



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

[www.CaringandSharingsowal.org](http://www.CaringandSharingsowal.org)

**CARING & SHARING**  
OF SOUTH WALTON



Mission: Caring & Sharing of South Walton provides crisis relief to our neighbors in need through financial assistance, food, counseling, and case management.



## A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Supporters, Volunteers, and Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering community support of the mission of Caring & Sharing of South Walton. Together we have continued to make a significant impact on the lives of our neighbors in need in Walton County.

Throughout 2023, Caring & Sharing remained committed to assisting those in need and with the help of our team of volunteers, donors, and staff we were able to improve our services and keep up with the growing needs of our community.

One of our primary focuses last year was ensuring the families we serve had access to nutritious food. With the support of our generous donors and dedicated volunteers, we distributed thousands of pounds of food through our food pantry program. We are proud to say that we have greatly increased the amount of fresh, perishable items the families we serve are receiving.

In addition to our food pantry efforts, Caring & Sharing continued to provide financial assistance to families facing various crisis situations. Whether it was helping with utility bills, rent payments or medical expenses, our case managers worked hard to help those navigating challenging circumstances gain stability.

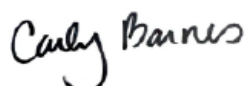
None of this would have been possible without the support of our donors, partners, and volunteers. Your generosity, whether through monetary contributions, in-kind donations or volunteer hours, has made a difference in the lives of countless individuals in our community.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the opportunities that the future holds for Caring & Sharing of South Walton. With your continued support, we will expand our reach, enhance our programs, and deepen our impact on the lives of those in need.

As we embark on another year of serving families in Walton County, we invite you to join us in making a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need. Whether through volunteering your time, making a donation or spreading the word about our organization, every contribution matters.

Thank you for your continued support, dedication, and generosity.

With a grateful heart,



**Carly Barnes**

Executive Director, Caring & Sharing of South Walton  
carly@caringandsharingsowal.org



## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

### PURCHASED A NEW BUILDING



Purchased an additional property located at 111 Lynn Drive - right across the street from our current location. This building will become our "Assistance Hub" and house all of our assistance programs and staff. We are currently working with an architect and engineer to ensure the building will meet our needs for years to come! More information to follow on how you can help make this new space what we need to best serve our clients and continue meeting the growing needs of our community. Thank you to The Alys Beach Foundation and Good News United Methodist Church for supporting new building improvements in 2023

### JOINED THE DCWAF FAMILY!

We are so excited to share that we are now part of the Destin Charity Wine Auction Foundation Family!

This partnership will allow us to continue providing crisis relief to hundreds of local families each month while also expanding our programs to provide additional resources to the 500+ children who are part of those families. We are so grateful for this partnership and supportive community!



### PAIRING & SHARING WINE DINNER

We hosted our Inaugural Pairing & Sharing Wine Dinner on May 4, 2023! We raised over \$24,000 for our neighbors in need! A special thank you to Rosemary Beach Realty and Cottage Rental Company for being our venue sponsor, Swiftly Catered for an incredible 3-course dinner, Dry Farm Wines for pairing perfect wine selections, Top Hat Live for live music and Hunter Burgturf Photography for capturing this wonderful evening.



### ADDITIONAL PRODUCE

This year, we grew our partnership with Destin Harvest! We are so thankful for their regular visits and the fresh meat, pastries and other staple items they bring with them!



### EXPANDED OUR ABILITY TO SERVE A GROWING NUMBER OF CLIENTS

As the needs of our community grow, it is important that we grow our team to help meet those needs. In 2023, we added an additional full time Case Manager, Dani Aylsworth, to our Program Team and continued working with Social Work Interns from UWF and UCF. We also became an official DCF Access Community Partner allowing us to provide access to public assistance services like Food Stamps and Medicaid.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS



We are thrilled to announce that the Christmas Charity Ball hosted by Cafe Thirty-A raised \$64,000 for Caring and Sharing of South Walton! In honor of Harriet Crommelin, long-time owner who passed away in early 2023, we would like to thank all the sponsors, donors, volunteers, and attendees for making this event possible and continuing her legacy.




A Legacy Five Concert was held at Good News United Methodist Church benefitting Caring & Sharing. Over 270 attendees enjoyed this talented, award winning group and supported Caring & Sharing. Because of the generosity of our sponsors and concertgoers, we raised over \$9,000 for our mission! A special thank you to Jennifer and Greg Crawford for making this event a reality and their continued support!

Thank you to all who attended the Beau Interiors Christmas Open House! We are so grateful to Beau Interiors for their generosity and for choosing us as the beneficiary of their event. Everyone enjoyed kicking off the 2023 holiday season with this beautiful, annual Christmas tradition.



## BY THE NUMBERS

The number of clients we saw in 2023 **increased over 7%** from 2022, and we are seeing those numbers continue to climb in 2024.

| 2022         |  | 2023         |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>5,417</b> | Total number of families served                                                   | <b>5,792</b> |
| <b>451</b>   | Average number of households served each month                                    | <b>483</b>   |
| <b>1,497</b> | Average number of individuals served each month                                   | <b>1,800</b> |
| <b>518</b>   | Average number of children served each month                                      | <b>673</b>   |
| <b>258</b>   | Average number of seniors served each month                                       | <b>252</b>   |

## CRISIS RELIEF & ASSISTANCE

**156**

evictions prevented

**251**

utility cut-offs prevented/restored

**52**

families provided with emergency shelter

**103**

children provided with clothing through the WCSD Partnership

**17**

average number of homeless families served each month

**103**

unsheltered individuals provided services through ESGCV grants

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DATA

Financial Assistance is available to low income families living in Walton County. This program allows us to help our clients remain housed, with operating utilities, and other basic necessities.

**2,021**

Financial Assistance Transactions in 2023

Direct Financial Assistance:

over

**\$310,000**

**168**

Average per month

### WHERE THE MONEY WENT:

Housing & Emergency Shelter:

**\$160,000**

Pantry & Food:

**\$60,000**

Medical Assistance & Hygiene Products:

**\$20,000**

Utilities Assistance:

**\$37,000**

Transportation Support:

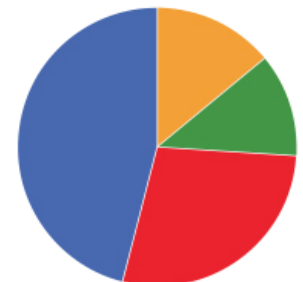
**\$10,000**

Other Client Support:

**\$20,000**



PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES PER LOCATION



- SOUTH WALTON 46%
- FREEPORT 28%
- DEFUNIAK SPRINGS 12%
- OTHER 14%



# THRIFT STORE



The Thrift Store at Caring & Sharing of South Walton continues to generate income that is vital to the stability of our organization and programs. Each week the store is staffed by close to 64 volunteers and is visited by hundreds of customers. We are proud to say that our store is a place where customers and clients enjoy shopping and visiting with each other!

This year our Register Round Up Program brought in  
**\$3,274**

Over  
**17,600**  
transactions

Total Revenue  
**\$355,546**



Over  
**\$36,450**  
in Thrift Store Vouchers

These vouchers are given to clients and are used to purchase household necessities & clothing from the store at no cost to them.

## THRIFT STORE RENOVATIONS & BUILDING UPDATES

Thanks to a generous grant from the St. Joe Community Foundation we were able to make some necessary updates to our Thrift Store! We added a slat wall and removed the small office space to the right of the entrance, allowing for more retail space. We also painted and replaced our front door. These changes make for a better shopping experience - come see for yourself!

*Our Thrift store truck, made possible by a generous donation from the St. Joe Community Foundation, received a new look! Thrift Store donation pick-ups are available Monday - Friday 9am to 4pm. Call us to schedule your pick-up.*

**All items sold in the store are donated by members of our community!**

The Thrift Store is located at 112 Lynn Drive and is open Monday - Friday from 9:00 - 4:00 and Saturday 10:00 - 2:00.

# VOLUNTEERS

**340**

volunteer shifts each month

**3,264**

volunteer hours each month

over

**39,000**

hours of support in 2023



VOLUNTEER TIME  
TOTAL VALUE:

**OVER \$1.2 MILLION**

The estimated National Value of a Volunteer Hour is **\$31.80**



# FOOD PANTRY



**14,079**  
*bags of food distributed*

**282,550**  
*food items distributed*

**\$1.1 MILLION**  
*value of food distributed*



*Our June Thomason Little Free Pantry is still up and running! It is restocked every evening and utilized by those who cannot make it to our pantry during the day. In 2023 we distributed close to*

**6,000**

*food items through the Little Free Pantry!*

*Over*

**239**

*requests monthly for general hygiene products such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, and soap*



**1,779**

*Families received diapers & wipes*



Average of **254** per month

**1,903**

*Feminine Product Requests*



Average of **159** per month

Our team works hard to provide the families we serve with a variety of food options through a rotating food menu. Our partnerships with **Feeding the Gulf Coast**, **Publix**, **Destin Harvest**, **Destin Charity Wine Auction**, and other generous donors help us ensure our clients not only receive canned goods but also fresh meat, produce, eggs, juice, and milk.

In 2023 we expanded our Pantry program to better meet the needs of the children we serve. Thanks to the **Destin Charity Wine Auction Foundation**, each child we serve now receives a bag full of child specific food items and we are now able to offer formula and baby food, helping us meet the needs of children from 0-18.



**DRIVES**



We are grateful to everyone who donated to our **Second Annual Diaper Drive** sponsored by Specialty Roofers and co-hosted by the Walton County Sheriff's Office, Florida. We collected over 15,000 diapers and over 9,500 wipes!



Our **Feminine Product Drive** was a big success! Thank you to all who donated including the **Woman 2 Woman @ St Ritas**, **Pure Collective Salon** and so many others!



Numerous churches, businesses, and individuals support our **Food Pantry** throughout the year by holding food drives! Every food item donated helps us meet the growing needs of our community.



## SERVICES AND PROGRAMS



### THANKSGIVING



482

families reached



Each family received regular food pantry items according to the size of their household. They also received **1 bag of Thanksgiving Dinner items** and a **\$25 gift card** to purchase a turkey, ham, or produce.

Over **117 volunteers** came together to help execute this program!

A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus for partnering with us during our Thanksgiving Program to distribute 480 coats through their Coats for Kids program.



### ANGEL TREE

592

children received Christmas gifts

The Angel Tree Program is made possible with the help of South Walton Fire District, local churches and businesses, and other individual donors. Our Partners coordinate and identify hundreds of individuals that generously provide gifts and deliver them to Caring & Sharing.

**30 Seniors** received Christmas stockings, blankets and/or gifts.

A special thank you to Ginger Walker and Susan Mahaffey for the numerous hours they dedicated to our Angel Tree Program in 2023. The hours of support they provided allowed us to spread holiday joy to so many local children.



### Counseling & Case Management

Caring & Sharing is proud to offer clients access to counseling and case management at no cost. These services allow clients the support they need to work through goal setting, creating a budget, reducing barriers to employment and housing, connecting to community resources, and working through a number of other challenges such as addiction and trauma.

Over **2,000 individual clients** took advantage of these services in 2023.

We have also partnered with several other local counseling providers to connect our clients to care outside of our walls if it better suits their situation. We are currently able to provide clients with eight sessions with a counselor. This is an area that has the ability to provide clients with the tools and support necessary to go from surviving to thriving.

200

Hours of Counseling Services

1,000+

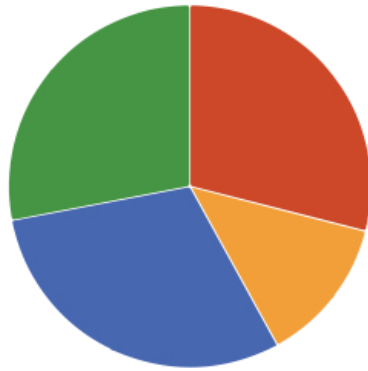
Hours of Case Management



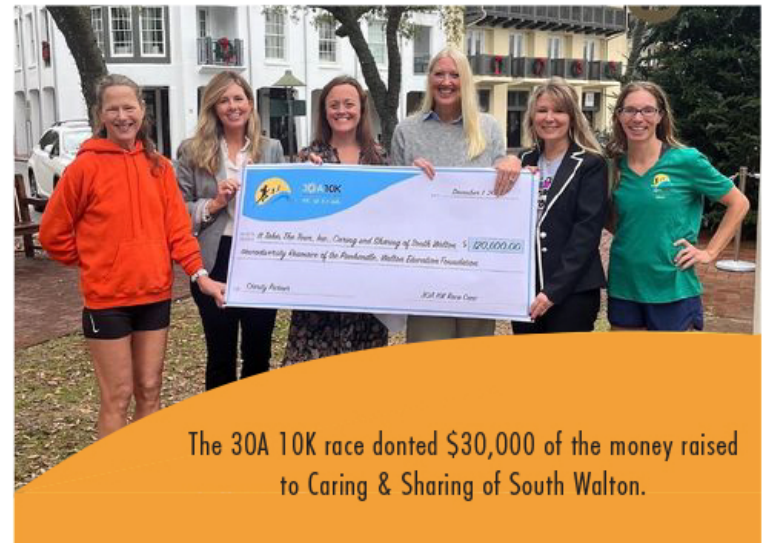
# THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY



## FUNDING BY SOURCE



- INDIVIDUAL DONORS 30%
- GRANTS 29%
- THRIFT STORE SALES 28%
- SIGNATURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS 13%



The 30A 10K race donated \$30,000 of the money raised to Caring & Sharing of South Walton.



# HOW TO HELP



## VOLUNTEER

Volunteers make the work we do possible! We rely on the support of close to 85 volunteers per week!

## SHOP

All proceeds from sales in our Thrift Store go towards supporting our programs. We have a warehouse full of furniture, decor, and household items as well as a fully stocked clothing boutique upstairs.



## DONATE

Our programs are funded by generous donors, fundraisers, grants, and income from our Thrift Store. We are able to accept donations of furniture, decor, household items, clothing, and other miscellaneous items to sell in our Thrift Store.



Visit [www.caringandsharingsowal.org](http://www.caringandsharingsowal.org) or email [info@caringandsharingsowal.org](mailto:info@caringandsharingsowal.org) to find out how you can help.



## VOLUNTEERS

# THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



To say our team of 180+ volunteers is the heart of our organization is an understatement. We are so lucky to have so many generous, talented individuals dedicated to serving their neighbors in need. Our volunteers help meet our organization's needs weekly. They make it possible for us to operate with a small team of eight full time employees, two interns, and contracted support. We are proud to say we have some volunteers who have been with us for close to 20 years. Thank you to everyone who has spent any amount of time in our building serving our community in 2023. In an area where there is so much opportunity, we are so honored you spend some of your time with us.



## 2023 AWARD WINNERS

**Windy Williams - Volunteer of the Year 2023**

**Nina Tilley - June Thomason Memorial Award 2023**

**Lynn Richardson, Margot Mahoney, John Ferry, Dwayne Jones - Shining Star Awards**



*"Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud." — Helen Dyer*



## CORE VALUES

*It is our highest priority to focus on providing hope and assistance to our clients – those individuals who are in need in our community. We strive to be agents of change and provide an environment that is “first in thought” to our clients, our volunteers, donors and other community organizations. To that end, these core values will guide our choices and our actions.*

With our clients, our employees, our volunteers and our donors at our core, we live by these values:

### CREATING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

We will be respectful, empathetic and non-judgmental to everyone who comes through our doors.

### DELIVERING WITH EXCELLENCE

We will focus on excellence in all we do: offering services and products that support the needs of our clients, executing our operations efficiently and effectively and maximizing our financial stewardship.

### PARTNERING FOR CHANGE

We will partner with local organizations to be agents of change and to combat poverty in our community through collaboration of resources and knowledge.

### **CARING & SHARING STAFF**

Carly Barnes  
*Executive Director*

Lynne Frazier-Adcox  
*Director of Operations*

Emily Proctor  
*Director of Programs & Outreach*

Dani Aylsworth  
*Case Manager*

Carla Colley  
*Case Manager*

Cindy Gervais  
*Operations Lead*

Jesse Moon  
*Warehouse Associate*

Kent Hagberg  
*Warehouse Associate*

Cynthia Ollie  
*UCF Intern*

Kristen Reger  
*UWF Intern*

*“Caring and Sharing is about compassionate people sharing resources with folks who otherwise would have to struggle and do without. It has lifted me up after being down many times.”*  
- Caring and Sharing client

2023

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Jane Liston  
*President*

Mary Catharine Miller  
*Vice President*

Matt Naville  
*Treasurer*

Ronnelle Stewart  
*Secretary*

Allen Blankenship  
*Board Member*

Wade Cotton  
*Board Member*

Ali Gorman  
*Board Member*

Steve Gudewicz  
*Board Member*

Kelley Mossburg  
*Board Member*

2024

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Mary Catharine Miller  
*President*

Ronnelle Stewart  
*Vice President*

Allen Blankenship  
*Treasurer*

Tonia Wasson  
*Secretary*

Wade Cotton  
*Board Member*

Steve Gudewicz  
*Board Member*

Susan Mahaffey  
*Board Member*

Kelley Mossburg  
*Board Member*

Ginny Richerson  
*Board Member*





**VISION STATEMENT**

By 2030, Caring & Sharing will be recognized as the leading service provider, advocate, and community partner for all individuals and families in crisis in Walton County.

