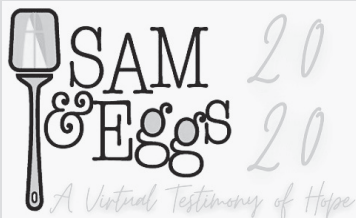


# THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Volume 27, Issue 2

Summer 2020



## SAM & EGGS 2020: A VIRTUAL TESTIMONY OF HOPE

Wednesday, September 30  
8 a.m. ONLINE at  
[samaritanforsyth.org](http://samaritanforsyth.org)



## PENNY CAMPAIGN

Kicks off October 1, 2020

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## TOUR DE LLAMA

Saturday, October 17, 2020  
Subject to change due to  
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Presented by:  Arbor  
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[samaritanforsyth.org](http://samaritanforsyth.org)



FOOD FOR THE BODY. HOPE FOR THE SOUL.

## A Big Welcome to Jan Kelly as Samaritan's New Executive Director

The Board of Directors of Samaritan Ministries has named Jan Kelly as the new executive director, effective July 1, 2020, following the retirement of longtime director Sonjia Kurosky.

Jan first joined Samaritan in 2011 as the capital campaign director, leading the effort of raising \$4.2 million to transition to the current building. Her leadership as development director since 2012 has led to a \$1.3 million annual budget, and she has significantly transformed and grown the Ministry's annual fundraising events. Jan has overseen and helped grow the efforts of volunteering and marketing, while developing and maintaining core relationships with Samaritan's supporters. She has been instrumental in budget development, strategic planning and personnel management by serving on the Management Team.

She brings 20 years of non-profit management experience to the role. Prior to her time at Samaritan, Jan served as Associate Director/Director of Development at Second Harvest Food Bank of NWNC and as Alumnae Director at Salem Academy.

With the assistance of Capital Development Services, the search committee, led by Keith Huskins, reviewed approximately 100 different



applicants from around the country. The committee prayerfully sought someone that embodies Samaritan's mission and love for our guests.

Announcing the decision in April, Clyde Cash, board chair, commented, "Jan will keep Samaritan Christ-centered, mission-focused and guest-focused. Our leadership team at Samaritan is strong, and we will have a smooth transition over the next two months to make sure Samaritan meets the needs of our guests, especially during the current COVID-19 crisis."

Jan Kelly said, "I am humbled and honored to follow Sonjia in this new role. We have an incredible team of staff, board and volunteers at Samaritan, and together, we'll keep moving our guests forward."

Join us in welcoming Jan as Samaritan's new executive director!

## AN ONGOING RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Like many others, Samaritan Ministries is seeing unprecedented changes in our ability to serve our guests in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Our goal since March has been to continue to provide services but with concern for guest, volunteer and staff safety.

Samaritan is working cooperatively within the Continuum of Care (COC) to develop solutions to problems faced by people experiencing homelessness. The COC includes all other shelter providers, and our daily calls include representatives from United Way, the Forsyth County Health Department, the City of Winston-Salem, hospitals and others.

We're so thankful to all of our partners with the Continuum of Care for taking special care of people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 crisis. The City of Winston-Salem, Forsyth County and other shelter providers are stepping up to provide leadership, funding and expertise for two temporary shelter facilities to meet special needs. Throughout the crisis, various additional shelters have been opened to help isolate homeless people who have been exposed to COVID-19 and to address the needs of homeless people with underlying health concerns highlighted by the CDC. We're especially grateful to the Bethesda Center, City with Dwellings, the City of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County for partnering to address these special needs. Samaritan has been providing breakfast, lunch and dinner, and many other providers like the United Way,



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*For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat ... I was a stranger and you invited me in ...*  
*Matthew 25:35*

## Samaritan Ministries BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

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Broker, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices  
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## Good News & Gratitude

I can't help but think of Sonjia Kurosky as I write this first Good News & Gratitude as executive director. Sonjia committed 27 years of her life to this Ministry and was consistently present in the lives of our guests. She listened, encouraged, celebrated – and often had just the right words to share with a guest on his journey through recovery. We wanted to have a big celebration for her and the 25th anniversary of the Project Cornerstone program this spring, but this will have to be delayed due to COVID-19.

When Sonjia hired me, she confidently told me that I would grow to love this place. It's not really the place, but it's the people who make up Samaritan – our guests, volunteers, staff, donors and board. Samaritan gives you a window of God's work all around us – whether it is a Project Cornerstone guest like James reuniting with his daughter or a mother providing lunch for her children or just the right food donation showing up at the back door. We each have a role to play and seeing how these different roles fit together is one of my favorite things. It is what makes me love this Ministry as Sonjia foretold.



These roles have changed as we have navigated through our response to COVID-19. We've missed our regular Soup Kitchen and shelter volunteers who bring so much joy and hope to our guests, but we're grateful to those who have stepped up to serve during this time. One such person is Beverly who stopped by the Ministry one afternoon with her father. Through her pink unicorn mask, Beverly explained how she and her sister hosted a lemonade stand. They wanted to get outside and provide neighbors with relief from the summer heat. With a large sign reading 'get a drink' and another with brightly colored letters reading l-e-m-o-n-a-d-e, the girls drew quite the crowd, safely socially distanced, of course.

Beverly and her sister raised sixty dollars, which is a lot of money that could have been spent on toys, dolls or special outfits. They donated their earnings to Samaritan, knowing that 21 people would receive a warm meal and that was more important than anything else they could buy.

Through the eyes of children, we see hope for our future and a way out of this crisis. Beverly was too young to hand out meals in the Soup Kitchen, but her role was to provide funding. Of course, she did much more than that. She cheered up her neighbors on a Sunday afternoon and brought smiles to our faces around Samaritan to know that people still care about our guests who have so little.

Keep playing your role at Samaritan and look for new ways to join in God's work in the lives of our guests. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as we continue to meet the need.

Grace and peace,

Jan Kelly, Executive Director





# Elizabeth West Receives Myrtie Davis Lifetime Volunteer Servant Leadership Award

Elizabeth West, the 2020 recipient of the Myrtie Davis Volunteer Servant Leadership Award, was born in Winston Salem on April 13, 1920. She died in 2008, after spending the majority of her life in her home city. She graduated from Winston Salem Teachers College (now WSSU) in 1941. She then received her Master's degree in Education from N.C. A&T State University and furthered her education at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. Pictured here is Elizabeth West (left) with founding director Ann Hensel.



Elizabeth was a founding volunteer at Samaritan and served on the very first Board of Directors. Sonja Kurosky, former executive director of Samaritan Ministries, says there are many stories about Elizabeth making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches the very first day the soup kitchen served lunch back in 1981. She was also well-known for her mini English muffin pizzas! From day one, she was a light that shone brightly on our guests and she continued her own special way of ministering at Samaritan for over 20 years.

She was a lifelong educator who dedicated herself to gaining and sharing knowledge. Steve Stover, the shelter manager at Samaritan Ministries, was lucky enough to have Elizabeth as his fourth-grade teacher. When asked to talk about her, Steve said, "She always made everyone feel special. She encouraged all to be the very best." Steve and Elizabeth kept in touch until he went into the military and then their paths crossed again at Samaritan. Steve says she was "more than an educator in school – she was an educator of life."

While Elizabeth was an amazing woman and caretaker of Samaritan's soup kitchen guests, she achieved other outstanding accomplishments in her community and beyond. As a long-time member of Lloyd Presbyterian church and an exceptional historian, she was key in getting Lloyd on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998. Those who knew her personally will



tell you that one of her proudest moments was meeting first lady Eleanor Roosevelt when she was a college student. The details of this are not very well known, but here she is pictured with Eleanor and her two Scotties in Hyde Park, NY. For fellow Samaritan volunteers and guests that had the pleasure to know Elizabeth, she is fondly remembered as a true angel on earth, who never stopped giving her wisdom and love to all.

This award seeks to honor a long-time volunteer for selfless commitment to Samaritan Ministries and our guests. The award is meant to be an encouragement to all of us to act on the words of Jesus in Matthew 25.

## continued from page 1

ESR and Empowerment Project have been developing housing plans so that these guests may move to their own housing rather than returning to a shelter.

Samaritan has made a number of adaptations to our service provision during these uncertain times:

- Soup Kitchen – operates as a "to go" lunch. Volunteers help prepare the boxes and hand them out on the sidewalk at Samaritan.
- The Shelter remains open for homeless men. We are screening guests daily with COVID-19 questions (travel, underlying health conditions, symptoms) and temperature checks. We have protocols in place to send guests for medical treatment. Guests are also encouraged to stay inside the shelter during daytime hours.
- We've had several site visits with the Forsyth County Health Department to advise us on proper cleaning and other protocols. We've installed Lexan/

Plexiglass barriers at the check-in counter and at the serving windows in the Soup Kitchen.

- On March 23, shelter counselors met one-on-one with shelter guests to discuss resources and options for other safe places to live. Through these meetings we were able to provide education about COVID-19 and to identify any underlying health concerns of guests. This allowed us to increase physical distancing between beds from 2 feet to 6 feet.
- Project Cornerstone men are continuing their recovery program here at Samaritan as their needs do not end because of the world crisis. We have increased outreach to former Cornerstone men — many of them suffer from anxiety and depression already, and the social distancing mandates are especially challenging to a population that must normally work hard not to isolate.
- Throughout the overall operation, we have additional cleaning and sanitation with emphasis on guests, staff and volunteer hand washing.

## Volunteers:

- In March, Samaritan reduced Soup Kitchen teams to 8 (down from 20-26) to increase physical distancing.
- In April, Samaritan eliminated overnight volunteer shifts to limit potential exposure to the virus for people in our building and because volunteer commitment had become erratic. Additional staff members were hired to help oversee the evening operations.
- Volunteers continue to help with grocery store food donation pick-ups, lunch shifts and shortened dinner shifts.
- Volunteers are still needed. Contact Vania Elliott at 336-748-1962 or visit [www.samaritanforsyth.org/volunteerreg](http://www.samaritanforsyth.org/volunteerreg) to find out current opportunities.

We expect the pandemic to continue to have a significant impact on our operations for many months to come. We are thankful for the support of a generous community to enable us to fulfill our mission of providing food, shelter and hope through Christian love.



FOOD FOR THE BODY. HOPE FOR THE SOUL.

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Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Phone: 336-748-1962  
Fax: 336-748-8207

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[www.samaritanforsyth.org](http://www.samaritanforsyth.org)

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## Soup Kitchen Year-Round Needs

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> meat protein<br>(chicken, beef, pork) | <input type="checkbox"/> sugar                       | <input type="checkbox"/> seasonings           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> coffee                                | <input type="checkbox"/> pasta                       | <input type="checkbox"/> steel wool soap pads |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> marinara/spaghetti<br>sauce |   |

## Seasonal: Summer 2020

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> to-go food containers<br>(three compartment) | <input type="checkbox"/> disposable cutlery kits            | (ketchup, mustard,<br>mayonnaise)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> disposable compartment<br>plates             | <input type="checkbox"/> disposable 16 oz<br>cups with lids | <input type="checkbox"/> salad dressing       |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> condiment packets                  | <input type="checkbox"/> individual chip bags |

We also accept prepared foods leftover from special events,  
corporate gatherings, etc. Drop off donations 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Shelter Year-Round Needs

- |  |  |                                       |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> deodorant (high priority) | <input type="checkbox"/> razors        | <input type="checkbox"/> lotion       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> soap bars (high priority) | <input type="checkbox"/> shaving cream | <input type="checkbox"/> rain ponchos |

## Seasonal: Summer 2020

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> WSTA bus passes<br>(high priority) | <input type="checkbox"/> laundry pods (HE)<br>(high priority) |
|---|---|

*Check out our year-round Amazon wish list to send  
items with just one click. Visit [www.samaritanforsyth.org/in-kind-gifts](http://www.samaritanforsyth.org/in-kind-gifts) for more information.*

## Volunteer Opportunities



### Immediate Need: Soup Kitchen Volunteers

We are still dependent on volunteers to help execute our to-go lunches. Visit our online registration portal to view when help is needed and to sign up. Please do not arrive without registering as we are always diligently enforcing the number of people in the building.

In March, Samaritan placed restrictions on volunteers to keep the most vulnerable at home. Without restrictions, we knew that dedicated volunteers would continue to serve, putting themselves at risk. These restrictions are reviewed on a regular basis, so please check our website for the most up to

date information.

Samaritan has implemented the following to ensure the safety of all volunteers:

- Reduced volunteer numbers to ensure social distancing
- Requiring masks for everyone inside the building
- Requiring social distancing
- Added additional sanitizing stations around the building
- Installed sneeze guards at front desk and serving line
- Temperature checks performed on everyone inside the building daily
- Guests receiving to-go lunches come up to building one at a time
- Additional cleaning and sanitation of high traffic areas

### Soup Kitchen Volunteers

Lunch shifts run from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Help prepare and serve to-go lunches to hundreds of hungry neighbors every day.

### Grocery Pick Ups

We have several needs for volunteers to pick up items from local grocery stores and drop them off at Samaritan. The stores include: Lowes Food, Food Lion, The Fresh Market, Target, Whole Foods and Sam's Club.

### Dinner Helper

We need a volunteer nightly to help the Soup Kitchen staff prepare dinner from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact Vania Elliott, volunteer coordinator, at 336-748-1962 or [vania.elliott@samaritanforsyth.org](mailto:vania.elliott@samaritanforsyth.org).

**Be sure to visit [www.samaritanforsyth.org/volunteerreg](http://www.samaritanforsyth.org/volunteerreg) to sign up for your next volunteer shift!**