almost all the time or all the time”).
- Research also affirms that those in poverty especially lack meaningful relationships. Therefore, we give our clients the option of being paired up with a local church body they can connect with.



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES



4. OUR PROGRAMS/MINISTRIES

Birthday Bags are given out to our clients (adults & children) when they visit CVCCS close to their birthdays.

- You or your group can assemble Birthday Bags and drop them off at our facility.

Here's what Birthday Bags should include:

- *Box of cake mix.*
- *Tub of icing.*
- *Party favor (bag of balloons, streamers, noise makers, etc.).*
 - *Disposable aluminum cake pan.*
 - *Decorative paper plates and napkins.*



5. WAYS TO PARTNER:

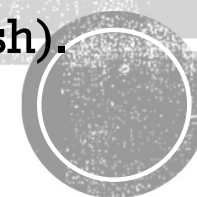
You can help us change lives right here in Lancaster County!

a. Hold a Fundraiser.

b. Hold a Food or Clothing Collection/Drive:

•A few collection ideas for Groups:

- New or slightly used shoes.
- Personal care/hygiene items.
- Dental kits (toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, mini mouthwash).
- Birthday Bags
- Winter Coats.
- Backpacks and school supplies.
- Underwear/socks.
- Paper Towels.
- Cereal.



5. WAYS TO PARTNER:

c. Become a Rooted mentor.

e. Awareness: We do speaking engagements! We're available to come equip your group/organization/church.

f. Volunteer/Financial Support.

Share your time & talents. Make a difference in people's lives by volunteering at CVCCS!

- *Shop with Food Bank & Clothing Bank clients.*
- *Clerical Duties.*
- *Off-site distributions.*
- *Pick-ups/Deliveries.*
- *Sorting and repackaging food.*
- *Stocking food shelves.*
- *Sorting and hanging donated clothing.*
- *...And more!*

Go to cvccs.org/volunteer today!



OUR COMMITMENT TO STEWARDSHIP

**EVERY DOLLAR THAT
YOU DONATE GETS
USED IN OUR PROGRAMS.
BY GIVING TO CVCCS,
YOU DIRECTLY IMPACT
THE LIVES OF OUR
NEIGHBORS WHO
NEED IT THE MOST.**



**ADDRESSING NEEDS
CHANGING LIVES!**

