

Georgetown Ministry Center

2016 Annual Report



Street Outreach. Day Center. Winter Shelter.
Seeking lasting solutions to homelessness one person at a time.

From the Director

Chris's mom called and emailed. She told me his story. He was a talented musician and did well in school until college. Friends began to contact her, distressed by Chris's odd behavior's that included social withdrawal and angry outbursts. Chris was soon diagnosed with schizophrenia, but the disease robbed him of his ability to perceive his illness. He was unwilling to accept treatment at the most critical time: onset. Fifteen years later, untreated still, Chris is one of ours. His mother hovers in the only way possible, checking up by phone and email.

This is such a common occurrence at Georgetown Ministry Center. In the general population a little over one percent of all people have been diagnosed with schizophrenia. Among homeless people the number is around sixteen percent. Add to schizophrenia many other brain disorders that commonly lead to homelessness and you have an explanation of homelessness as we at GMC know it. People living on the street are different from homeless people who occupy shelters and transitional homes. They are alienated from friends and family. They avoid social connections. Their contacts with people are almost exclusively for utility, to get a cigarette or to form an alliance for safety.

Georgetown Ministry Center is the lifeline for these people. We provide a safe and nurturing place to belong, seven days a week, all year long. A cup of coffee, a shower, and a chance to clean treasured clothing items are just little things to us but a huge connection for our guests. Thank you for helping us be there for them. Thank you for being there.

Gunther

Programs



Day Center: A guest leads a crocheting lesson in our center for GMC guests, volunteers, and staff, including GMC Program Manager Ashley Lane (center) and Development Manager Sarah Hartley (right).

Medical Care: Dr. Crosland from Unity Health Care has saved lives. She provides medicine and health counseling and occasionally calls 911 when discovering life threatening conditions.

Psychiatric Care: Dr. Koshes and Dr. Goodwin provide personalized care to homeless individuals in need of these necessary services.

Our programs connect the disconnected, the most vulnerable of the people living on the streets to resources in the community. We offer a cup of coffee and a shower to our guests, building relationships of trust that can lead to more comprehensive services.

Over 900 individuals came through our doors or saw us on outreach in our 2016 fiscal year, and we provided more than 28,000 services. Of these folks, more than 100 regularly spend their day with us.



Street Outreach: GMC Executive Director Gunther Stern and consulting physician Dr. Catherine Crosland speak to a person experiencing homelessness during street outreach

Georgetown Ministry Center

Most importantly, we offer a safe place to be off the street 7 days a week, all year long. We call it a club house because we want our guests to have a safe space to belong. We also offer:

Showers

Laundry

Computers

Sandwiches and meals

Mail service

Phone to call home

Case management

Psychiatrists

General practitioner

Clothes



GMC's Case Manager, Sabrina Burrell, MSW, helps serve a homemade Cajun meal to guests in the day center.

Our winter shelter, operating from the beginning of November until the end of March, provided 10 men and women a safe, warm place to be off the street but more importantly, a chance to find comfort and support in a social environment that they might otherwise avoid.



Winter shelter residents and volunteers share a meal in the parish hall of Christ Church, one of the hosts of GMC's rotating winter shelter.

Impact

- 914** Individuals Served
- 1591** Loads of Laundry
- 5667** Showers Provided
- 423** Medical Contacts
- 578** Psychiatric Contacts



Most individuals experience homelessness because of untreated mental illness and some abuse substances to cope with the stress of their circumstances. Through it all, Georgetown Ministry Center is there - open 365 days a year - building relationships, providing essential services, and guiding guests toward income and housing.

In FY 2016

32 

Guests moved off the street and into permanent housing.

10 

Guests became eligible for housing and are close to signing a lease.

8 

Guests are working closely with GMC staff to accept help and apply for housing.

Endorsements

Marianna has been coming to our Center for about a year and a half. She found out about GMC through another guest and you can often find her in the Center, sipping a hot cup of tea or using the computers. Almost every day she helps clean up at closing time. When we asked if she would share her picture and a bit of her story, she responded cheerfully: "Of course! You all do good work. I'm happy to help you reach out to the people who support us!"



"I love volunteering at GMC because it gives me a chance to spend time with a part of the Georgetown community that I don't think gets enough of our attention and our compassion."

Alex Nino,
Georgetown University student

Success Story

Thirty-five years ago Ismail stepped off a plane in search of new opportunities and a fresh start in Washington, D.C. Along with his wife and kids, he fled Sudan and the ongoing danger of civil war. Like many refugees, Ismail drove a cab when he came to D.C., but when he fell on hard times and lost his job, his escape from civil unrest in Sudan evolved into a period of homelessness in the U.S. His wife and kids returned to Sudan and he lived on the streets of D.C. for six years. Thankfully this gentle and sweet man's story doesn't end there.

Ismail moved into a brand new apartment building this summer. He said when he was selected to move into housing everything changed. Hearing the good news was emotional and nearly brought him to tears. He no longer has to worry about the weather in the way that he used to and his new way of life is far safer and predictable. Before, falling asleep for 10 minutes could mean waking up to realize his stuff is gone, but now it means waking up to comfort and safety.

Georgetown Ministry Center helped Ismail receive SSI, secure personal documents and apply for housing. A case manager from a collaborating



Ismail's joy showing off keys to his home

organization, Miriam's Kitchen, helped match him to housing and transition into his new place. His building offers panoramic views of the city, a sunroom, library and a courtyard.

Ismail said he is thankful for GMC's help. He continues to stop by the center to read the newspaper, see the staff and use the computers. Housing is the first step on his road to stability. Next he wants to get a driver's license and a job because these steps will help him provide for his family and bring them back together. We are cheering Ismail on and will continue to be a resource for him as he transitions out of homelessness!

Finances



REVENUE	FY 2015	FY 2016
Foundations & Grants	\$128,900	\$183,000
Contributions & Events	\$300,500	\$314,400
Homeless Service Contract	\$72,600	\$85,900
In-Kind Contributions	\$70,500	\$70,400
Interest & Dividends	\$22,200	\$15,000
Other	\$12,800	\$33,600
Total Revenue	\$607,500	\$702,300
EXPENSES	FY 2015	FY 2016
Programs	\$495,100	\$525,900
Fundraising	\$81,300	\$84,400
General & Administrative	\$136,400	\$99,500
Total Expenses	\$712,900	\$709,800

FY 2016 and FY 2015 exclude depreciation and appreciation.

For most of GMC's existence there was not a dedicated, full time fundraiser on staff. However, in July 2016, the need became apparent and GMC's development manager role became full time. This positive change led to a \$7,500 deficit for the 2016 fiscal year, a dramatic improvement compared to the \$105,400 deficit in fiscal year 2015 and the anticipated \$86,952 deficit expected in the FY16 budget. You can see that vast and necessary improvements were made. Our development manager, Sarah Hartley, has initiated a number of innovations including: an online recurring donation option, improved cultivation and stewardship and the addition of a major gifts program. Additionally she is applying for new grants and building relationships with local businesses. Based on these improvements, the board of directors is confident GMC is well on its way to a positive cash flow.

Board of Directors

Supporting Congregations

Christ Church, Georgetown - Richard Johnson

Dumbarton United Methodist Church - Jennifer Whatley

Epiphany Roman Catholic Church - Chris Rowe

First Baptist Church, Georgetown

Georgetown Lutheran Church - Connie Baker

Georgetown Presbyterian Church - Pat Davies

Georgetown University - Ray Shiu

Grace Episcopal Church - John Graham, ExOfficio

Holy Trinity Catholic Church - Ron Castaldi

Keshet Israel, Georgetown Synagogue - Amy Kauffman

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church

St. John's Episcopal Church - Jocelyn Dyer

St. Paul's K Street - Jeremiah Cassidy

St. Stephen the Martyr - Laura Wilson

From the Community

Citizens Association of Georgetown - Page Robinson

Georgetown Business Association - Elizabeth Webster

Georgetown BID - John Wiebenson

Georgetown Clergy Association - Mary Kay Totty

Treatment Advocacy Center - John Snook

*Other Community Representatives - Page Evans, James Jordan,
Dorothy Preston, Sara Lemke-Vonammon, Carol Cooke, Nancy
Taylor Bubes*

Officers

President - Alexander Bullock

Vice President - Jeremiah Cassidy

Treasurer - John Lange

Secretary - Page Robinson

Staff

Executive Director - Gunther Stern

Case Manager - Sabrina Burrell, MSW

Program Manager - Ashley Lane

Program Coordinators - Titilayo Adegoke, Will Jay, Tanisha Turner

Volunteer Coordinator/Jesuit Volunter - Melissa Bernard

Development and Communications Manager - Sarah Hartley

Communications Coordinator - David Finnegan-Hosey

Human Resources Specialist - Dymenn Venzor

Accountant - Catherine Payling

Consulting Physicians

Psychiatry

Ron Koshes, M.D.

Ross Goodwin, M.D.; Psychiatric Resident (*GWU*)

Family Practice

Catherine Crosland, M.D. (*Unity Health Care*)



Staff enjoying GMC's Spirit of Georgetown fundraising event. From left to right: Melissa Bernard, Will Jay, Ashley Lane, Sabrina Burrell, Gunther Stern, Sarah Hartley, Dr. Crosland

How to Support Georgetown Ministry Center

Volunteer

Volunteer at our center with our shower/laundry program, offer a special skill, or visit one-on-one with our guests. Email us at info@gmcgt.org to learn more about our current volunteer needs.

Donate

We are able to make a difference in the lives of hundreds of people every year because your generous financial contributions go a long way to fund our work. Please donate by mailing a check or by visiting www.gmcgt.org/help/donate.

Give In-Kind

Check out our in-kind wishlist at www.gmcgt.org/help/wishlist. Once there, you will find a link to our Amazon.com wishlist. If you prefer online shopping this makes donating essential items like socks and underwear quick and easy.

Monthly Gifts

You can provide consistent monthly support by joining a GMC giving club online! Every dollar makes a difference and this is a convenient way to provide essential services each month. To join a club, visit gmcgt.org/help/donate and select "monthly."



GEORGETOWN
MINISTRY CENTER