SAMARITAN MINISTRIES
FOOD FOR THE BODY. HOPE FOR THE SOUL.

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## Every Gift Matters

The Penny Campaign is a reminder that giving isn't about the size of the gift. This grassroots fundraiser illustrates the power of coming together as a community to care for our neighbors. Join us this season because every gift matters and every act of kindness counts.

The Penny Campaign runs Nov. 1–Dec.31. Return your donations to Samaritan Ministries before the end of 2026 or join us for Collection Day on Saturday, Dec. 5, the first Saturday in December.

Visit **samaritanforsyth.org/pennycampaign** to get involved.

**Ways to GIVE HOPE and get involved:**

- **Donate** online or by mail.
- **Pick up your collection jar(s)** and ask others to add coins, bills, and checks or give online using our QR code. Stop by Samaritan Ministries anytime Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
- **Join Sonjia's Circle & raise funds online.** Sign up for your personalized fundraising page to share via email, text, or social media, inspiring friends to support our cause.

SCAN ME

# THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Fall 2026

## Showing Up. Giving Hope. Changing Lives.

### Celebrating our Community







*Volunteer Eden Porter enjoys catching up with weekly guests. (top) / Toni Joiner, Sherman Transou, Adrienne Domingo, and Krisi Linton serving lunch to guests in the Soup Kitchen. (bottom right)*

For 45 years, Samaritan Ministries has been a place of hope in our community, providing food, shelter, and support every day of the year. Thanks to the generosity of volunteers, donors, churches, businesses, and community partners, Samaritan has remained open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for 16,644 consecutive days, serving more than 5.2 million meals to those facing hunger. These milestones represent countless acts of compassion and a community that continues to stand beside those facing difficult circumstances.

That spirit of community was on full display at SAM & Eggs 2026, where more than 500 people gathered to celebrate the impact of Samaritan Ministries. Guests heard from Jose Perez Jr., now 23 years sober, who serves as a Peer Support Specialist with Behavioral Health Services, housed at the Forsyth County Libraries, helping others navigate their own paths toward recovery and stability. "I didn't just come here brimming with love, honesty, open-mindedness, and happiness," he recalled. "I just knew I wanted the pain to stop, and my support group at Samaritan met me right where I was at." **His story is a powerful reminder that our work is about more than a meal or a place to stay. It can spark transformation, restore hope, and build a foundation for a brighter future.**

Whether you volunteer, donate, attend an event, or share our mission with others, you are helping create opportunities for lasting change. Thank you for standing alongside Samaritan Ministries and ensuring that our guests find resources, hope, and healing to move forward with their lives.

**"My support group at Samaritan met me right where I was at."**
- Jose Perez Jr., Project Cornerstone Participant

SAM & Eggs
ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our sponsors and supporters, **SAM & Eggs 2026 raised $313,028.03!** Every dollar helps provide food, shelter, recovery support, and hope to neighbors in need.

Don't forget: Two anonymous donors are matching all new (or increased) gifts for a limited time, up to $250,000. Give today and make twice the difference.

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**View the event rebroadcast video online!**
**samaritanforsyth.org/sam-and-eggs**

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


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# Good News & Gratitude

## Everyday Moments Matter



*Long-time volunteer Carol Saxon offers support and encouragement to a guest in the Soup Kitchen.*

Thanksgiving gives us an opportunity to reflect on our many blessings—faith, family, health, employment, our place to call home. Our long-time executive director Sonjia Kurosky once reminded me that most of our guests are also grateful, but others are not because they are still hurting. And that's why the everyday moments of food, shelter, and guidance matter at Samaritan Ministries.

Everyday moments are critically important for survival. People eat in our Soup Kitchen because they don't know where their next meal is coming from. They are hungry. The lunch meal is often someone's first interaction with Samaritan and leads to shelter, recovery, community connections, and more.

Everyday moments allow us the opportunity to listen to what's going on. Someone who has experienced childhood trauma or walks through uncertainty daily needs safety, structure, and kindness to begin to heal. No one ever plans to be homeless, and it takes time to create a future roadmap once you've hit rock bottom.

Everyday moments are about hospitality and treating people with dignity and respect. For four decades, thousands of volunteers have walked alongside of our guests to show God's love in action. The smile you bring may be the only encouragement someone feels in a day.

It is life-changing to see gratitude on full display at Samaritan Ministries and know that healing is taking place. We see a guest jingling keys to an apartment, experience the laughter of young children in our dining room, and hear the testimony of Project Cornerstone men with changed thinking and new lives ahead. Thank you for joining in our work through your continued prayers, volunteer engagement, and generosity. You make a difference in the lives of our guests this season and throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Jan Kelly

Jan Kelly, Executive Director

**"It is life-changing to see gratitude on full display at Samaritan Ministries and know that healing is taking place."**

- Jan Kelly, Executive Director

# Strangers, Angels, Messengers of God

## Recovery as a Path to Possibility



*Joining hands in a circle, Catholic Charities asked God to bless Project Cornerstone and their donation entrusted to Samaritan Ministries.*

Many people walk through our doors every day simply trying to survive and make ends meet. But on the days when someone celebrates a milestone like 50 days of sobriety, we're reminded of the life-changing choices that can begin here.

After years of cycling through detox programs and sober houses, Jeff E. made the decision to pursue recovery with a new mindset and determination.

"I was sick and tired of being sick and tired," he said. "I wasted a lot of years. I'm ready to own my own place."

Now over 50 days sober, Jeff is experiencing better health, clearer thinking, and a renewed sense of gratitude. He credits his progress to focusing on what he can control, accepting what he cannot, and embracing a strong support system.

"I have gratitude for another day and another chance," he shared. "I just needed a new network and a higher power."

Jeff's journey reflects the heart of Samaritan Ministries. As Executive Director Jan Kelly says, "Samaritan Ministries is an entire community that cares about your future." That community can make all the difference. Senior Shelter Counselor Donnie Scott, who has been in recovery for 38 years, reflects on his journey: "People loved me until I could love myself. They were strangers, angels, messengers of God."

While Jeff's story is still being written, each day of sobriety brings him one step closer to the future he hopes to attain.

**"People loved me until I could love myself. They were strangers, angels, messengers of God."**

- Donnie Scott, Senior Shelter Counselor

# Holiday Cards for a Cause




This holiday season, celebrate the people who matter most by sharing **a gift that changes lives**. Samaritan Ministries Christmas cards can be purchased in honor or memory of a loved one, with a minimum donation of $10 per card. Every donation helps provide meals, shelter, and critical support for people in crisis.

**Order your cards today:**
samaritanforsyth.org/christmas-cards

# Year-End Impact Opportunities

Looking for additional ways to make an impact before year-end?

**Consider a gift through:**
- Stock donations
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)
- Donor-Advised Fund distributions
- Estate plans to create a lasting legacy

You can also support our mission through in-kind donations. Our online wish list includes needed items for the Soup Kitchen and Shelter.

**View our current needs:** samaritanforsyth.org/in-kind

Questions? Please contact Anna Rainey, Development Director, at (336) 448-2668 or anna.rainey@samaritanforsyth.org.



