



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

-THE PASTOR LEARNED THAT HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY WERE SERIOUS ISSUES FOR MANY OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY AS WELL.

-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.



**-IN 2014, SEEING THE NEED TO CONSOLIDATE SERVICES UNDER ONE ROOF, CVCCS MOVED INTO THE LAPP ELECTRIC BUILDING IN LANCASTER (2420 GEHMAN LANE).**

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



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

- WE BELIEVE TRUE COMPASSION & CHARITY OFFERS THOSE IN NEED THE OPPORTUNITY TO **THRIVE** THROUGH **RELATIONSHIPS AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

- OUR MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS AIM TO PROVIDE CHARITY THAT'S **INDIVIDUALIZED, HOLISTIC, & TRANSFORMATIONAL.**



Our **CLOTHING BANK** is **client choice** and provides **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 by **appointment** only.

**Our clothing bank is stocked with** a variety of clothing, shoes & socks, coats, hats, gloves, new underwear . . . and **MORE!**



**CLOTHING  
BANK**



Our **FOOD BANK** is also **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.

**Our food bank is stocked with** non-perishable foods, fresh produce, dairy, meats, bakery items . . . and MORE! **Uniquely, we give our clients everything they need to make full meals for breakfast, lunch, and dinner!**



**\*INDIVIDUALIZED:** Each of our food & clothing clients has **inherent value**. We believe people are **much more** than just **mouths** to feed and **bodies** to clothe, they are **human beings** with dignity and capacity.

**Therefore, a personal shopper assists every individual & family on a ONE-ON-ONE basis to get to know our clients & to build relationships.**



**BIBLE2SCHOOL:** We provide a "released-time" mentoring program for **Smoketown Elementary students during the school day** (over lunch & recess time).

**So that we can effectively journey with the students, our program is available to one grade at a time, each school year.**





**WEEKEND BLESSINGS:** We provide students who struggle with **food insecurity** in all Conestoga Valley schools K-12, with individualized bundles of food to take home each weekend during the school year.

 *Weekend Blessings*

**The food bundles include:** 2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 2 Dinners, and snacks and are quick, individually sized items that can be easily prepared.



**BACKPACK & SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE:** 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 provide an average of over 100 backpacks filled with school supplies.



**Additionally, with every backpack given, we encourage **reciprocity** in students lives to make a difference in their community through our *“Backpack Give Back”* initiative!**

**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!



**BACK ON TRACK** assists hard-working families & individuals living in the Conestoga Valley School District impacted by an **UNAVOIDABLE** financial hardship.

We provide **one-on-one** coaching and limited, one-time, financial assistance to those who qualify. To protect the **dignity** of our clients, **the vision of Back on Track is to equip our clients to be the champion of their own life story!**

- Back on Track clients also get access to our Food and Clothing Bank for 3 months. We also give our clients the option of being paired up with a personal mentor.



**CONNECT:** *“Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day; teach a man to fish and he will eat for the rest of his life.”*



While this cliché does not fully acknowledge all the complexities of poverty, it **does** acknowledge the inherent limits of **keeping those in poverty in a state of perpetual relief.**

Our mentors are paired with clients of the same gender and are trained by CVCCS be less like a *boss or savior* and more like a **consultant or friend.**



**BIRTHDAY BAGS** are given out to our clients (adults & children) when they visit CVCCS close to their birthday which builds **dignity**.

**Birthday Bags include:**

- *Box of cake mix.*
- *Tub of icing.*
- *Party favor*
- *Disposable aluminum cake pan.*
- *Decorative paper plates and napkins.*



***Our philosophy on charity:***

**“The 7 marks of Effective Charity.”**

*Taken from the book ‘The Tragedy of American Compassion,’  
by Marvin Olasky.*



**CHARITY TALK**

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**The main point of this presentation:**  
*In Lancaster County, the more that we apply  
the **7 marks of Effective Charity**, the **MORE  
EFFECTIVE** our **charity** will be!*



**#1. Affiliation-** The closest and nearest help is the **BEST** help. 2

a. Empowerment-

i. *“We will walk **WITH** you, not **FOR** you.”*

ii. Empowerment is not something that’s done **TO** someone.

iii. The government should be the LAST resort.



**#2. Bonding-** The importance of getting to know those you're offering charity to.

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- a. How can you truly **HELP** someone if you don't **KNOW** anything about them?
- b. Find out more about their situation, and most importantly, **who they are.**
- c. **SLOW the process down. Don't give in to urgency and emotion.**



**#3. Categorization- Not everyone is the same, therefore not everyone's needs are the same.**

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- a. Charity must be **individualized**.
- b. *“Blanket” approaches* DO NOT work. There's no such thing as “one size fits all” charity.
- c. Does the situation require **relief, rehabilitation, or development?**



**#4. Discernment-** How do we **BEST** serve the client?

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- a. Discernment comes from asking good questions.
- b. **John 5:1-15:**
  - a. *“Do you want to get **well**”?*
  - b. *“I have no one to help me.”*
  - c. *“Stop sinning...”*



**#5. Exchange-** Giver and receiver are both involved <sub>6</sub>  
in the process.

a. The goal is to **empower** the client.

**#6. Freedom- Dependency **crushes** freedom.**

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a. Steps to dependency for the one **receiving** charity.

b. Steps to dependency for the one **giving** charity.

## #7. God-Faith component

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a. Effective poverty fighting in America was at its highest peak in America during the 19th century.

**Why? Biblical principles were the guiding factor.**

i. **Imago Dei = Image of God.**



