Heart and Hand House, Inc.

Summer 2022 **Serving Barbour County Since 1965**

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OUR MISSION

Heart and Hand House, Inc., is a mission project affiliated with The United Methodist Church. It exists because of the clear Christian mandate to minister to the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional needs of in-crisis, low-income people of Barbour County and its immediate surroundings.

Advance Special 391361

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A New Season

by Brenda W. Hunt, Executive Director

Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3, opens with these familiar words: "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." Eighteen years ago this summer, I felt God calling me to make a career change, and when the opportunity arose for me to join the ministry staff at Heart and Hand House, I knew it was the right move. Who knew then (other than God, perhaps) that five years later I would be transitioning into the role of Executive Director? What a blessing – and a challenge – it has been! Now, however, another "season change" is on the horizon, as I have decided to retire at the end of this calendar year.

I have no doubt that God will continue to bless the work of Heart and Hand House and will provide the leadership it needs. As a new director steps in, they will have the privilege, as I did, to work with many extraordinary people who keep this mission and ministry going, including our dedicated board of directors, our United Methodist Conference connections, our amazing staff and volunteers, and all of our faithful donors and supporters.

As we ready for this time of transition, I ask that you keep us in your prayers and continue to partner with us in ministry to low-income families in Barbour County. The need is still great and our work is not done! May God richly bless you, as you have blessed this ministry and those we serve!

Serving Together

June 9 was designated as a Day of Service across the WV Annual Conference, and we were blessed to have several members of the Barbour County UM Parish, along with our District Superintendent and others, come out to help us with a mobile food pantry in the Brownton Community and lend a hand with some chores at our Community Garden Market. We greatly appreciated the held and had a great time serving together!

Home Repair & Construction Program

After a couple off years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were excited to have a full schedule of Home Repair & Construction projects lined up this summer and even more excited to welcome back several of the volunteer teams who have had to take time off because of pandemic restrictions. Some of these groups have been coming to Barbour County each summer for many years, and we have missed them! Fifteen volunteer teams have come this summer to complete projects that include repairs to roofing, windows, ceilings, and porches, the installation of accessibility ramps, and construction of two large additions. You can follow the progress and see images of the work being done on the Home Repair & Construction page on our website.

Food Pantry

With gas and grocery prices on the rise, it's no surprise that the number of families visiting our food pantry has also been increasing over the last couple of months. The uptick in demand, combined with increased costs and lingering supply shortages, means keeping our shelves stocked is becoming a bit of a challenge. If you'd like to help with this program, here are some of the items that we currently need:

Breakfast Items Canned Meat Pasta & Sauce Soup
Side Dishes Peanut Butter Canned Fruit or Juice

Layettes

Bottles, diapers, wipes, blankets, onesies, bibs, socks, -- oh, my! Newborn babies need lots of things when they arrive, and for families who are struggling financially, getting all these things together when the little one comes can be a bit overwhelming and stressful. That's where our Layette Program can help, by providing a basket full of infant-care items to get baby off to a good start. We are in short supply of some items, however, and would appreciate donations of the following:

Hooded towels Receiving blankets
Infant nail clippers Crib sheets

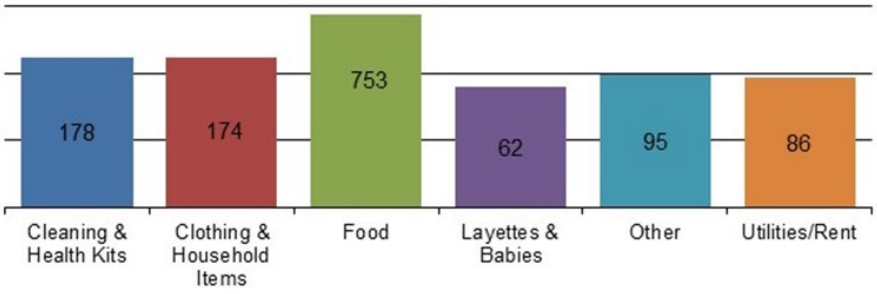
Visit our website for a full list of the items included in our Layettes.

Heart and Hand House, Inc.

2021 Estimated Dollar Value of Service to Barbour County

Emergency Assistance	$57,747[1]
Home Repair & Construction	$238,275[2]
Thrift Stores	$730,765[3]
Other	$219,072[4]
Volunteer Time	$113,694[5]
TOTAL	**$1,359,553**

2021 Emergency Assistance Requests = 1,348



Garden Market[4]
143 Vendors

Value of product sold: $165,819

Thrift Stores[3]
Some items we provided:
Seasonal clothing, bulk clothing, toys, quilts, appliances, rags, crafts, antiques, furniture, books

Value of products sold & donated: $730,765

Home Repair & Construction[2]
6 families assisted
1 new home built

Materials Value: $79,425
Labor Value: $158,850

Total Value: $238,275

Christmas Basket Program[4]
210 families received baskets containing food, hygiene items, and cleaning products.

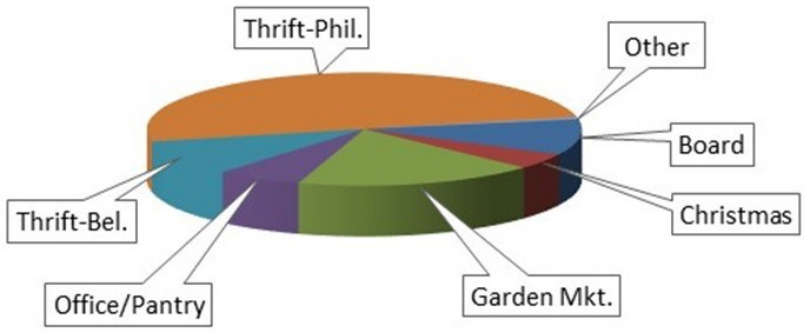
Total Value: $31,500

2021 Estimated Value of Emergency Assistance Requests[1] = $57,747

2021 Volunteer Hours = 4,737

(excludes Home Repair & Construction)

Estimated Value of Volunteer Time = $113,694



Food Pantry
753 food boxes
(25,960 meals) provided

Backpack & Summer Feeding Programs[4]

6,841 bags of food provided to students during the school year

410 lunches provided to children in summer programs offered by Philippi & Belington Public Libraries.

Total Value: $21,753

Heart and Hand House, Inc.

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Run For It!

The 16th Annual Run For It, a 2k walk and 5k race hosted by the Tucker Community Foundation, will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, in the town of Davis, WV, during the Leaf Peepers Festival. Racers may participate in person or register as a "Virtual Walker or Runner" for teams. Our friends with the Mountain State Rotary E-Club have registered a team again this year, "Running for Rotary," to raise funds for our **Backpack Feeding Program**. Visit raceroster.com and type "Run For It" in the event search box to register now or get more information. Be sure to select "Running for Rotary" as your team. Half of the $10 registration cost will go to support our Backpack Feeding Program.

Vote Now!

This summer, you can cast your vote for our Community Garden Market and help us take home the top spot (and maybe even a $5,000 cash prize) during the America's Farmers Market Celebration. Voting is easy: simply head to markets.farmland.org, click "Cast My Vote," enter zip code 26416 in the search bar, then click the "Vote" button. That's it! Hurry, though—voting ends September 19.

This summer the Community Garden Market celebrates its 30th year of operation and continues to support the community by participating in important programs such as FARMacy, Kids' Markets, SNAP Stretch, and the WV Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. If you haven't been to the market recently, we invite you to stop by 107 S. Main Street, Philippi, and see us!