

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!









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!









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\*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.

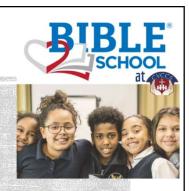






**BIBLE2SCHOOL:** We provide a "released-time" mentoring program for **Smoketown Elementary students during the school day** (over lunch & recess time).

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







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**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 5. Recycle at home. 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.
- 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 quality. 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.



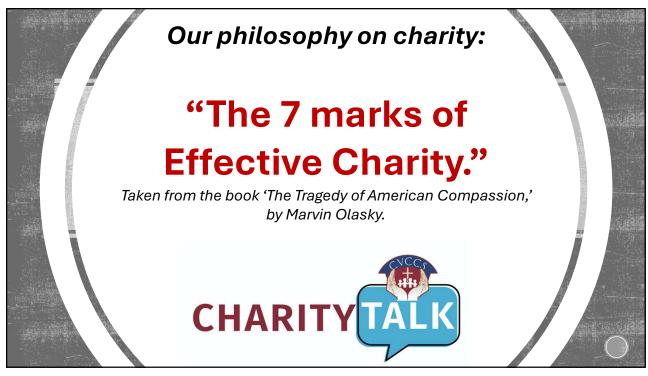
**BIRTHDAY BAGS** are given out to our clients (adults & children) when they visit CVCCS close to their birthday which builds **dignity**.

#### **Birthday Bags include:**

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



**BIRTHDAY BAGS** 



## 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.

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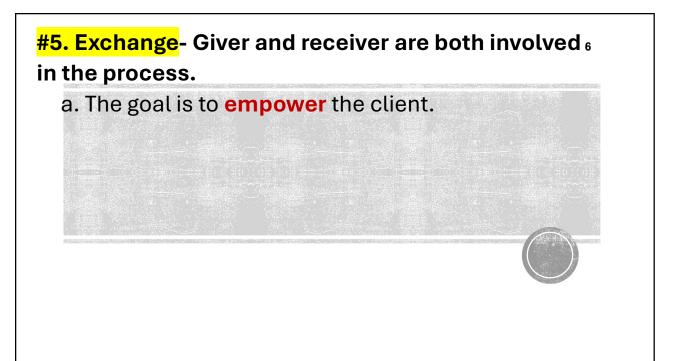
- a. Charity must be individualized.
- b. "Blanket" approaches DO NOT work. There's no such thing as "one size fits all" charity.
- c. Does the situation require relief, rehabilitation, or development?

# #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..."





#6. Freedom- Dependency crushes freedom.

a. Steps to dependency for the one receiving charity.

b. Steps to dependency for the one giving charity.

### <mark>#7. God-Faith component</mark>

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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.



