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**PADUCAH COOPERATIVE MINISTRY**

402 Legion Drive \*\* Paducah, KY 42003  
270-442-6795



website: [paducahcoopministry.org](http://paducahcoopministry.org)  
Find us on: **Facebook and Instagram!**  
[pcm@paducahcoopministry.org](mailto:pcm@paducahcoopministry.org)

**HOURS OF OPERATION:**  
Monday through Thursday  
9:00 to Noon and 1:00 to 3:30  
Friday 9:00 to Noon

**PCM Staff Members**

Executive Director	Heidi Suhrheinrich
Administrative Assistant	Kathy Rowland
Emergency Services/Volunteer Coordinator	Karen Burton
Homeless Shelter Director	Sheila Forrest
Shelter Supervisor	Tasha Forrest
Homeless and Housing Case Manager	Gina Stafford
Emergency Services Facilitator	Glenn Warren
Financial Development Coordinator	John Lewter
Bookkeeper	Jason Duffey

**OUR MISSION:**

The Paducah Cooperative Ministry seeks to  
"Do God's Work with Human Hands"  
by drawing together individuals and congregations  
to respond to basic human needs and conditions.

PCM is an interfaith ministry providing all services without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability or familial status.

We are a proud United Way of Paducah/McCracken County partner agency.

**PADUCAH COOPERATIVE  
MINISTRY**



**2020**

**"Doing God's Work with Human Hands"**

## Who is the Paducah Cooperative Ministry?

- Paducah Cooperative Ministry (PCM) seeks to serve God, to be guided and provided for in all ways by God. It is His ministry first and foremost.
- PCM is an interfaith organization established in 1973 by area congregations. It is a unified, community effort responding to the urgent human needs of our neighbors.
- PCM serves as an extension of the faith community in McCracken County, who asks us and enables us to be effective stewards of God's resources on their behalf.
- PCM serves folks who come to us daily seeking aid, keeping in mind that we may be "entertaining angels unaware." We recognize that every person, as a child of God, deserves to be treated with courtesy and respect.



## PCM Board Members Providing Guidance in 2020

Board Chair	Chris Beal
Board Vice-Chair	Erle Tremper
Treasurer	Brandon Oliver
Attorney	Mark Ashburn

Ben Boone	John Caywood	Iftakhar Choudhury	Dean Emerson
Susan Engle	Chris Krueger	Sarah Stewart-Holland	Erin Murphy
Maribel Phelps	Michael Resnick	Rosa Scott	Cindy Erickson-Zaninovich

## A COOPERATIVE EFFORT in 2020

Amazing Grace Lutheran	Massac United Methodist
Arcadia United Methodist	Milburn Chapel Cumberland Presby.
Bethel Tabernacle	Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist
Broadway United Methodist	New Covenant Fellowship
Concord United Methodist	New Ebenezer
East Baptist	Newton Creek Baptist
Faith Center of Paducah	Oakalone Christian
First Baptist Church of Paducah	Olivet Baptist
First Christian Church	Paducah Seventh Day Adventist
First Presbyterian	Palestine United Methodist
Fountain Avenue United Methodist	Reidland Church of Christ
Gospel Mission Worship Center	Reidland United Methodist
Grace Baptist	River of Hope
Grace Covenant Cumberland Presby.	Rosary Chapel
Grace Episcopal	St. John A.M.E.
Grace Fellowship	St. John the Evangelist
Greenhouse	St. Matthew Lutheran
Harrison Street Baptist	St. Matthew by the Lake
Highland Baptist	St. Paul Lutheran
Highland Cumberland Presbyterian	St. Thomas More Catholic
Hope Chapel	Temple Israel
Immanuel Baptist	Trinity Baptist
Islamic Center of Paducah	Trinity United Methodist
Lebanon United Methodist	Twelve Oaks Baptist
Lone Oak United Methodist	United Church of Paducah
Macedonia Missionary Baptist	Way of Christ
Reidland Christian	West End Baptist
	Woodlawn Cumberland Presbyterian

**Thank you for your faithful support!**



## STAYING STEADY: SERVICES PROVIDED IN 2020

### EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY PROGRAM

The PCM food pantry program saw a lot of action in 2020, much of it very good! Generous donations and monthly USDA commodity items kept our food supply strong and allowed volunteers and staff to distribute more food than ever before.

Staff and volunteers wheeled the food in the back door at PCM and before long, we wheeled it right back out again to waiting cars. We put a lot of miles on our buggies, wagons and hand trucks. The pallet jack got a good workout too!

A 7 to 8-day supply of food was given on nearly **4,000** occasions, averaging over **300** households monthly. The cost to carry out this important program was **\$104,570**.

### COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM

#### **For our Seniors on Fixed Incomes**

The "CSFP" is a federal nutrition program administered through the Paducah Cooperative Ministry for McCracken County. This program provided government commodity food items such as milk, juice, cereal, fruit, vegetables and rice to **404** individuals EACH month in 2020.

***Individuals are eligible for this program if they are at least 60 years of age, reside in McCracken County and meet federal income guidelines.***

**For more information on how to apply for this program, contact Kathy at the PCM office, 270-442-6795. It's easy!**

### EMERGENCY MEALS ON WHEELS

In cooperation with area hospitals and the Paducah/McCracken Senior Center, this program funds *temporary* Meals on Wheels, up to six weeks for senior citizens returning home from hospitalization. Referrals come from the hospital social services staff for folks with special needs. Meals are prepared and delivered by volunteers from the Senior Center. In 2020 PCM funded **154** meals for a cost of **\$1,110**.

## Ministry in a Time of Pandemic \*\* 2020



It is fair to say that COVID-19 derailed everyone in the spring of 2020. The new year began, with business as usual. By the first of March however, unimaginable changes began taking place in every direction, for all of us.

Some of the significant changes allowing PCM to remain open and carrying out our mission in a time of pandemic included:

- Only staff and a few volunteers had access to the building.
- All requests for assistance were handled over the telephone.
- No phone? Staff stepped outside to talk business in the parking lot.
- Handmade masks were donated to PCM and shared with one and all
- A sanitation station was established with protocol.
- Curbside delivery of food from the pantry was our new procedure.
- New admissions to Fresh Start Village were reduced for safety reasons.
- Emergency motel lodging became a new shelter option.
- Inter-agency collaboration stepped up to deliver food during lock-down.
- Financial assistance cap was lifted from \$100 up to \$500.
- Food pantry significantly increased the amount of food given to each household.



**PCM is grateful for your Donations of:**

**Financial Gifts**

**Food Pantry Items**

**Cleaning Products, Toilet Paper, Diapers, Paper Towels & Trash Bags**

**\*\*Unfortunately, PCM is not able to accept clothing donations as we do not have the storage capacity.**

## PROGRAMS: HOMELESS CONCERNS



PCM provided emergency care at the **Fresh Start Village** to **72** women and **52** children for a total of **109** individuals residing at the shelter program in 2020.

In addition, we provided emergency motel lodging to more than **93** additional households who experienced homelessness due to complications created by the pandemic in 2020.

**In all, more than 8,000 nights of shelter were provided by the Paducah Cooperative Ministry in 2020.** Total cost of the homeless services program in 2020 was **\$289,412**.

Services to displaced persons and **Fresh Start Village** residents included transportation assistance, groceries, personal hygiene kits, essential prescription medications and basic household necessities.

Case management for all households provided guidance and support to identify action steps and referrals needed to continue the journey to the next level.

Households had the opportunity to apply for **“Move-Out”** funds to help with required deposits when the pieces are beginning to come together.

- Last year the Fresh Start Village program made a difference to mothers like **Nicole**, who stayed at our shelter with her son for eight months. When the pandemic closed schools, Nicole and her son, both students, continued to take their classes on-line. While living at the Fresh Start Village, Nicole eliminated her debt to a previous landlord who then offered the small family a new, affordable rental option.
- A disastrous relationship cost **Alicia** everything she valued. Now on her own, she arrived at the shelter in early January 2020. Through encouragement, her determination and hard work, Alicia found a job and saved enough money to accept an apartment in October 2020. PCM helped her with household items for her new home and money for her deposit.

**Rebuilding a life is never easy.  
It takes time, persistence and hard work. But it can be done!**

## PCM LENDING A HAND IN TOUGH TIMES

### URGENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

PCM provided emergency funding assistance to more than **1,000** McCracken County households in 2020. Over **\$133,249** was spent to help our neighbors in the following ways:

- **544** Households were helped with **utilities** to avoid disconnection
- **309** Households were helped with **rent** to avoid eviction from their homes
- **21** Individuals were helped **to get back home** or to an available shelter
- **91** Individuals were helped to obtain **replacement photo identification**
- **13** Individuals were helped to purchase **essential medication**
- **75** Households received a fan to help **beat the summertime heat**
- **74** Households received help with **diapers, formula and baby food**
- Countless people received hats, gloves and scarves to help **stay warm!**

Randy and Marcie fell on some hard times this year when work hours were cut, both at Randy's bartending job and Marcie's job as a server at a local restaurant. Then, the car needed a new battery and Randy fell ill with the COVID virus.

They got behind in their bills, like so many people last year. How would they ever catch up? Fortunately, Randy had a good recovery and was able to get back to work. PCM helped them catch up with the rent and provided food from the pantry to give them a lift.

During the year we saw an unprecedented increase in people coming to PCM for help who were unsheltered, on foot, or traveling by bicycle, while sleeping in places unfit for human habitation. Some were living week by week in a local motel.

The number of transient clients nearly doubled from an average of 13 a month by June, to 22 a month by December.

A new ministry area was created to provide sleeping bags, blankets, sleeping mats, socks, winter wear, ready-to-eat food and can openers; personal hygiene kits; backpacks and tote bags.

**We appreciated all the donations of these practical items which allowed PCM to respond at a deeper level!**

## MOONLIGHT RIDE 2020

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Moonlight Ride also felt the effects of COVID-19! We were challenged to design and carry out an event but make sure everyone was safe. The result? Instead of one evening of cycling, what about a week's worth? Between July 25<sup>th</sup> and August 3<sup>rd</sup>, nearly 200 cyclists enjoyed an exciting ride through Lower Town, Downtown, and the West Side of Paducah. Cyclists signed the Moonlight Ride banner and posted photos of themselves on the Moonlight Ride Facebook page.

The effort raised **\$13,894** to support our programs in the community. Since the first event, the cycling community has contributed well over \$100,000 to PCM. Our thanks to Chain Reaction Cycling Club, Martha Emmons and Hutch Smith at BikeWorld, and Erin and Justin Lewis for their years of support, good advice, and friendship.

For event updates, check out [www.moonlightridepaducah.com](http://www.moonlightridepaducah.com), curtesy of David Morse at Design Works Paducah.

## **We love our Volunteers!**



Even during a time of pandemic, PCM volunteers provided more than **3,500** hours of service in 2020, providing an estimated value of **\$77,630** in donated labor to keep PCM programs going! We absolutely could not have done it without them. They keep the boat afloat!

### **Program Opportunities for Volunteers:**

- Food Pantry Teammate
- Monthly Senior Commodity Distribution
- Donation Pick-Ups
- Telephone Receptionist
- Sorting and Organizing Donations
- Special skills & interests – tell us what they are!

**To find out more about volunteer activities, contact Karen Burton at 270-442-6795**

## WHAT DOES HOMELESSNESS LOOK LIKE IN McCRACKEN COUNTY?

As a society, we think we know what homelessness looks like. We believe we can recognize it when we see it. Sometimes we are right, it's obvious. But sometimes we are shocked to see that homelessness can look just like us or those we care about.

- Your grocery store cashier might sleep every night on a different co-worker's couch and dream of saving enough money for her own place.
- The restaurant server taking care of you tonight might leave a six-hour shift to clean offices for another six to have enough to cover the rent and feed the kids.
- The student in your child's class who disrupts everything might not know where his family will sleep tonight or even tomorrow night.

## **Demographics of the Fresh Start Village in 2020**

**Might bust some stereotypes . . .**

### Ages of our Residents

Under age 18	37 children
18 – 29	24 individuals
30 – 39	15 individuals
40 – 49	23 individuals
50 – 59	7 individuals
60 +	3 individuals

### Household Composition

Single Females	54
Single Mothers w/children	18

### Races Represented

Caucasian	57
African-American	43
Hispanic	8
Bi-racial or multi-racial	1

### Adult Residents with Special Needs **92%**

This could be any number of conditions which would cause a person to have barriers to success or need additional help to achieve the goal of stable housing. This would include physical illness or disability, mental illness, learning disability or history of substance abuse.

### Adult residents with Income **86%**

Employment	36 adults
Social Security	18 adults
K-TAP	4 adults

### Adult Education Achievement

80% of shelter residents have high school diplomas or better!

