SCCO Reporter

Spring 2024



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Berving Shelby County with the Love of Jesus



From the Director: Reflections on the Past 20 Years

A trip down memory lane... we all have taken them. Most of the time this trip reflects on good things that have happened to us and conjures up emotions that bring a smile to our face or maybe a tear to our eye. As I think back over the past 20 years of SCCO's existence, I can certainly attest to the fact that "Memory Lane" is a nice place to visit once in a while. In preparing for this newsletter, I had to do just that. Look back at how it all began, remember the history, re-live the excitement of new adventures, recount the number of relationships forged and long term friend-ships developed.

As I went through that process, I found that for all of the ups and downs, the victories and defeats, the memories that stick with me most are the ones revolving around the people I've encountered. Past board members, clients, and staff all hold a place very dear to my heart. I could put in names here, but I'm afraid someone would get left out, so if you are one of these people, (you know who you are) I am very proud to have met you and to have had you in my life! Then there are those who are in the present tense. Thank you again to board members, clients, and staff whom I've gotten to know and who encourage me and make coming to work each week worth the effort! None of you will know what a joy it has been to have walked in my shoes the past 20 years and now look back on how far that seems, but still looking forward to where things may go.

Lastly, I need to recognize my wonderful family who lived on the leftovers of my time and energy, especially in the early years. Here's where I can put in names! The best wife a man could ask for, Jenny, and 4 of the greatest daughters in the world (and now with families of their own), Alex, Amanda, April, and Alayna. You have all been my support system and strength over the years and for that, I love you and say Thanks! And this can't end without mentioning the One who has been responsible for it all, Jesus, the inspiration of this entire venture. He is definitely the glue that holds it all together! Colossians 1:15-20

Blessings to all who are reading this and thank you for being part of the past 20 years in the life and times of SCCO!

~ Ron French-Executive Director, Shelby County Community Outreach

SCCO/Hero's Attic Open House, 4/20/24!

Chamber of Commerce visit Friday 4/19/24 at 11:00a.m. Open House Saturday, 4/20/24 during our open hours 10:30am-3:00pm:

Serving Beef Sundaes from 11:00-1:00 or until gone 60% Off Sale Storewide (excludes "premier" items)
Outdoor Games & Bounce House (weather permitting), and Free Gift Tokens of our Appreciation



Sign up for Door Prizes— (need not be present to win)

SCCO/Hero's Attic Timeline

- ◆ 2003 Summer— Four people began meeting together to discuss the concept of an organization that would meet the needs of area residents concerning home related issues.
- ◆ 2004 February— Shelby County Community Outreach, Inc., an independent organization, was formed.
- 2005 SCCO becomes incorporated as a faith-based, 501c(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt organization
- 2006 SCCO receives \$12,000 Grant from Compassion Iowa for "capacity building"
- ◆ 2008 SCCO begins renting space from The American Legion for its used home furnishings warehouse.
- 2009 Moved offices from private residence to space at Harlan United Methodist Church operating in six key areas of ministry: 1) small home repairs and maintenance, 2) Hero's Attic Home Furnishings,
 3) mentoring for children and adults, 4) permanent supportive housing, 5) short term housing,
 6) community service projects.
- 2010 Delivery Truck is purchased with the help of a grant from Shelby County Community Chest.
- ◆ 2011 Purchased American Legion building and began using it as SCCO office headquarters.
- 2012 Hero's Attic Used Home Furnishings and Appliances storefront is open for business.
- ◆ 2013, 2017 SCCO Awarded Non-Profit Organization of the year by Shelby Co. Chamber of Commerce
- 2018 SCCO narrows it's focus to four main ministries: Home Repair, Hero's Attic, Community Service Projects, and Bridging the Gap.
- 2019 SCCO Bridges the Gap by becoming a local HUD outreach office once a month, AND the main hub for local outreach of The Salvation Army.
- 2019 Hero's Attic expands it's open hours to include mornings.
- ◆ 2020 SCCO Restore Building Supply Shed is added to the SCCO building, expanding Hero's Attic retail space.
- 2024 SCCO Celebrates 20 years "Putting Faith to Work"

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2004-2015 Owned and operated 5 mobile homes at Westridge Acres Trailer Park which were used for: Temporary Housing/ Permanent Supportive Housing/ Children's After School Program

2007-2010 Hosted 2 Americorp VISTA Members and 2 Americorp Summer Interns

2007-2024 Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser
2011-2019 Fair Food Booth Fundraising Effort
2011-2024 Hosted 9 Senior Aides: Tim, Helen, Bill,
Rosie, Linda, Mary, Cindy, David, and Doug
2014-2019 Offered God's Helping Hands Program
2005-2024 Governed by 33 SCCO Board Members