

Williamsburg
HOUSE OF MERCY



Impact Report
July 2023-June 2024

PROVIDING A HELPING HAND TO THE MOST VULNERABLE AMONG US

Williamsburg House Of Mercy (WHOM) is a faith-based 501c3 non-profit which provides quality, compassionate human services to all people, especially the most vulnerable, regardless of faith, race, gender, or age. Its service area includes the City of Williamsburg, James City County and Upper York County.

WHOM not only focuses help on the most vulnerable in our service area living below the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,880 for an individual or \$26,500 for a family of four, but equally important, on Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) households which are an additional 35-28% of residents in our tri-county service area.

We provide a safe and welcoming environment for those seeking respite and assist financially for individuals or families struggling to make ends meet through our **OUTREACH MISSION**.

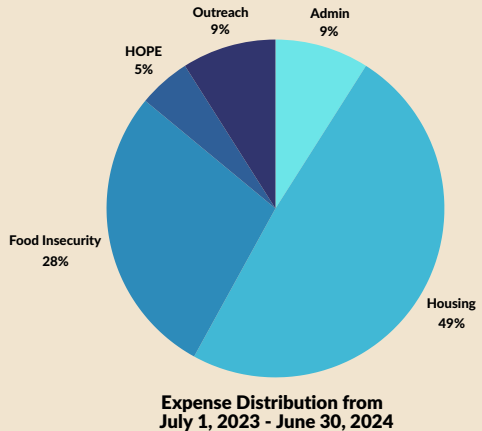
We are an advocate for those who are working towards ending homelessness and offer a holistic case management approach through our **HOUSING MISSION**.

We provide confidential counseling and resources for expectant mothers and new families through our **HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER MISSION**.

For those facing food insecurity, we offer fresh and shelf stable food as well as other pantry items in an effort to ensure equitable access through our **FOOD MISSION**.

Our **Community Kitchen** serves a fresh protein enriched meal each weekday to anyone in our community in need of a meal.

In September 2023, we re-opened our **Harbor Day Shelter**, the area's only day shelter offering respite for those experiencing homelessness. Through these efforts, the shelter had 2,428 visits from homeless individuals from September 2023 - June 2024. 3,299 meals were provided for these individuals of a breakfast and lunch.



THE IMPACT OF MERCY

JULY 2023 - JUNE 2024



45,007

individuals served
on the drive-thru
food pantry



12,388

meals prepared and
served by our
Community Kitchen



504

families received
Thanksgiving
meal ingredients



57

individuals rapidly
rehoused



42

individuals saved
from eviction



11,585

diapers provided



248

helped from utility
disconnects



155

mothers helped
through HOPE



534

families received
Christmas Toys

THE WHOM IMPACT

I am floored when I look at the numbers of what we accomplish through our efforts at the House of Mercy, but our success comes with the realization that our beautiful community of Greater Williamsburg has a population of residents deeply in need of our assistance.

While we're able to handle the immediate resource someone is in need of, we've now began to look at offering programs to help on a deeper level by assisting our clients in obtaining self-sustainability more quickly. In March 2024, we held our first job fair and then in May, our first health fair. Both attempt to connect our clients with resources they may otherwise be too intimidated to try on their own or not have the time for due to other obligations.

Through these efforts, over 60 clients had the opportunity to meet with employers like Kingsmill Resort, Vacation Villages, McDonalds, Habitat ReStore, and College Hunk and Junk Removal. Our health fair brought Sentara Maternal Health Resources, Lackey Free Clinic, Bon Secours, and The Lions Club of James City County on-site to offer basic health and eye/ear screenings and tests and helped 40 of our housing clients and those who use our Harbor Day Shelter. Many coming to WHOM face the barrier of transportation so the on-site care offers a "one stop shop" model which has yielded tremendous success for us to date.

The staff of WHOM have a heartfelt passion to not only provide the "fish" to eat, but the "fishing rod" and instructions on how to fish on your own. We are hopeful that while our mission serves immediacy, long-term it helps break the cycle that so many find themselves in by restoring their confidence and faith in themselves and in their neighbors.

Thank you for being a part of our our continued success,

Liz Buckley

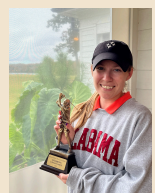
Executive Director

GATHERING FOR GOOD

The success of our Inaugural Gala on June 9, 2024 raised \$94,536.75 for all areas of the WHOM mission! We look forward to seeing you and your Hawaiian attire on June 1, 2025 for our 2nd Gala - mark your calendar!



Our Second Annual Golf Tournament held on October 31, 2023 raised \$11,000 for our Thanksgiving Food Mission, which helped us serve 494 families with all the meal ingredients needed to make their own special holiday meal.



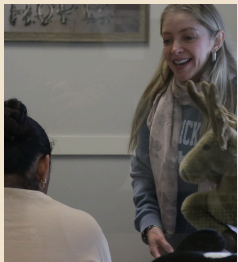
We ♥ our Volunteers

The WHOM volunteers are the backbone of our operation, enabling us to do more and be more present in our community of Greater Williamsburg. We are truly blessed for their involvement and dedication to our organization!

**From July 2023 - June 2024,
WHOM received a total of 18,446 volunteer hours,
valued at \$617,778.00!**

Volunteer opportunities abound at WHOM: food distribution, reception, assisting in our financial assistance calls, special events on weekends, mock interviews for our clients at job fairs, picking up donations of food, community kitchen ...

wherever you have a passion to help, we have a position!



OUR PARTNERSHIPS STRENGTHEN US

In October 2023, the WHOM Open House welcomed old and new friends to come meet with staff and volunteers to learn about all areas of our mission.

Community Partnerships enable us to offer more wrap-around services to our clients. Through these partnerships, we are able to offer medical referrals or to ask for another agency to provide a service that WHOM doesn't provide.

Together, we are better.



OUR PARTNERSHIPS STRENGTHEN US

In the fall of 2023, we worked with the William & Mary Raymond A. Mason School of Business on a semester long consulting project which provided foundational work for our 2025-2028 Strategic Planning.



On September 7, 2023, the Harbor Day Shelter officially re-opened after being closed due to Covid.



In the spring of 2024, WHOM entered into a Name Image and Likeness (NIL) agreement with Bronson Yoder, Running Back, for W&M Tribe Football.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS STRENGTHEN US

Food and toiletry drives throughout Greater Williamsburg and donations from area restaurants/supermarkets provided 200,258 pounds of donations.



In the winter of 2024, Therapy Dogs Norman (left), Solomon, and Abby (right) began making monthly visits to our Harbor Day Shelter guests.

Sessions with therapy dogs have proven to reduce blood pressure as effectively as dietary restrictions, such as elimination of sodium or alcohol. Therapy dogs can also ease depression, boosting oxytocin levels by as much as 300%.



Planned Giving for WHOM

The purpose of both the WHOM Planned Giving held at the Lumen Christi Society and WHOM Endowment with the Williamsburg Community Foundation are to support the mission of the Williamsburg House of Mercy for future generations by providing for the needs of tomorrow. Funds are held in perpetuity and invested, and the accumulated appreciation and income on the investment is used to fund an annual distribution. This makes it possible to provide financial support to WHOM over the long-term as it continues to carry out its mission and ministry.



The Sister Berenice Planned Giving Fund, established by the Williamsburg House of Mercy through the Lumen Christi Society, is meant to honor the decades-long Ministry of Mercy of Sister Berenice Eltz to the poor of the Greater Williamsburg community. Every donor who has thoughtfully and carefully considered a tax-deductible charitable gift can have confidence that their philanthropic act will continue to benefit those most vulnerable in our community for years to come.

The Williamsburg Community Foundation Endowment Fund for the Williamsburg House of Mercy was established for donors who wish to support local non-profits in the Greater Williamsburg area and subscribe to the WCF vision of a vibrant community where everyone has an opportunity to thrive. The WCF endowment for WHOM has a contribution minimum of \$10,000.00. These funds are also held in perpetuity and will use the standard distribution formula set by the WCF Board of Directors for annual funding to WHOM.

Please contact [Liz Buckley](mailto:Liz@williamsburghouseofmercy.org) to set up either contribution:
757-229-3700 or Liz@williamsburghouseofmercy.org

Advocates of Mercy

is a giving circle committed to helping the most vulnerable in our area. By making a financial or volunteer commitment to the Williamsburg House of Mercy, you allow us to focus on meeting the needs of our community. Your support brings the value of radical hospitality to life.

Consider how your support will allow the Williamsburg House of Mercy to welcome each person as they are, to provide respite for the weary, and transformation for the ready.

We ask our Advocates of Mercy to make a commitment in one of the following ways:

- Make a monthly gift for at least one calendar year
- Make an annual gift of \$5,000 or more

Scan the QR Code to become an Advocate of Mercy today!

