

The Thread

Newsletter Of Dorcas Ministries



VOLUME 18

ISSUE 2

APRIL 2018

INTRODUCING OUR NEW STORE MANAGERS

Please join us in welcoming **Ms. Stephanie Marie Davis** and **Ms. Hailey Katherine Goodall** to the Dorcas team. Given the opportunity to evaluate the needs for adequate operational and management oversight of the Dorcas Thrift Shop during all hours of operation we have hired 2 managers. Stephanie and Hailey will be starting in their roles on May 1st. Both will be direct reports to our Executive Director.



Ms. Stephanie Marie Davis worked in several capacities since 2004 for GFC and Salvation Army thrift stores. She has experience in areas of operations including sorting, pricing, warehouse work, cashier, front end supervisor and logistic assistant. Stephanie has also worked with volunteers during her employment at The Salvation Army. She is a graduate of Fayetteville State University with a BS in Business Administration Management. Her experience in performing tasks that are essential to the success of The Dorcas Thrift Shop, while bringing a perspective from an outside view should be very value added.

Ms. Hailey Katherine Goodall worked in fashion and merchandising in Brooklyn, New York, and TJ Maxx since 2014. She also possesses experience in all areas of retail operations including warehousing, sorting, inventory management, cashiering, and front end supervision. Hailey has been a Dorcas volunteer for 12 years starting in the toy department and currently working as a cashier. She is a graduate of Appalachian State University with a BS in Marketing and Communication. Her tenure as a Dorcas volunteer and professional retail background will also be a great asset for Dorcas.



We are excited to have Stephanie and Hailey join the team and are preparing a very detailed orientation process for them. Please introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome. We will be sharing contact information with you such as office hours, phone number, and email once formal channels are established.

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Spring is always a favorite time of year, especially after a good rain. The green is greener, the flowers prettier and of course the pollen is washed away. Gardeners begin soil preparation. Fertilizer and compost is added. Supplies purchased. Hands are dirtied as seeds planted. There are thoughts of fresh tomatoes or flower bouquets as the plots are tended. It is a time of rejuvenation, new growth, and possibilities. There will be big smiles when it time to harvest.

I have always appreciated metaphors which are not meant to be literal descriptions but offer a vivid comparison of activities. So it is with Dorcas Ministries which is like a garden, and in our case a garden for neighbors in need. Our soil is enriched by the generosity of friends. We receive these gifts, process, sort, and arrange them in thrift shop garden rows. Soon our hands may be a bit soiled as the Back of the House improvement project gets underway. But once our new garden is complete it will yield much more produce and flowers. I think not only will our Client Services staff and volunteers see big smiles, but our neighbors will too.

Margaret Keller would be proud.

David Coulter
Board President

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Thanks to generous community donations last year, the Dorcas Food Pantry provided nutritious groceries to over 7,800 area residents struggling to put food on their tables. We rely on the support of individuals and groups to meet the needs in our community.

Please help us help others by dropping off the following most needed items:

Spaghetti and Sauce
Cereal
Can Fruit
Dinner Mixes
Baking Mixes
Fresh fruit and veggies



Jelly and Condiments
Cleaning Supplies
Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Size 4-6 Diapers

SERVICE AREA EXPANSION

Dear Friends:

In 2018, Dorcas Ministries extended financial assistance to those who live outside our traditional service area of Cary and Morrisville, but have who ***are employed in Cary and Morrisville***. Dorcas is now able to serve a broader community of people who are connected to our community through residence, work, worship and school.

“Thank you so much for all of your help! I don’t know what I would have done without Dorcas. My family would have probably been out on the street,” shared Suzie, a mom of three children who works at a grocery store in Cary and was recently facing eviction when her husband walked out on the family. Today, Suzie and her children are stable in their home in West Raleigh, and Suzie is still ringing up groceries at the Cary store where she’s employed.

On behalf of Suzie and the many struggling workers who will be served through this expansion, I thank you for all you do to support our mission.

Grace and peace,

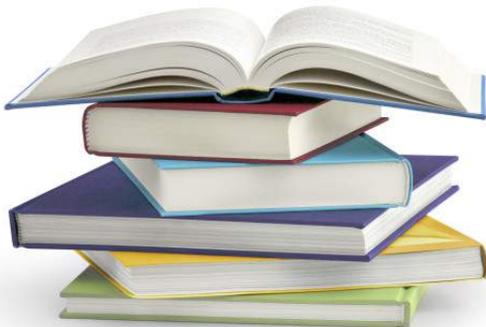
Jill Straight
Director of Client Services

STEP UP AT DORCAS IN MAY

Step-Up Ministries is sponsoring a comprehensive week-long training session at Dorcas May to help you find employment. Participants will write a top notch resume, refine their interview skills, learn networking skills and be matched with a job counselor. Breakfast, Lunch and Childcare Provided!

Space is limited, so call right away to register: 919-469-9861, ext. 204.

THINKING ABOUT GOING BACK TO SCHOOL?



The **Career Advancement Program** at Dorcas can help with educational advising, career coaching, scholarships and financial help with qualified living expenses.

Give Craig a call for details: 919-469-9861, ext. 206.



50 YEARS AND COUNTING

This June, Dorcas Ministries will celebrate its 50th anniversary – no small fete in the world of nonprofits. We have evolved from a small group of women who provided free pre-school to Cary’s poorest children to a large organization that assists tens of thousands of people each year.

The startling fact is that even in our very prosperous community, thousands of our neighbors struggle with basic necessities like food. Did you know, for instance, that Dorcas Ministries’ food pantry gave out about \$300,000 worth of food in 2016 and last year that figure increased to **\$454,000**? That is indicative of the number of people in our community who are food-insecure, or can’t count on eating three meals a day.

You may have recently received our **2017 Impact Report**. Please read it. It has important information on how Dorcas Ministries addressed the many needs of our neighbors last year. ***And if you made a financial donation, gave food to our food pantry, or volunteered in any capacity, you were a part of that.***

As we look to the next 50 years we hope you will continue to partner with us to ensure that everyone in our community has food, shelter, and the counseling and training they need to thrive. Let’s continue to build our community together!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

We extend an invitation to you to join us at the 2018 Dorcas Ministries Thanksgiving Breakfast that will be held on **Thursday, November 1, 2018 at Embassy Suites Hotel in Cary**. “Over 500 people are expected to attend, and as this will help us



commemorate our 50th Anniversary, we wanted to make sure we had enough space for everyone who wanted to come,” said Rose Cornelious, Development Director. “We moved the event from Prestonwood Country Club to accommodate the expected crowd.”

Each year hundreds have gathered for breakfast at this fundraiser to hear testimonies from actual clients

assisted by Dorcas Ministries. “We try to have a variety of voices speak about their experiences, and the difference that resulted from the help they received,” said Cornelious.

To reserve a seat, contact Ellen Frazier (efrazier@dorcas-cary.org) or go online at dorcas-cary.org to fill out the [registration form](#) under Latest News. If you are interested in serving as a table captain or sponsor for the 2018 Thanksgiving Breakfast, contact Rose Cornelious at rcornelious@dorcas-cary.org.

GENORISITY COMES IN MANY FORMS

Recently, a generous donor gave some shares of stock to Dorcas Ministries. Another donor got her company to match her donation, effectively **doubling** the amount that she gave. Many employers have matching gift programs that, unfortunately, few of their employees take advantage of. These types of gifts are unexpected bonuses and mean a lot to Dorcas Ministries. They help to ensure that provision is there for struggling people who need it in our community.

If you are employed, please contact your Human Resources department and ask if they have a matching gift program. And consider making a gift of stock to Dorcas Ministries. All you have to do is contact your stock broker and give them this information: Christian Community in Action dba Dorcas Ministries, Federal Tax ID #56-0953873

Questions? Contact Rose Cornelious at rcornelious@dorcas-cary.org or 919.469.9861, ext. 103.