# Deaconess s Ministry

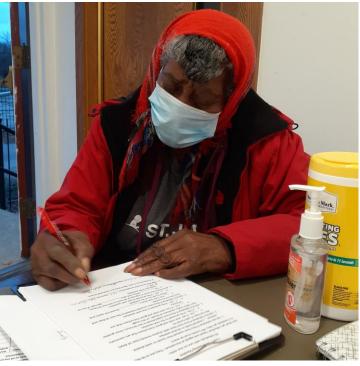
2021 ANNUAL REPORT





#### Our Mission:

Deaconess Nurse Ministry exists to care for all by providing whole-person healthcare that offers the healing love of God.



# 2021 was a faith filled year for Deaconess Nurse Ministry. We could not have done it without your support!

In this annual report, you will find the story of Deaconess Nurse Ministry that has passion, humility and great expectations. Everyday there are the most heart-warming stories being told that reflect the ongoing work that Deaconess Nurse Ministry is doing in the community.

Our donors and partners graciously have supported this work throughout the year. Your support and generosity has allowed us to care for many who tell their stories of hope and healing. We are forever grateful to you, our supporters for making our work possible.

This report serves as not only a reminder of what we accomplished in 2021 but also an inspiration for the work we will continue to do to impact the lives of children, adults, and seniors in St. Louis. It serves as an expression of our mission to provide whole-person healthcare, regardless of race, economic status, sexual orientation, geographical location, or faith affiliation. We will work in the years ahead to provide a healthcare experience that offers the healing love of God to all. Thank you for your continuous support, love and commitment to this work!

# **MINISTRY**

### CHANGING LIVES, ONE AT A TIME.

Mr. K comes to the food pantry weekly where a Deaconess nurse serves. He likes to walk by to say hi to Debra, the nurse. As he approaches the door, Debra, each time, would step closer to the door to talk to him. For months, those short conversations helped Mr. K feel more comfortable in talking with Debra.

One day, when heading to the Debra's office, he decided to stop and read the sign that had been hung on the door. He paused and looked at Debra. She noticed his hesitancy, so she started the conversation: "Hi Mr. K, how are you doing today? Would you like to come in and talk?"

Mr. K looked up: "I don't know. I'm not sure if you can help me."

Debra walked closer to him and said: "Well, how about you just come in, have a seat and we can chat. We will see if I can help you with anything." Mr. K walked in, sat down quietly for a while, then started to open up about his needs. He had heart problems and a prescription that had not been refilled as he could not afford to do so.

Then he broke down in tears as he told Debra about his drug addiction. Debra comforted him and asked if he was ready and willing to get help. He said yes. He told his story of how he used drugs since he was 14 years old.

He stated that his addiction ruined his life and relationship with his family but he wanted to change all that and get better.

Debra made many phone calls. She called the doctor and got his medication refilled. She used all the resources she had to get him in a good drug rehab facility in Columbia, MO. Deaconess Nurse Ministry assisted to pay for the heart medication to be shipped to the rehab facility for him.

As Mr. K was in the drug rehab facility, Debra connected with his daughter and mother to give them updates on how he was doing. His family was so very grateful for what Debra and Deaconess Nurse Ministry were helping their dad and son.

Mr. K called Debra every day as he was receiving treatment to let her know what he was doing and how he felt while in rehab. He has now completed rehab and has been doing well. He moved in with his mother, he has been going to AA meeting every Wednesday. Debra said every time she talks to him, he just cries. He is so happy now. He is working really hard to keep his life moving forward with a fresh start.

We thank Debra and Deaconess nurses for always there for people like Mr. K. Our nurses like Debra, touch a life and change that life forever.

### **CAPABLE PROGRAM**

One of the programs that was implemented this year was the Capable Program (Community Aging in Place Advancing Better Living For Elder) - a John Hopkins evidence based program to help low income seniors stay safe in their homes. It was funded by the St. Louis City Senior Citizens Fund. The program was a collaborative effort by Mission, STL, St. Louis University Occupational Therapy School and Deaconess Nurse Ministry. In 2021, 30 low incomes older adults who reside in the City of St. Louis were able to receive visits from an Occupational Therapist and Registered Nurse, as well as minor home repairs. The results have been overwhelmingly positive as participants have increased their mobility, decreased their depression and fall risk and improved their overall wellbeing. The program will continue through 2023, through a generous grant from St. Louis City Senior Citizens Fund.

## **GOOD SAMARITAN FUND**

The Good Samaritan Fund through Deaconess Nurse Ministry provides financial support for UCC active and retired clergy and their partners/spouses who reside in the Missouri Mid-South and Illinois South Conferences. In 2021, with the Good Samaritan Grant, Deaconess Nurse Ministry was able to help 2 retired clergy members with financial assistance, for a total amount of \$25,800.

We were honored to care for clergy with counseling and wellness treatments, with nursing home costs, and with rent and utilities assistance. The grant allows Deaconess to provide emergency assistance to clergy who had lost a significant amount of income due to church closures.

We are proud that our care now includes U.C.C. clergy and their families. We thank God for this gift which allowed us to help our mission to care for all.

## START WITH SMALL IMPACT

Mrs. R was referred to Deaconess Nurse Ministry on February 25, after being discharged from Barnes Hospital with lower gastrointestinal issues. Mrs. R has an extensive medical history, which includes end-stage liver cancer. Her cancer was first diagnosed in 2017, treated and went into remission until February 2021 when it reoccurred. Mrs. R has many other health issues include diabetes, advanced arthritis, upper and lower GI issues, difficulty with lower extremity balance and weakness. She was possible candidate for hospice but emotionally, she stated that she ready to be there.

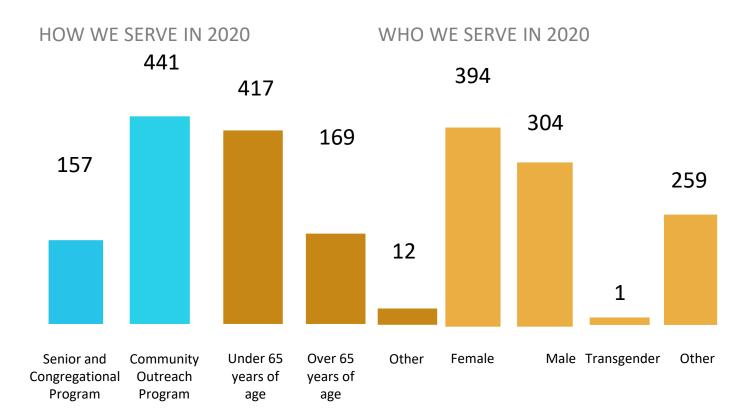
With the stress of medical issues, she had high insurance coverage and delinquent bills. Deaconess was there to listen and discuss different options that would benefit her. One way was sharing information for evaluation of insurance options to hopefully significantly reduce the insurance costs. The nurse provided information about Circuit Breaker, which she did not know available. Circuit breaker is a tax credit that helps senior Missourians who have a fixed income to stay in their home by offsetting costs related to property taxes. Those additional funds from Circuit Breaker helped to provide extra funds to assist with future utilities cost and care giving supplies for Mrs. R.. The nurse helped



Mrs. R apply for SNAP (supplemental nutritional assistance program, or food stamps), along with obtaining home delivered food pantry provisions.

This work seems small but it was a tremendously helpful to people like Mrs. R. Our nurses reduce the stress and burden for low income seniors in our community by providing case management assistance with financial and other resources.

## **INFORMATION & OUTCOMES**



# AGENCY TOTAL: 598 clients





85% of seniors in all of our programs reduced their falls by working with a nurse on fall prevention.



32% of clients in all of our program report medical compliance after working with a nurse.





#### LOCATIONS WHERE DEACONESS FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES SERVE

- **1. Arnold Food Pantry**Arnold, MO
- 2. Bridge of Hope
  Ministries
  North St. Louis City
- **3. Cape Albeon**Valley Park, MO
- **4. CMC Retirement Village**St. Louis, MO
- Church

5.. Christ Lutheran

Webster Groves, MO

- **6.. Every Child's Hope**St. Louis County
- 7. Feed my People
  Food Pantry
  High Ridge, MO
- 8. The Harvest Table
  St. Peter's U.C.C
  Washington, MO

- Immaculate Conception
   Catholic Church
   Maplewood, MO
- 10. Jennings Affordable
  Housing. (St. Andrew's
  Seniors services)
  Jennings, MO
- **11. Main Street Church** St. Charles, MO
- 12. Mary Mother of the
  Catholic Church
  St. Louis, MO
- 13. Memorial Blvd.

  Disciples of Christ

  North St. Louis City
- 14. Our Lady of Perpetual
  Help
  North St. Louis, MO
- **15**. **Peace Food Pantry** Cedar Hill, MO

- 16. Salam Free Medical and Mental Health Clinic
  - St. Peter's Evangelical
    United Church of Christ
    Ferguson, MO
- 17. Sammie/Zion
  Affordable Housing
  Homer Schmitz Clinic
  (St. Andrew's Senior

Services)
St. Louis, MO

18. St. Anthony of Padua Food Pantry

St. Louis, MO

19. St. Cronan's Catholic Church Food Pantry

St. Louis, MO

- 20. St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Food Pantry
  - St. Louis, MO
- 21. St. Mathias

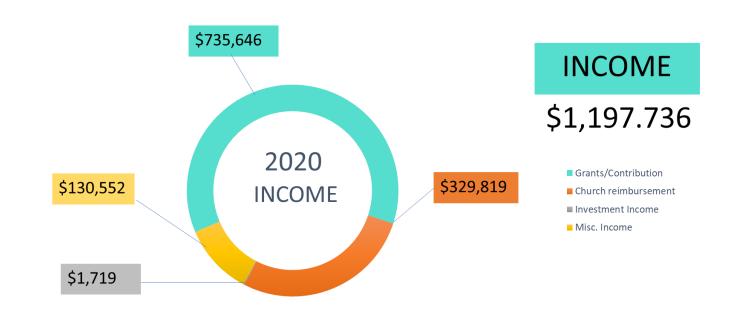
  Catholic Church

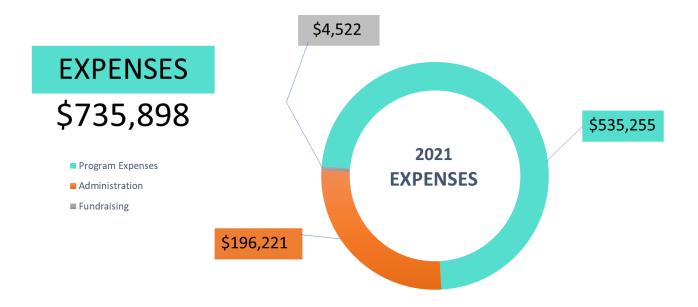
  St. Louis, MO
- 22. St. Peter's Evangelical
  United Church of Christ
  Ferguson, MO
- **23**. **St. Pius V Food Pantry** St. Louis, MO
- 24. St. Vincent Home for Children

St. Louis, MO

- 25. Trinity Episcopal
  Food Pantry
  St. Louis, MO
- **26. Unleashing Potential**St. Louis, MO

# **2021 FINANCIALS**





ASSETS \$751,862 \$1,184.64

At the start of the year At the end of the year

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Rev. Donna Smith-Pupillo

Stephanie Batson

Rev. Gary M. Schulte Rev. Sheldon Culver

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graduated in 1950s

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**Drew King Schutte** 

Marion Keudell

Dr. George E. Magaletta

Emmy Guthrie John McGuire

Rev. Donna Smith—Pupillo

Deceased classmate of

**Dorothy Kugel** 

**Lois Prospeck** Sandra Hagen

Madreen Meyer Lois Hassinger

Rev. Arthur Ellersieck Marianne Goodgion

**Dolores Nuernberger** 

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