

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



Volume XXXI, number 3

Fall 2018

#### 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

340 Park Avenue SW  
Aiken, SC 29801  
Hours: M-F, 11-3  
Phone: (803) 649-3800  
Client Services Phone:  
(803)642-5919

#### Resale Store:

401 Hayne Avenue  
Hours: M-F, 9-4  
Phone: (803)-226-0134

#### E-mail:

info@actsofaiken.org  
Web: www.actsofaiken.org  
Facebook:  
www.facebook.org/  
actsofaiken—and  
www.facebook.org/acts  
resale store

#### ACTS of Graniteville 2nd ACTS Resale Store

50 Canal Street, Ste 6  
Hours: M-F, 10-5  
Phone: (803)392-7022  
Facebook:  
www.facebook.org/  
2nd ACTS



ACTS will be closed for  
Thanksgiving  
November 21, 22, & 23

#### Message from Suzanne Jackson, Executive Director

It's time to say farewell to summer as we prepare to welcome fall in Aiken! We anticipate the renewed energy that comes with this time of year.

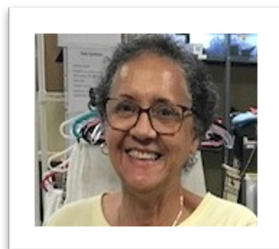
Fall continues to be a busy time at ACTS, providing the services necessary to meet the diverse needs of many living in our community. Our volunteers are there to ensure these needs are met on a daily basis for which we are forever grateful.

Throughout this issue, you will find a central theme focused on our volunteers. We celebrate the contributions of the more than 300 dedicated individuals who donate their time and talents to serve out our mission with love and support. The seasons change, but our need for volunteers remains constant.

Please take a moment to read about our volunteer opportunities and consider joining this special group who so generously give of themselves to serve God's children in need. Spread the word to your family and friends. The opportunities to serve are endless and I am confident we can find a rewarding placement for everyone.

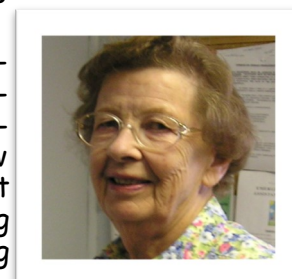


#### ACTS honors long-time volunteers



Novella Craig (l) and Betty Christensen (r) both worked with ACTS founder Pat Bischopp to get the organization up and running smoothly over 30 years ago! They've done it all— food, the fan and heater drives, interviewing, sorting clothes (back when piles of clothes were up to the ceiling!), recruiting churches, consulting lawyers, and more.

Novella now works in linens and helps fill vouchers. She commented, "My favorite thing is helping families get the things they need. I can't imagine the community without ACTS." Betty now works in reception and enjoys being the first face people see at ACTS. She agrees that seeing people get the help they need is the best thing about volunteering at ACTS.



# VOLUNTEER

*all that's missing is U!*

## Invite a Friend

My daughter has a magnet on her refrigerator that says, "Invite a friend to OAPC" (the initials of her church in Rock Hill). The idea being that the members are proud of their church and want others to attend and share in its mission. Well, this message hopes to convey the same to you - the volunteer! **"Invite a friend to ACTS."**

As you well know, volunteers are the "lifeblood" of the ACTS organization. We cannot offer the programs effectively, or ably carry out our mission to the clients and community, without your time and effort.

The ACTS organization is in critical need of volunteers at this time!

*Will you prayerfully consider some possibilities below?*

*Invite a friend with you when you volunteer - If they enjoy the experience, perhaps they might be interested in going through orientation and seeing all the different volunteer possibilities.*

*During school vacations, ACTS is a welcoming place for high school and college students who are interested in "giving back" to their community (or working toward school credits).*

*Short term opportunities are available.*

*Suzanne and Karen are always looking for volunteers with specific skill sets. Please email or call them to see if your (or your friend's) talents can be of help.*

*Groups (clubs, church school classes, etc.) are more than welcome and appreciated for "one time" scheduled work. Opportunities are available in Aiken and Graniteville.*

*If you have any questions or comments, don't hesitate to call or email ACTS with the links below. Please remember how thankful we are for your continued support of ACTS through your time, talents and prayers. And don't forget to "Invite a Friend."*

803-649-3800

[suzanne@actsofaiken.org](mailto:suzanne@actsofaiken.org)

[karen@actsofaiken.org](mailto:karen@actsofaiken.org)

[laurasmoak@actsofaiken.org](mailto:laurasmoak@actsofaiken.org)

**The above article was submitted by Jane Keisler, Chair of our Volunteer Services Committee.**

Volunteers are the heart and backbone of ACTS. We are able to provide assistance to those in need through the dedication and commitment of our volunteers.

## Some ACTS Volunteer Opportunities

### **Clerical Assistance:**

Assist with specific clerical duties as directed by staff.

### **Clothing:**

Sort/hang clothing according to procedures. Hang clothes in retail store. On occasion, assist clients with vouchers and housewares orders.

### **Client Room/Housewares and Linens:**

Sort and stock housewares and linen per inventory list. Fill approved client orders. Keep area neat.

### **Food Pantry:**

Maintain client food service area inventory - stock shelves, check shelves and rotate stock. Fill client food orders using grocery list and assist client in taking food orders to their vehicles. Keep food department clean and orderly.

### **Interviewer:**

Interview clients to determine service needs and eligibility, with documentation. Recommend services to be provided for client's plan of action. Make referrals to other agencies.

### **Intake:**

Receive donations from public. Presort donations and take to designated areas. Distribute tax receipt per contribution. Work environment may be in hot/cold temperatures.

### **Receptionist:**

Greet clients and verify that client possesses all required documents. Manage paperwork for the files.

### **Senior Food Program:**(7-9:30am each 3rd Saturday)

Some of the duties might include: Enroll or validate clients. Register each client to receive food during that day's distribution. Validate cards that have been punched and order number of bags authorized. Update ACTS databases with client's information.

### **Resale Store Volunteer:**

(Aiken and Graniteville) Help store venue remain orderly and clean. Restock shelves. Assist cashier with checking out of clients when needed. Sort donations. Help in Client Room as needed.

**Grants and Gifts**



- Food Lion—\$1,300 for food pantry updates
- Chevron (Matching funds for volunteer hours - Paul Fleming) - \$1000
- Aiken Hospital and Relief Society - \$3,379
- 2018 Fan Drive collected more than 300 fans and raised \$2,800 during the two-day drive at Lowe's. Additional gifts for the Fan and Utility programs brought the total to \$9,435.
- Marco's Pizza Monthly Fundraiser—over \$700 for the Food Program.

**Transportation Program**

The ACTS' Transportation Program provides bicycles for adults who are employed, looking for a job or attending school. The Program also provides cars and trucks to qualified candidates who are employed but struggling financially and lack reliable transportation to get to work.

ACTS is in need of bicycles and reasonably reliable vehicles that would otherwise be traded in to the dealer or sold to a third party. Consider donating a bicycle or vehicle or making a financial donation to the Transportation Program. ACTS will in turn donate the bicycles or vehicles to individuals who qualify. If you are interested in learning more about the donation process and volunteer opportunities, please contact ACTS at 803-649-3800.



**Save stamps, trees and Rosemary! Get your ACTS newsletter in color by e-mail! Just send your e-mail address to [info@actsofaiken.org](mailto:info@actsofaiken.org).**

**New ID for Kroger Community Rewards**

Kroger has recently upgraded the Community Rewards system, and as a result, ACTS has a new account number. **(PA759)** While the previous number will continue to be associated with ACTS, it will not be visible to our donors when enrolling. New members can enroll by searching for either the **new number** or under **ACTS**.

# Thank You

ACTS Partners

*Aiken Regional Medical Centers  
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions*

Atlantic Broadband  
Bob Richards Automotive Group  
Bridgestone  
Chevron  
Crescent Automotive  
Kimberly Clark  
Marco's Pizza  
SCE&G



Aiken Ophthalmology; Apizza di Napoli; Blue Salamander Solutions, Inc.; Family Medcenter; Family Pharmacy; Gillam & Associates; Hass & Hilderbrand, Inc.; HealthFirst Integrated Healthcare Solutions; Holley Heating & Air Conditioning; Hutson-Etherredge Companies; Johnson, Johnson, Whittle & Lancer, Attorneys; Margaret's Garden Adult Day Care; Maxwell Law Firm; Napier Funeral Home, Inc.; Security Federal Bank; The Hills of Cumberland Village.

**In honor and in memory—**

*Gifts have been given to ACTS in honor of:* Bessie Whittle - Birthday, Jay & Alice Creamer, Sandra Thomas' Grandchildren, Suzanne Jackson.



*Gifts have been given in memory of:* Ruth Cordahi, Joe Rocco, Tony Robinson, Jim Bunch & Leslie George - Father's Day, Stephen Peterson, Lois Wolf, Robert Tanner (Deborah Martin's Father).

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

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

Return Service Requested

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- ⇒ All volunteers are cordially invited to the **Volunteer "Family Reunion" Picnic** - Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 1 pm - 4 pm at the Odell Weeks Recreation Center Pavilion. Bring your family and a dish to share. Don't forget your chairs!
- ⇒ Nov. 10—**Harvest Home Concert** at St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church
- ⇒ **Fall Heater & Utility Drive**—Starts Nov. 1
- ⇒ **Paladin Productions Musical Review** - "Save the Date" for January 14<sup>th</sup>

**Thanks to Cold Creek Nurseries  
For honoring ACTS  
At their Labor Day Cookout!**



### **ACTS Board Members**

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Francine Burroughs  
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Lyddie Hansen  
Jane Keisler  
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for information about *inasmuch* or to *unsubscribe*.