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## A Path Worth Taking: Former Project Cornerstone guest shares his experience to help inspire others



Billy U., Project Cornerstone Graduate

*"I always kept going back to the same playgrounds. Going back to my old stomping grounds. I just kept relapsing and relapsing, so when I got into Samaritan Ministries, they had an in-house, long-term program, which is what I wanted."*

Project Cornerstone is a long-term residential recovery program serving men with a history of addiction who also are experiencing homelessness. The program addresses core causes of homelessness and eliminates barriers to employment and permanent housing. In our most recent year's statistics, we show 80% success in men completing the program and moving to permanent housing.

**Billy recognizes that hard work paid off. He loves what Samaritan did for him and says, "Man, Cornerstone—that was a job getting through the program."**

For Billy U., a former Project Cornerstone guest, looking back on his road to recovery has allowed him to provide support to those facing similar circumstances. From an early age, Billy experienced many adversities from being separated from his family at age 13 to struggling with drugs as an adult to suppressing mental and emotional barriers from former relationships.

After years of moving back and forth from the West Coast to North Carolina while still using drugs, he decided it was time to make a change. Billy entered our Project Cornerstone program on 11/11/11, after participating in several recovery programs in the Piedmont Triad area.



Lanie Pope of WXII 12 & Lora Songster of Mix 99.5 collect donations at Collection Day

## MAKING IT COUNT: Samaritan's Annual Penny Campaign raises \$78,387

Thanks to the enormous amount of community support and efforts, our 2021 Penny Campaign was a great success! We surpassed our goal of \$70,000 and raised \$78,387. We are grateful for everyone who shared, campaigned, formed a team/ contributed individually, or came through on collection day at Truist Stadium, home of the Winston-Salem Dash. Your donations will help provide 19,450 meals or 1,175 nights of shelter.

A huge thank you to our generous sponsors: WXII 12's Lanie Pope, Deuteran Law Group, *The Winston-Salem Journal*, and Lamar Advertising for advocating and supporting our campaign efforts. Every donor truly made a difference, one penny at a time!



**JUNE 25, 2022**

**DIVINE LLAMA VINEYARDS**

To register or receive updates, please visit our website at [samaritanforsyth.org](http://samaritanforsyth.org) or check us out on Facebook or Instagram.

## Samaritan Wish List

Soup Kitchen Year-Round Needs	Soup Kitchen Immediate and Seasonal Needs	Shelter Year-Round Needs
Meat: protein chicken, ground beef/ turkey, or canned tuna	Large cans of tuna	Men's deodorant
Milk: gallons	Large cans of chicken	Soap bars
Sugar	Condiment packets: ketchup, mustard, mayo, tartar sauce, and hot sauce	Travel size lotion
Pasta	Relish	Shaving cream
Marinara/spaghetti sauce	Hot dogs & buns	WSTA single or bulk bus passes
Seasonings: garlic powder, onion powder, poultry, taco, paprika	Frozen hamburger patties & buns	Rain ponchos
Fruit and Vegetables: fresh produce or large cans (#10)	Kool-Aid	
Plastic cups with lids	Salad dressing	
	Individual chip bags	
	Disposable bowls	
	Seasonings: Old Bay, lemon pepper, poultry, and dill	

## Volunteer Opportunities

Samaritan Ministries needs volunteers to help with lunch and dinner. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Samaritan continues to follow COVID-19 protocols for homeless shelters to create a safe environment for volunteers, guests, and staff.



Mikayla, a Soup Kitchen volunteer, preparing baked goods for shelter guests

### Soup Kitchen Volunteers

9 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Mon–Sat and 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m. on Sun. Help prepare and serve to-go lunches to hundreds of hungry neighbors.

**Dinner Assistance** Every night: 4–7:30 p.m. Help the Soup Kitchen staff prepare and serve dinner.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact Shirelle Stewart-Riddick, volunteer coordinator, at 336-748-1962 or [shirelle.stewart-riddick@samaritanforsyth.org](mailto:shirelle.stewart-riddick@samaritanforsyth.org)

**Hunger doesn't stop for COVID-19.**  
Volunteer today at [samaritanforsyth.org/volunteerreg/](http://samaritanforsyth.org/volunteerreg/)



*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**

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Good News & Gratitude



My husband and I were watching the morning news a few days ago, and we wondered, is there any good news out there?

At Samaritan, we have our share of discouraging news. We hear the trauma our guests have experienced; for many, it’s a miracle they even made it to the door of the shelter. We hear the details each day—a relapse, a broken relationship, an eviction. Our guests share with us their disappointments, their personal loss, and also their dreams.

In our staff meetings, we intentionally share positive stories to stay focused on the hope people find at Samaritan. A guest completed the requirements of mental health court and will be moving back home with his family. Samaritan was a stopping off point to learn and grow. A Cornerstone guest completed the program and moved to his own apartment. Samaritan was a place to learn about recovery and make connections for lifelong support. Another guest agreed to attend a group session with our social work intern from United Health Centers. He took a first step to address his health concerns.

In this newsletter, we’re highlighting Billy who arrived at Samaritan just before I started working here 11 years ago. Billy and I used to spend time after Cornerstone class catching up on the good news of the day. He wasn’t sure what his next steps would be, but he kept putting one foot in front of the other. He was encouraged. He was determined. He was hopeful.

We believed in Billy’s worth and potential to overcome his adversities. It’s this success that gives us encouragement for others who strive to transform their lives. God works in us and through us each day. Our hope is to bring out the best in all of us. This is the good news that is Samaritan Ministries.

Sincerely,

Jan Kelly, Executive Director

Meet Jerry Enos: Recipient of the 2021 Good Samaritan Philanthropy Award



As a long-time volunteer and former board member, Jerry has embodied our mission by demonstrating that compassion means action. In the beginning, Jerry served alongside parishioners at St. Leo’s Church by overnight volunteering through the Samaritan Inn, providing dinner and serving

breakfast to our guests. He continued his work with Samaritan by helping to grow our endowment, leading our Major Gifts committee, and serving as a board member as Treasurer then later became our Board President. During his term as president, he provided incredible leadership, support, and stability to continue serving our guests.

“The only way I could ever accept this type of recognition is on behalf of everybody who I worked with at Samaritan. So many people have encouraged me, been role models, and helped build my faith, whether it was a staff member, a volunteer, and even our guests,” Jerry said. “The guests are such examples of moving forward, perseverance, and getting through tough times. To see Jesus in their hearts touched the Jesus in my heart, which is the greatest gift of all time.”

We thank Jerry for leading by example and nurturing our vision to be good stewards of all gifts while encouraging others to come together to help our hungry and homeless neighbors in need.

The Good Samaritan Philanthropy Award was established in 2011 to honor an individual or group who has made significant contributions to Samaritan Ministries. Our hope is that by recognizing this individual or group, Samaritan will be able to further raise awareness about our needs in the community. The Award should inspire others to give of their time, talents, and resources to help the hungry and homeless of our community.

2021 Gratitude Report



As we look back and reflect on the impact Samaritan had in our community in 2021, our appreciation for the support we continue receive is abundant. Together with a dedicated staff, willing volunteers, generous donors, and many supporters of our work, we remain committed more than ever to **always be prepared to serve.**

The Soup Kitchen continues to operate with to-go meals to hundreds of men, women, and children daily. In 2021, Samaritan **served 101,216 meals**, which included lunches, meals for shelter guests, and partnering with local housing and COVID isolation facilities helping those in need. The Samaritan Inn continues to operate at reduced capacity to provide proper distance between beds. Last year, we provided **13,444 nights of shelter to 300 different men.**

As they say, many helping hands can help heal a community. We are thankful for our beloved volunteers and community partners.

Between the Soup Kitchen daytime and nighttime operations, **959 volunteers** invested **14,006 hours of service.**

Our shelter team collaborated with Experiment in Self-Reliance to help place **39 guests into permanent housing.** The Empowerment Project, our partnership with Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist’s Division of Faith and Health Ministries, continues to work closely with homeless adults experiencing health and substance abuse disorder. In 2021, The Empowerment Project connected **96 homeless adults with resources** enabling them to work toward housing, health, and income. United Health Centers continued their weekly clinic and provided services for **85 guests during 162 office visits** last year.

Project Cornerstone celebrated 26 years of helping homeless men recover from substance abuse while addressing any mental challenge associated with navigating through a pandemic. We are proud of the men who continue their sobriety and encourage their peers to walk the same path.

Help Samaritan Always Be Prepared:  
\$65,000 MATCH CHALLENGE

Samaritan is always prepared to meet our guests’ needs in a number of ways.

An anonymous donor is offering a \$65,000 gift if Samaritan can raise an additional \$65,000 to help prepare the Ministry for the future.

Through June 30, your gift will double its impact in our community. Please designate 65K match with your donation via check or online.