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## *In Search of a New Home*

As most of you know, over the past 24 months, NCM has utilized temporary modular space on our property. They are used to sponsor some of our “New and Expanded” programs such as our on-site hiring events, job skills training classes, money management workshops, health fairs and a host of children’s activities. These programs have been a great success with over 580 people attending these events last year. Unfortunately, the permit to keep the modular buildings ends in December of 2016. NCM is currently talking with the City Council to get an extension to keep the modular space longer while at the same time looking for a new home.

On May 2, 2016, we were awarded a grant for \$25,000 from the Community Foundation of Northeast Georgia (CFNEG) for the purpose of acquiring a new facility. We need to raise \$75,000 in order to receive this matching grant. To participate, you can either:

- 1) Write on your check, “CFNEG Match” on the memo line
- 2) For online donations, select Programs— Building Fund and select “CFNEG Match”.

For any questions, please contact Diane at [diane@norcrossco-op.org](mailto:diane@norcrossco-op.org)

## *New Member of NCM Staff*

Did you know that NCM has hired a chaplain? Pastor Dean Osuch started April 2016. As the new chaplain at Norcross Cooperative Ministry, he has three goals. His first goal is to help clients get connected to a local church. Second, he wants to help clients take the next step in their commitment to the local church. Finally, he wants to help our clients hear the gospel message and be invited to give their lives to Jesus Christ. So far this summer, we have seen 15 families connected with local church churches, six families have taken the next step in their commitment to a local church and two adults heard the gospel and gave their lives to Jesus. In the future, Pastor Dean will be hosting an evening Bible Study open to our clients and our community. The study will focus on Biblical solutions to overcoming life challenges.



Above, Pastor Dean praying at a recent meeting.

### Upcoming Events:

**September 15 - Partners Breakfast**

**October 2 - Team Elf Bowling Event**

**Health Fair  
2nd Saturday of each month**

**CONTACT US:**



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## Meet Michael

Michael, pictured on the right, a homeless veteran came to Gwinnett County in 2011 and obtained permanent housing. For spiritual connection, he attended Central Baptist Church. In 2012, while taking care of grandkids, he needed help and was told about NCM. After receiving assistance, Michael became a frequent volunteer working two to four days, helping to receive donations. Stating, "I want to pour back energy into the same source I've been able to draw from". For three years, the Co-op could rely on Michael's presence. Late 2015, Michael became very ill which required a hospital stay for about a month. During that time, his lease ended and he had to move. It was impossible to move on his own, so friends & folks at NCM took his belongings to a storage facility. NCM also assisted with temporary housing as he worked on his physical recovery and finding an apartment. In April of this year, Michael moved into his new apartment.



"Thank you Lord for allowing me to have people and services at NCM in my life when they are desperately needed and appreciated. And, thank you Lord for healing me so I can go back and give time and energy for those who come in behind me."

*Save the DATE.....*

NCM cordially invites you to our annual



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Partner's Meeting & Breakfast

**Thursday, September 15 @ 7:30am**

Location: Norcross First United Methodist Church

2500 Beaver Ruin Road, Norcross, 30071

**RSVP with Shirley at [shirley@norcrosso-op.org](mailto:shirley@norcrosso-op.org) or call 770-263-0013**

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# Job Services Program 2016

The Job Services Team has been busy this year with just one goal: To help our un- and under-employed get back to work. Job Seekers are offered a variety of programs and services to help them prepare for and attain job opportunities. All services are free and open to the community.

## **Job Readiness Training**

Held the first and third Tuesdays of each month, these classes are designed to help job seekers get informed and prepared for their job search. Creating a resume and practicing interview techniques are just the beginning to a successful job search. We offer additional training such as developing a LinkedIn page and how to research hiring employers. Basic computer skills training will be offered later this year.



## **Hiring Events**

Held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, job seekers meet directly with hiring employers. During their visit, job seekers apply online, pick out interview clothing, have access to other job readiness services and find work opportunities!



## **Job Fairs**

This year we offered our first Annual Spring Job Fair in April and CareerFest 2016 / Job Fair in July. These multi-employer events are designed to help job seekers meet directly with hiring employers, learn techniques to help improve their job search and become informed of other community programs available to help with their job search. These events were held in partnership with the GA Dept of Labor Gwinnett Career Center Veterans Unit, 12Stone® Church and Norcross First United Methodist Church.



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## *Tutoring the Community*



NCM was privileged to partner with **Next Generation Focus** and their **Smarter Me** Tutoring Program. Smarter Me uses certified teachers who create tutoring curriculum as well as teen tutors to directly assist the children. They have found that the students engage better with these teens and college students who also act as positive role models.

Our goal was to serve 20 students (K-5) in the Norcross area and it was quickly evident that a summer tutoring program was needed. We expanded to provide this service to 100 children with more on the waiting list. Forty children attended the program at Norcross First United Methodist Church and 60 children were at a location near Stripling Elementary.



We believe that these 100 students will be better prepared to enter school this fall having attended this program. The students received help in math and reading using many innovative techniques that kept them engaged and eager to learn throughout the summer. It is our goal to continue to partner with **Smarter Me** to provide tutoring throughout the school year.



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## *New Campaign - Partners for Hope*



On Thursday, June 30, a recent Town Hall Meeting was held at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Peachtree Corners. The Norcross Cooperative Ministry (NCM) gave shareholders as well as other corporate and community leaders a report on the results of the first four years of the Restoring Hope! program and a glimpse into the future of this important ministry.



A special strategic planning task force, comprised of NCM staff, board members and volunteers has worked for several months to develop a new initiative called **Partners for Hope**. Building on the success of Restoring Hope!, this new initiative will focus on:

- ◆ Hope In Motion – Expanding and enhancing NCM’s work with those clients who sincerely want to break their cycle of poverty and regain financial independence.
- ◆ Provide New and Expanded General Services – Building on the success of Restoring Hope!, NCM will expand its services and add new programs to better serve client families.
- ◆ Educate and Communicate – NCM will enhance its marketing and communications plan to expand local awareness of the needs in this community and the solutions NCM offers.



Senior Pastor Leland Armbricht of Christ the King Lutheran, topped off the evening with a donation of \$35,000 to sustain NCM’s current operation and highlight his support for the new efforts.

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## How Can You Help Share the Joy of Christmas?



**Strikes, Spares and Santa for a CAUSE** will bring entire families and individual members of our community out for an afternoon of bowling, fun and community outreach. It will be an opportunity to raise awareness about the needs of our community and an early start to the Christmas season. The fundraiser will be held at Slingshot Entertainment in Norcross on October 2, 2016. You can become a sponsor, participate as a team or individual.

For more information, email [teamelfbowling@norcrossco-op.org](mailto:teamelfbowling@norcrossco-op.org).

**Feed** the Family will ensure a family can celebrate the holiday by sharing a meal together. Families will receive \$25—\$50 gift cards allowing them to purchase the meal of choice.

For more information, email [christmas@norcrossco-op.org](mailto:christmas@norcrossco-op.org)



**Sponsor** a Summer Toy Drive at your church, in your small group, at your place of business, in your social/civic organization or in your neighborhood. It's a great way to get people involved.

For more information, email [christmas@norcrossco-op.org](mailto:christmas@norcrossco-op.org)

**Donate** new gloves, mittens, hoodies or sweatshirts. Help children of all ages feel the warmth of other's love.

For more information, email [christmas@norcrossco-op.org](mailto:christmas@norcrossco-op.org)



NCM matches families who would like to **adopt** and provide Christmas gifts for families and children in need.

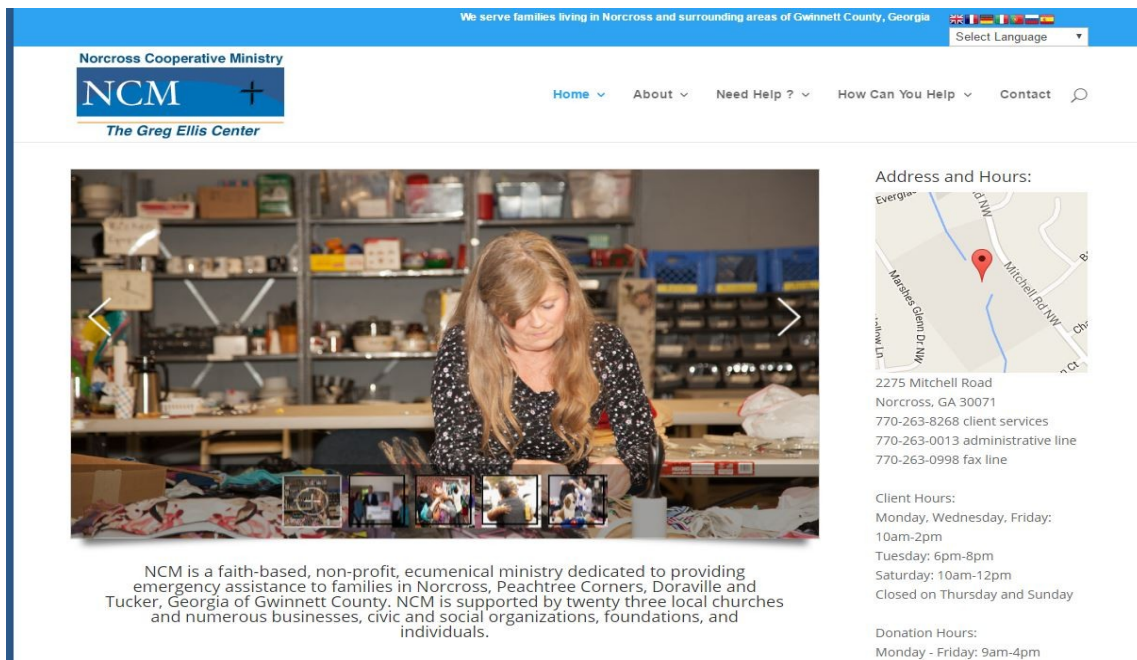
For more information, email [adoptafamily@norcrossco-op.org](mailto:adoptafamily@norcrossco-op.org)

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# Introducing our New Website

NCM has been working on an updated website. We are excited to announce the launch of our new NCM website with more pictures, revamped design and a more user friendly browsing experience. We have made improvements throughout the whole site to help our clients, donors and volunteers find their way around more easily.



*Support NCM while you shop*



There are two ways to give back to NCM while you shop. (1) Kroger Community Rewards at [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and (2) Amazon Smile at <https://smile.amazon.com>. Both programs allow you to do your regular shopping and a portion of your bill will be donated to NCM at the same time.

**So far this year, we have received:**

**\$589.43 from Kroger Rewards\* and \$204.20 for AmazonSmile**

**Help us DOUBLE these numbers by the end of the year.**

**Thanks for your support. Keep Shopping.**

**\*You must re-enroll in Kroger Rewards on an annual basis. Re-enrollment time is NOW.**

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# Ways You Can Help

## Urgent Needs!

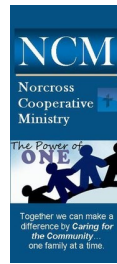
- ◆ Peanut Butter, Jelly and Cereal
- ◆ Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce and Canned Meat
- ◆ Feminine care items, toilet tissue, soap, toothpaste and deodorant



## Join our Volunteer Team!

- ◆ M - F 2pm-4pm help is needed with incoming donations
- ◆ M, T, W, F between 9am-1pm help is needed with phones and administrative assistance
- ◆ M, T, W, F between 9am-4pm help is needed to monitor and restock the clothing closet
- ◆ T, Th anytime help is needed for resume preparation and job coaching

*Stay up-to-date on critical needs, upcoming events and other activities throughout the year by providing us with your email address, going to our website or joining us on Facebook.*



[info@norcrosso-op.org](mailto:info@norcrosso-op.org)

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