

## SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER

# GEORGETOWN MINISTRY CENTER

TEAM GMC!

From left to right: Veronica Watson-Freeman, Kelly Andreae, Delores Jackson, Ayanna Hawkins, Rebecca Kellett, Teddy Sullivan, Katie Peters, Alex Perkins



### Springtime At GMC!

What a start to 2022 GMC had! Despite a COVID outbreak amongst the staff, and a major flood at the Drop-In Center, **GMC helped match over 80 guests to either transitional or permanent housing since November.** GMC already broke last year's record for number of guests housed. However, this immense accomplishment would not have been possible without the tireless work & support of the entire GMC community. Now that the water is dry, the tests are negative, and four new staff members are here, GMC is ready to jump into spring.

In February, our Pop-Up location at Georgetown Lutheran Church grew to serving guests Monday-Thursday, instead of just Monday. This month, our Pop-Up begins providing guests with **yoga/mindfulness exercises, movie mornings, & art therapy.** These new activities help guests learn new coping strategies, and provide them with creative outlets. Additionally, this month, our entire team is participating in **National Drug Take Back Day** on April 30th. In addition to NARCAN and Drug Deactivation Kits, GMC will now also offer guests fentanyl testing strips. GMC is committed to providing our guests the physical & emotional tools to help battle addiction.

The staple of GMC's programming, GMC Extends, wrapped our on Friday April 1 and provided guests with over **2,750 warm dinners over five months.** Thank you to Elena Tompkins, Feed the Fight DC, and each of our member congregations who committed to making the second year of this program a success. From supporting local restaurants, and cooking with the family, Extends brings the community together, all while keeping our guests warm and fed this winter.

Scroll down to learn about all of GMC's accomplishments from the past few months, and **how YOU can get involved this spring.**

Donate to GMC!



Family's from Christ Church's Sunday School drop off bagged lunches at our Drop-In Center! Contact Teddy Sullivan (teddy@gmctg.org) to become a lunch sponsor at GMC!



Delores Jackson & Alex Perkins were instrumental in keeping operations running smoothly during our flood repairs, even setting up shop outside of the Drop-In Center to make sure our guests had access to hot food & critical supplies.

### January-March 2022 At A Glance

**Outreach:** Out Outreach team is stronger than ever. **Alex Perkins**, longtime Outreach Associate, is **promoted to Outreach Coordinator**, and GMC welcomes **Ayanna Hawkins & Hajah Bah** on to help connect with our guests. Every Monday former GMC Executive Director, **Gunther Stern**, and resident psychiatrist, Dr. Ron Koshes, join our outreach team to provide **psychiatric care.** Additionally, on Wednesday's, resident physician, **Dr. Jafari**, conducts outreach to provide our community with **medical care.** GMC is thrilled to have our Outreach Team growing to **extend GMC's essential services beyond** our Drop-In Center.

**Drop-In Center & Pop Up:** Over **80 GMC guests** have been matched with either **transitional or permanent housing** since November. Our Georgetown University volunteers returned this semester after a brief quarantine, and continue to build strong bonds with our guests. Former Pop-Up Center Manager, **Rebecca Kellett, was promoted to Program Director**, and hit the ground sprinting helping facilitate dozens of guests transition into housing. Additionally, **Veronica Watson-Freeman** was just brought on as our new **Drop-In Center Manager.** Even through a flood, our Drop-In Center got a face lift with a small renovation and fresh coat of paint thanks to **Eileen McGrath!** With our Pop-Up open four days a week, guests have more options with where to receive services, with many enjoying the extra leg room Georgetown Lutheran Church has to offer.

**GMC Extends:** Over the course of exactly **100 (non consecutive) evenings**, GMC provided over **2,750 warm meals** to guests. Thank you to **Feed the Fight DC** & all of our member coyeegrations who stepped up to keep our guests warm and fed throughout the winter.



Our Georgetown University volunteers assist staff in executing our Drop-In Center operations, including signing in guests for lunch!

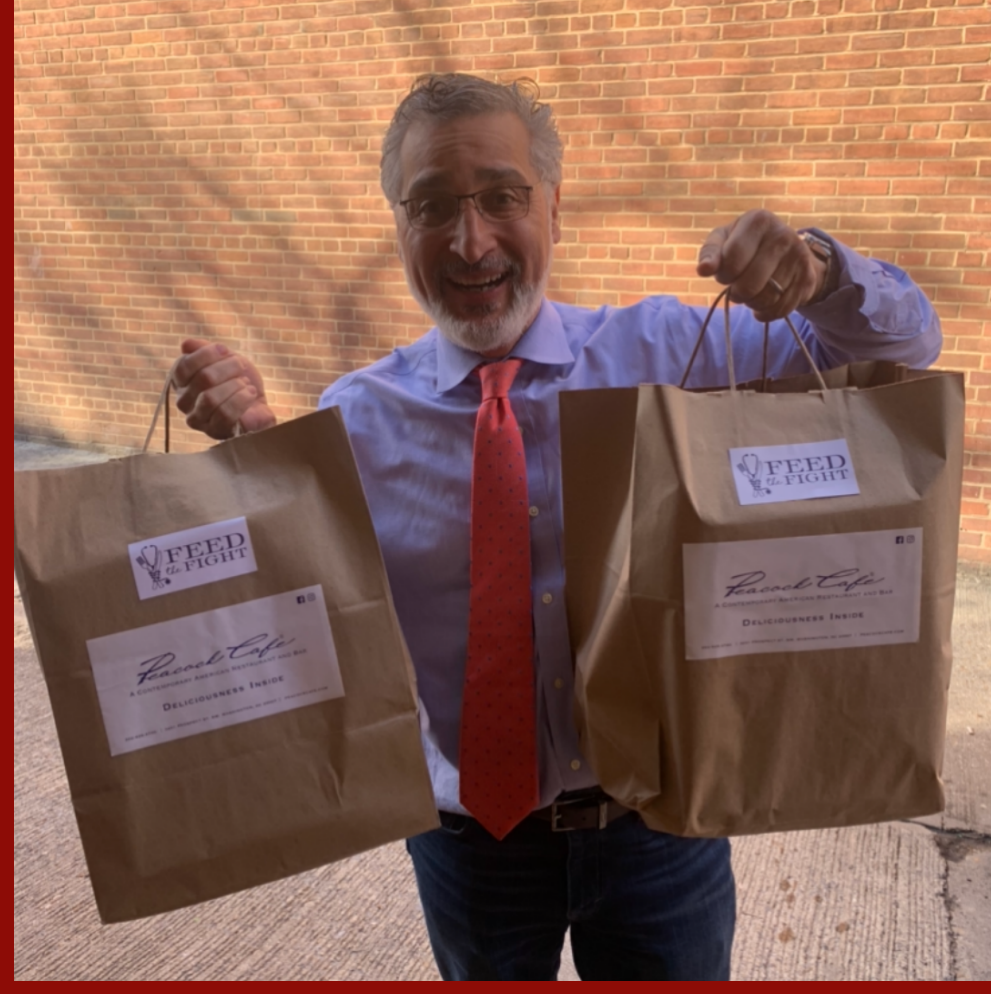


Long time GMC guest, Lester, opening the door to his new apartment. Street Outreach Coordinator, Alex Perkins, spent a week helping Lester unpack clothing, set up furniture, and truly make this apartment a home. Well done Alex, and welcome home Lester!

### HOW TO SUPPORT GMC THIS SPRING!

- **Donate** to help GMC grow our reach within the community & expand our services!
  - **Donate online** or checks can be mailed to 1041 Wisconsin Avenue NW Washington, DC 20007
- **Volunteer** over Easter Break!
  - Volunteering at our Drop-In Center or Pop-Up Location is a great way to get hands on experience with the work GMC does, and an opportunity to get to know our guests.
  - This is the perfect opportunity for high school or college students to complete service hours.
- **Order items** from our Amazon wishlist
  - Our guests are always in need of **toiletries, clothing, other household essentials.**
- **Organize a group event!**
  - GMC is always in need of Outreach Kits, bagged lunches, & toiletries. Contact our Community Engagement Manager, **Teddy Sullivan**, to find out how your family, Church Group, or school can help support GMC's mission!

Support GMC!



Thank you to all of our community sponsors that provided meals for this year's Extends Program, especially Feed the Fight DC & Peacock Cafe. Turkey Burger Monday was a staple of the program this winter.



Dream Team! Executive Director, Kelly Andreae, and Program Director, Rebecca Kellett, at our Pop-Up location at Georgetown Lutheran Church.

### THANK YOU TO OUR RECENT DONORS!

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