
Inasmuch as ye have done it
unto the least of these, my
brethren...



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Summer 2016

New Partnerships—New Staff

ACTS
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ACTS Mission Statement

To partner with churches, organizations, and individuals to provide assistance to our neighbors in need in the name of Jesus Christ.

ACTS' new mission statement has brought about a new way of thinking with our donors and the Aiken community. Businesses and organizations are invited to become ACTS Partners instead of being asked for donations in support of various events or needs.

Megan Trapp

is the new full time ACTS Daily Assistant. The position was formerly held by a different volunteer each day of the week. While they did a wonderful job, having only one daily assistant provides more consistency and continuity.



"An annual partnership donation allows ACTS to budget for the year ahead and allows businesses and organizations to partner in what we do all year instead of just for one or two events," said Executive Director **Carla Cloud**, who is sending letters to local businesses inviting them to participate. Partners will receive recognition at ACTS events and in publications and media like Facebook depending on their partnership level.

Megan and her husband have four children, ages 5, 7, 10 and 11. They moved to Aiken a year ago from New Jersey. Megan majored in Marketing Communications and has worked with other non-profits in networking and administration. She enjoys long walks with her family and keeps busy with kids' school and sports activities.

For more information call Carla Cloud at 649-3800.



ACTS will be closed
May 30 for Memorial Day
and
July 4-8 for the
Independence Day
holiday

Resale Update

I would like to thank the volunteers who made our participation in the Women of Woodside (WOW) Trash & Treasure Sale on April 16th a HUGE success, especially **Carolyn & Marley Bruns, Carolyn Beeler, and Nancy Rogers**. They spent several weeks pricing and packing the items for the sale and also through the Bruns's volunteering their 16 foot trailer, we were able to transport items over and when finished repack leftover items donated from the other booths at the sale. Nancy was my right arm during the sale!!!



Kim Noah,
Store Mgr.

I would also like to invite everyone to like AND share ACTS Facebook page. Thanks to the creativity of **Darlene Knight**, we are featuring special sale events in the Resale Store with videos she makes and uploads to FB. Those posts have generated a lot of interest and we are seeing incremental increases in customers in the store on the day(s) of the events.

Welcome to ACTS!



You may see some new faces as you shop in the Resale Store. **Yolanda Mireles** is now working in the store. She moved to Aiken from Sacramento and has lived here 13 years. She previously worked at the Salvation Army store on Silver Bluff. Yolanda says she loves working at the Resale Store, especially meeting people, getting to know them, and helping them find what they are looking for. She enjoys spending her spare time with her grandchildren.

Taveisha Porter (L) and **Gwen Hightower** (R) work 20 hours/week as Intake Clerks, sorting donations for clients and for the store. Both are Aiken natives and said they enjoy meeting people and also enjoy seeing the variety of things donated. Helping others is the best part, they said. Both enjoy spending time with family when they are not at ACTS.



Grants and Gifts

Recent grants to ACTS include:



- Community Service Network - \$250 for Undies
- Lexington Race Against Hunger - \$2,200 for Food Program
- Aiken Midday Lion's Club - \$1225 for Clothing Program
- Cedar Creek Ladies Club - \$1000 for Food Program

In honor and in memory—

Gifts have been given to ACTS in honor of: Edward & Alice Mullin



Gifts have been given to ACTS in memory of:

Anika Allman, Calvin Crotwell (Rev. Crotwell's Father)(2), Doris George, Collie Knepper, Louise O'Connor, Pat Penrod (4)

Introducing—ACTS New Partners!



- ◆ Atlantic Broadband
- ◆ SCE&G
- ◆ Aiken Antique Mall
- ◆ Johnson, Johnson, Whittle & Lancer, Attys, PA
- ◆ Aiken Saddlery
- ◆ Five Star Commercial Cleaners
- ◆ Allstate Insurance, Tom Young
- ◆ Cold Creek Nurseries
- ◆ Charlotte's Bridal & Formal Fashions

ACTS Needs: Sleeping bags; New or gently used children's clothing & underwear; Food; Fresh produce; Baby food; Cash donations for fans and heaters; Clothing; Diapers; Laundry & Dish Soap; Hygiene items—those hotel soaps and shampoo as well as full size; Sanitary pads; Volunteers—and Prayers!

ACTS Volunteers—wear your name badge when you shop at the Resale Store and get **50% off** your purchase! It's our way of thanking our faithful volunteers!



Blanche Premo-Hopkins, a Food Volunteer, adds her star to the "Wall of Fame".



Enoch O'Connor at Senior Food, ACTS youngest volunteer.

2016 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner "SHINES"

Close to 100 volunteers and their guests attended this year's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. The theme "Volunteers Shine Like Stars" set the tone for the event. From the red carpet to the 'wall of fame' to the special 'celebrity' guest stars, Volunteers were made to feel like stars themselves. Guests placed their name and the 'role' they play at ACTS on stars which were then placed on a 40' 'film roll'. That 'wall of fame' now brightens our break room. On the tables were star trophies, thank you cards from the ACTS staff, starburst candies, popcorn, star confetti, and a special star bookmark for each guest.

After a delicious dinner provided by Aiken Regional Medical Centers the STAR AWARDS were presented. There were nominees in several categories including most senior volunteer (**Paul Fleming**), longest serving volunteer (**Betty Christensen**), and even best pet volunteer (**Peppy and Punkin** tied for this award). For a complete list of our award winning 'stars' check out our website: actsofaiken.org. Interspersed throughout the evening 'celebrity' stars entertained. Dolly Parton, Willie Nelson, and Elvis were among those sharing their talents in celebration of ACTS Star Volunteers.

In all, the staff wanted to shower their love and appreciation on our volunteers. You are all STARS to us and you brighten even our darkest day.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!

ACTS New Bicycle Program

ACTS has started a new Bicycle Program aimed at providing bicycles to capable adult clients who are in need of transportation to improve their quality of life.



Clients who lack transportation for improved education opportunities, job search or employment will be offered the opportunity to receive a bicycle from ACTS. The client must be willing to use a bicycle as their mode of transportation and before being given a bicycle they must receive bicycle safety training from a qualified ACTS volunteer (**Tom Lex**, ACTS Bicycle Program Coordinator). The training will teach them the SC Bicycle Laws and the requirements for riding their bicycles safely. In addition to the bicycle, ACTS will provide a bicycle helmet and bicycle lock to the client.

Bicycles will be obtained through private donations and the Aiken Department of Public Safety bicycle recovery program. All donated bicycles must be adult size bicycles in good working condition and because of limited storage space they can only be accepted if storage space is available. Donated helmets and locks must be new.

Planting a garden?



Plant an extra row for ACTS! Our clients love fresh vegetables and fruits as much as you do, and they are an important part of a healthy diet! Bring them to ACTS M-F, 9am-3 pm.

Come & Join us!

Orientation for new volunteers is held Thursdays at 10am at ACTS. For groups who would like to work after hours or weekends please give us a call. To request a volunteer application you can reach us by email at volunteer@actsofaiken.org, phone 649-3800 or in person. Want to know more about ACTS? Look for us on Facebook or our new website, www.actsofaiken.org.

Easiest way to give EVER! Earn donations for ACTS when you shop at Kroger or Amazon.com. Just register at www.krogercommunityrewards.com and follow directions on your screen. Then swipe your Kroger card when you shop. And you can visit www.actsofaiken.org and click on the Amazon Smile Button. Then when you shop at Amazon.com, 0.5% of your total purchase will be donated to ACTS.

Area Churches Together Serving (ACTS) Inc.
340 Park Avenue SW
Aiken, SC 29801

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Coming soon at ACTS!

2nd Annual Car Show

*A Drive Against
Hunger
Come Ride with Us!*

June 11, 2016
(Note date change)

10 am–2 pm
Langley Pond
113 Langley Dam Rd, Burnetown

ACTS Fan Drive

June 3-4

10 am–6 pm

Lowe's, Whiskey Rd

Purchase a fan for \$17
& donate it to volun-
teers outside the
store. Or make a cash
contribution to help
ACTS clients stay cool.

ACTS Board Members

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ACTS newsletter by e-mail! Just send your e-
mail address to info@actsofaiken.org.

Would your group like a tour of ACTS? Do you
need a speaker? Just call 649-3800!

Call Judy Clements, Newsletter Editor, at 642-5117
for information about *inasmuch* or to *unsubscribe*.