

Each Day is a Gift

On my first day as Executive Director in April 2005, I was struck by how the happy sounds of children in our Pathways for Youth program permeated the Presbyterian Community Center. I have had the privilege of hearing that joyous commotion nearly every afternoon I have worked here. It's as if everything comes alive when the children enter the building, and it reminds me daily of how our work has the power to change lives for the better. Working with the staff, volunteers, donors, and clients at the PCC has blessed my life with countless moments of hope and pride in our community. I look back on each day as a gift. As I prepare to retire at the end of April, I want to offer my heartfelt gratitude to everyone responsible for sharing these gifts with me. Thank you for your support.

-Karen McNally, Executive Director

Starting Over

In November, a single mother of seven children visited PCC seeking assistance. The previous year had been very challenging for her. She had been forced to move and start from scratch, leaving everything behind. She had used most of her funds finding housing. PCC connected her with various community resources to find beds for her children. Then, our most generous donors stepped up to provide much-needed household items, food, and Christmas gifts for the family. We so appreciate all who helped this family start over with a new beginning for 2024.

Capital Campaign Update

A \$70,000 grant from the Roanoke Women's Foundation and donations of \$50,000 from Norfolk Southern Corporation and \$11,300 from The Robert H. and Doris Seay Charitable Trust provided a significant boost to the PCC capital campaign at the end of last year. Those donations helped us reach the goal of raising \$200,000 during 2023 to earn a matching grant of \$100,000 from the Cabell Foundation. Having raised \$4.5 million, we are now 75% of the way to our goal of \$6,000,000 and are looking forward to breaking ground later this spring.

Christmas Elf Challenge

The Elementary and Primary children took on a STEAM project challenging them to create a present for their Elf, "Twinkle Toes", to put under their class Christmas tree. Each pair of students had to do some creative problem solving, only being allowed to use the following materials: sheet of foil, 5 cotton balls, 3 pipe cleaners, sheet of computer paper, Q-tips, 18" red yarn, plus the use of 2 additional materials if requested. They were given a white lunch bag to use for "gift wrap". Scissors, markers and adhesive labels were also allowed.

We've been encouraging productive "team work" in our STEAM sessions and this time they all did a great job working together, even though they were randomly paired. Unfortunately, there are no photos of the finished products as they had already wrapped them and placed them under the tree. But they made a big screen TV, an I-Pad, pots, dishes, books, games, pillow and blanket...all elf sized! Yes, Twinkle Toes sent a Thank You note!

- Susan Frank, Resource Coordinator



Executive Director, Karen McNally, accepted a \$70,000 grant from the Roanoke Women's Foundation to support the Capital Campaign for the new PCC building.

Executive Director Karen McNally to Retire

Karen McNally, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Community Center since 2005, will retire on April 30. Prior to becoming ED, Karen worked as a grant writing consultant to raise funds for Pathways for Youth and PCC operations.

During her tenure, she expanded grant writing and fundraising efforts, implemented database management upgrades for the Emergency Services program, and developed funding streams to support families with children, the elderly, and those with dental needs. She also oversaw the expansion of the Pathways Phase II high school program, construction of a Pathways activities and fitness center, and the creation of Pathfinders, an after-school day treatment program for children with emotional and behavioral disorders. She raised funds for the Bridges Out of Poverty and Getting Ahead programs at PCC, both of which provide training and support to help families overcome generational and situational poverty.



During the pandemic, Karen and PCC Staff established safety guidelines to keep the mission open, addressing clients' financial needs by telephone and providing drive up access to the food pantry. Also during the COVID crisis, when at-home virtual instruction was offered to all students in Roanoke as an alternative to the classroom, Karen and staff established a masked and socially-distanced classroom for Pathways for Youth students, offering them a safe and academically stimulating environment which helped them access and complete the virtual learning assignments, providing lunch, and otherwise caring for their daily needs each school day during the 2020-21 school year.

In 2017, Karen initiated the purchase of 1202 Jamison Avenue, adjacent to PCC, setting the stage for building a new Presbyterian Community Center, a project for which she has been tirelessly fundraising since 2019. Construction will begin this spring, with expected completion in early 2025.

The PCC Staff offers our profound gratitude to Karen for her 19 years of kind-spirited, keenly intelligent, energetic, and successful leadership during which the PCC has made impressive advancements in its mission of addressing the needs of the people of Southeast Roanoke. We offer Karen our heartfelt best wishes for a joyful retirement!

- Ann Rogers, Grant Writer

Final Plans in Place for New PCC Building

Construction on the new Presbyterian Community Center building will begin this spring. With 75% of our fundraising goal of \$6,000,000 already achieved, the PCC Board expects to raise the remaining funds during 2024. The facility, just under 15,000 square feet, will offer modern and safe classrooms for up to 80 children in the Pathways for Youth program, an increase of 60% over the current enrollment limit. The building will feature a gymnasium to be used not only for Pathways activities but also for Southeast Roanoke community gatherings. The gym can be divided into two classrooms for Bridges Out of Poverty classes, adult education opportunities and meetings. A large kitchen will be adjacent to the gym, and will be used to prepare food for Pathways Family Nights and daily snacks for students.

A large pantry with a loading dock at the back of the building will allow all our incoming food to be stored in one place. Emergency Services will have a larger reception area and private offices to meet with clients. There will be modern safety features throughout the building.

We expect completion of the project to take about 12 - 18 months. Be sure to check our website, pccse.org, to see regular construction updates.



Meet Melanie

Hi, I'm Melanie Straley, and I'm thrilled to be joining Pathways as an assistant. As a student in the Human Services program, at Virginia Western, I am passionate about making a positive impact on the lives of others, particularly as a youth counselor. With four children of my own, I understand the importance of guidance, compassion, and promoting values like kindness, love, and equality.

In my free time, I enjoy indulging in my creative side through sewing, exploring the great outdoors while camping, and immersing myself in the vibrant atmosphere of music festivals. These activities not only bring me joy but also help me maintain a balanced and fulfilling life.

I am excited about this opportunity to contribute to the Pathways team and make a difference in the lives of those we serve. I look forward to utilizing my skills, experiences, and dedication to create a positive and nurturing environment for all. Together, let's empower individuals and foster a community built on empathy and support.



Adopting Families Brings Holiday Blessings

Emergency Services would like to thank our partnering churches who adopted 5 families, assisting a total of 23 individuals for Christmas. Their thoughtful contributions ensured these families experienced the joy of the holiday season. The decision to adopt families in need brings immeasurable joy and warmth to all in the PCC community. If your church or group would like to participate in this program next year, please contact Ebony Hurt at 540-982-2911.

Jacob Jennings, a spirited fifth grader in our Pathways for Youth after-school program, couldn't contain his excitement when Executive Director Karen McNally revealed him as the winner of the 2023 Christmas Card Design contest.



CDBG Funding Helps PCC

Thanks to a \$39,193 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) received from the City of Roanoke, PCC's Emergency Services program can now assist residents of Southeast and Northeast with up to 3 months of utility assistance. This funding has made a substantial impact on many struggling households allowing them to avoid disconnections. With \$5,000 of this grant targeted toward the provision of groceries to families facing food insecurity, PCC was able to provide special holiday food boxes to 32 Households, providing 120 individuals Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. An additional food distribution made possible from these funds took place in late January.



Thank You, Glo-Fiber

Thank you to Glo-Fiber/Shentel for their continued support. Once again, they adopted a family for Christmas and provided blankets, hats, and gloves for our Emergency Services clients. These essentials are much sought after in the winter months. Glo-Fiber's generosity reflects a true spirit of giving and compassion for our under-resourced families.



**PCC'S
EMERGENCY
SERVICES**

APRIL 1ST

ANNOUNCEMENT

Starting April 1st or LATER, construction of our new building will begin, and our main parking lot will be unavailable. Please use our rear parking lot on 13th street when visiting for food and financial assistance.

NEW HOURS: EFFECTIVE APRIL 1ST
Walk-ins 9 AM to 12 PM. Limited parking means **appointments from 1 PM to 2 PM** are available upon **advance request.**
Call 540-982-2911

Thank You To Our Donors

Michael & Patricia Abbott
Anonymous
Ron & Jodi Ayers
Alice Baker
Mary Ball
Eugene Bane
Rebecca Bane
Jerry & Judi Barnes
Linda Barnett
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Ebony Hurt
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Barbara Kochendarfer
Patricia Kraft
Susan Lambui
Bill & Susan Lancaster

Ken & Lisa Laughon
Eric & Diance Lawson
Glenna Lee
Harry Leidich
Tucker & Cathy Lemon
Bob & Fran Lewis
Eddie & Angie Link
Jim & Tami Lowe
David Lowen
Sarah Ludwig
Buford Lumsden
Ed & Nancy Lunsford
Tom & Mary MacMichael
Doris Marks
Chuck Marlowe
Barry & Rebecca Marsh
Deborah Mattern
Clara McCann
George & Anna McLean
Neil & Karen McNally
Deborah Miller
Michael Miller
Henry Monti
Stephanie Morrison
Joe & Joyce Mundy
Michael & Joan Murano
Jacob Neathawk, Jr.
James & Joan Niederlehner
Elizabeth Osborne
Lee & Susan Osborne
Elizabeth Parsons
Ann Patterson
Richard & Mary Jane Pattisall
William Peters
Glenn Pierce
Sarah Plymale
Bill & Cheryl Poe
Grace Poff
Bob Poole
Jaime Preston
Sunni Purviance
Gloria Reiske
Michele Richardson
Michael & Marcia Ridenhour
Molly Roberts
John & Marybeth Robinson
Ruth Roe
Dorothy Rowland
Mary Runyon
Virginia Savage
Marty Saviers
Curtis & Leah Shank
Larry & Jo Ann Shepherd
John Shoulders
Corey Slusher
Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham
Rachel Spencer
Bruce & Kathy Stockburger
Chelsey Sutton
Ted & Judy Sutton
Christopher & Katie Tait
William & Kimberly Tresky
Tom Turner
Thayer Walker
Pamela Welsh
Betty Wetherington
Robert & Carol White
Carol Williams
Harriet Wood
Tom & Carol Worley
Teresa Wulff
Bill & Ruth Yagle

Honorariums

Sara Airheart
George Anderson
Elizabeth Link
Ben Brannan
Anonymous
Mary Glenn Aydlett
Charles & Nancy Ayling
Nancy Yost
Kathy Baker
Alice Baker
Warren & Sue Beisler
Helen Burnett
Dennis & Elaine Cronk
Raina & Wayne Lewis
Ray Garland
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Garland, Jr.
Rebecca J. Garland
Anita H. Garland
Teresa A. Garland
Linda G. Garland
Walter B. Garland III
Tom & Hope Hale
Bob & Frankie Bielawski
Tom & Lynn Kirby
Larry Kilgore
Sue Lawrence
Nate & Ann Stephens
Thomas Hardin
Joanna & Paul Schroeder
Elizabeth Heatwole
Wayne & Raina Lewis
William & Kelly Hooper
Pastors at Second Presbyterian Church
Mary Ann Huff
Stan & Elise Lanford
Tom & Lynn Kirby
Stan & Elise Lanford
Stan & Elise Lanford
Alice Baker
Mary Ann Huff
Robert McCown
Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church Staff
Patricia McMahan
Teresa Wulff
Shawn McMahan
Stephanie Frost
Tom MacMichael
Malcolm & Ann Pace
Alice Baker
Nancy Poe
Cheryl & Bill Poe
Jane Preston
My Family
Randy Rhea
Karen McNally
Wayne Lewis
Bev Fitzpatrick
Janet Schell
Annette Schell
Ron & Janice Sink
Our Children
The Smith Family
Ruth Dillard's 100th Birthday
Bob & Vicki Stauffer
Nancy Stauffer Vasant
Linda Steadman
Betty Wetherington
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Ayers
Mr. & Mrs. Pegram Johnson
Lucinda Smith
Rev. & Mrs. George Anderson

Thank You To Our Donors

Mark & Debbie Watts
Physicians and Staff at Carilion
Family Medicine, Vinton
Lucille Worley
Carol & Thomas Worley
Nancy Yost
Nancy Ayling

Memorials

Sara Airheart
Jack Airheart
Ann Anderson
Alfred C. Anderson
Anonymous
Margaret Sauber
Charlotte Barnett
Jerry W. Barnett
Jerry & Claire Blake
Roger D. Tims
Don Davis
Marlene Davis
Julie Drewry & Lee Slover
Carol Drewry & George Drewry
John & Jerrie Frye
Mary C. Frye
Nathan Goff
Sally E. Goff
Tom & Hope Hale
Mabel D. Bowman
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Betty Baker Kulp
Debbie McKee
Louise Robertson
Patricia McMahan
Kevin J. McMahan, Sr.
Roy & Jackie Minnix
All my old SE friends
Joanne Mitchell
Bev Mitchell
Linda Moles
William Moles
Kitty Mortara
Ray Mortara
Robert Myers
Rosanna Myers
Bob Poole
Katherine Poole
David & Bonnie Price
Donald & Dona Wissler
David & Gail Price
Dr. Jill Wood
Bridget Quatmann
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Virginia Savage
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Tom & Jenny Seas
Dr. Roger Tims
Sonny Smith
Don Abbott
John Spyhalski
Landon Shaff
Kirk & Patrice Treubert
Marie B. Treubert
Karen Warsaw
Chip Warsaw

Churches

Belmont Christian Church
Campbell Memorial Presbyterian
Church
Colonial Presbyterian Church
Mary & Martha Circle
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church
First Evangelical Presbyterian
Church
Garden City Baptist Church
Journey Church
Mount Pleasant United Methodist
Church
Ninth Street Church of the Brethren
Northminster Presbyterian Church
Oak Grove Church of the Brethren
Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church
Riverdale Baptist Church
Roanoke Friends Meeting
Salem Presbyterian Church
Second Presbyterian Church
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
St. James Episcopal Church
St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran
Church
Thrasher Memorial United
Methodist Church
Westhampton Christian Church

Businesses

Bick Lick Comics
Comprehensive Construction
Services
Feeding Southwest Virginia
Glo-Fiber/Shentel
Key, Tatel & McNally P.C.
Kroger
Member One Federal Credit Union
New River Electrical Corp.
United Way of New River Valley
United Way of Roanoke Valley

Foundations

The Helen C. Cobbs Foundation
Community Foundation Serving
Western VA
James B. and June S.
Blackstock Family Fund
Anne E. Craghead Charitable
Fund for the Needy
Community Catalyst Funds
Mr. Wistar Morris and Mrs. Ann
Jarrett Morris
PCC Endowment Fund
Pultz-Young Memorial
Endowment Fund
James and Nancy Revercomb

Fund
The Roger and Sharon Dickerson
Charitable Fund
Sam and Marion Golden Helping
Hand Foundation
PayPal Giving Fund
RBC Foundation

Groups

AmVets Post 40 Inc
Chapter BD-PEO Sisterhood
Roanoke County Retired Teachers

Government

Emergency Food & Shelter Program
City of Roanoke - Community
Development Block Grant
City of Roanoke - Human Services

Capital Campaign Contributions

Tori Armentrout
John Barry
David Booth
Donna Britt
The Cabell Foundation
Community Foundation Serving
Western Virginia
J. Spencer and Joy Frantz Donor
Advised Fund
Covenant Presbyterian
Church
Bev & Shirley Fitzpatrick
Courtney & Anne Hoge
Tom & Lynn Kirby
Wayne & Raina Lewis
Sarah Ludwig
Neil & Karen McNally
Norfolk Southern Corporation
Bill & Cheryl Poe
Roanoke Women's Foundation
Virginia Savage
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The Robert H. and Doris Seay
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Second Presbyterian Church
Kelly & Donna Speas
Jim Wissler
Teresa Wulff

♥ grow • invest •
volunteer • empower
give
roanoke
April 24, 2024

**Donations listed in this newsletter were received from October 7, 2023 through February 29, 2024.
If we have inadvertently omitted your contribution, please contact Kelli Mundy at 540-982-2911.**

Jill Wood...She Did Good for the Center!!!

Sadly, Harriett "Jill" Wood passed away on November 20, 2023. A longtime friend and advocate of the Presbyterian Community Center, Jill began volunteering in March 2000 by providing snacks for the Pathways for Youth afterschool program then later with monthly donations for the PCC Food Pantry.

Jill not only knew what was essential to include in the food orders, she made it her mission to provide them. Two specific items come to mind. Individual packets of powdered milk were at the top of her list; being a dietary necessity and also being the lighter option for clients to transport home. Another item, jelly, made her PCC shopping list because everyone knows that each jar of peanut butter must be paired with jelly!!!

Delivering the food to the PCC was a social event that both Jill and the staff enjoyed. Over time, when Jill could not physically go shopping or make the delivery, she enlisted her niece to purchase her food donation with PCC staff and volunteers picking up the food from Jill's apartment. Even later, Jill would send a check which went to purchasing the powdered milk that she so faithfully had provided month after month.

Brenda Wass, retired Director of Emergency Services who often received Jill's food donations, fondly shared, "She did good for the Center!"



Left... Harriett "Jill" Wood with Cheryl Poe, Dir. of Volunteer Services along with a REACH Volunteer while picking up a food donation in 2017.

Right... The PCC is grateful for the strong arms and lively chatter of the PCC Delivery Crew from left to right: Chris Bickley, Larry Hicks and Mike Whitehead.



This Year Consider Joining the PCC Family

If your New Year's Resolution has yet to take shape, consider touring the PCC to see how you can become involved in the transforming act of caring for and sharing with others. Along the way you will make a difference in the life of many less fortunate, make many like-minded friends and be part of groundbreaking opportunities in Southeast Roanoke.

With your help...the PCC will make a difference in the life of families experiencing food insecurity, in the life of many individuals in need of financial assistance, and in the life of the Pathways for Youth families.

Without PCC volunteers, the PCC would not be able to provide the current level of economic, educational, and spiritual assistance to those in need. Last year the Center provided financial assistance of \$92,791.01 to 335 families and distributed 2,164 food orders valued at \$177,495.85 to 4,428 individuals.

Together in 2023, 431 volunteers shared 5,824 volunteer hours which contributed to \$182,493.80 of volunteer manpower, improving many lives in Southeast Roanoke.

Each PCC volunteer not only makes a difference in the community, but they also make a difference for the PCC staff and fellow volunteers. Many friendships are cultivated during the time spent together at PCC. Some who had not known each other have found that they have mutual acquaintances and connections with each other's family members, friends, and neighbors. Recently, one volunteer referred to the PCC as his PCC family. He explained that he has his immediate & extended family, but he also has his church family, his family from the neighborhood, and his PCC family. This is music to the ears of any volunteer coordinator!!!

Volunteering is time that bonds, forging lasting friendships through shared passions. Won't you give Cheryl Poe a call today to find out how you can join the PCC family?

Thank You, Volunteers

Your Presence is Priceless!!!

2023...PCC by the Numbers

Total Volunteers...431

Number of Individual Volunteers...187

Number of Individual from Groups...244

Total Volunteers Hours...5,824

Value of Volunteer Manpower...\$182,493.80

MUCH MORE

Than the numbers above reveal

At the PCC, volunteer commitment can be seen, heard, and even felt as they interact during their shifts and as advocates in the community.

**PCC Volunteers are
AWESOME!!!**



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Pantry Wish List

Always in steady demand

- Beef Stew
- Vienna Sausage
- Powdered Milk (individual 3.4oz packets)
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Kroger Plastic Bags
- Canned food w/ pop tops
- Tuna
- Breakfast Cereal
- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Hygiene Products (soap, deodorant, toilet paper)

TOMATO SOUP WINS

The Covenant Presbyterian Church Souper Bowl of Caring, donating 1,609 cans to the PCC Food Pantry. Huge thanks to Cheryl Floyd and the Covenant Presbyterian Church Youth!

Volunteer Needs

Front Desk Receptionist - Substitute

- Join the PCC family as you fill in for our regular Front Desk volunteers, when they are out.
- Greet PCC clients
 - Answer incoming calls
 - Collaborate closely with Emergency Services staff



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The Presbyterian Community Center is an equal opportunity provider.