

November 30, 2022



SPARC HOPE | QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | HOLIDAY EDITION

WE'VE HAD SOME AMAZING EVENTS!

Give for Good Louisville

We want to sincerely thank everyone who helped us reach, or should we say SURPASS, our goal for Give for Good Louisville this year. Thanks to your support we were able to raise \$26,000 in donations and prize money, to help single parent families.



Halloween

All of our kids were sponsored for Halloween and an amazing time Trick or Treating in their adorable costumes. Thank you so much to everyone who provided costumes for these children!



Volunteer Appreciation

We are absolutely blessed with the most amazing volunteers, and we were so excited to spend an evening celebrating how truly amazing they are to us.



UPCOMING EVENT

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

LESLIE MENDOZA

OFFICE AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Leslie moved from California to Louisville in 2020 and has fallen in love with the city and its community. Her passion for helping people is what brought her to us. She is incredibly excited to build relationships with our single-parents and be a part of this life-changing program. As someone who enjoys volunteering on her own time, she is ready to be hands-on with coordinating our wonderful volunteers.



BARBARA BENJAMIN

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Barbara joined SPARC Hope as a part-time Program Coordinator. Barbara has enjoyed a corporate career in Marketing Research and strategy collaboration and is excited to be joining SPARC-Hope. Barbara and her husband Tom have two daughters, but are now empty-nesters, and are enjoying this new phase of life. Barbara is an avid reader - feel free to ask what she's reading - and is committed to fitness and exercise.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

GET YOUR TICKETS FOR SPARC HOPE'S 2023 GALA

\$200 OFF

When you buy your table before December 31st.

CELEBRATE 20 YEARS OF SPARC HOPE
AT OPENING NIGHT OF THE DOWNS
"A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION"

WWW.SPARC-HOPE.ORG/YEARLY-GALA/

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The Christmas trees and decorations greet you at the doors of Costco. Hobby Lobby already has their Christmas ornaments on sale. Hallmark Christmas movies begin in two weeks. The holidays seem to begin earlier each year. Personally, I don't mind. It reminds me of all I have to be grateful for; family, friends, and joining SPARC Hope's staff in March.

The last six months have made me aware of the challenge it is to work, go to school and raise children as a single parent. There are 24,000 single parent families in our Louisville community. On average, 30% of them live at the poverty level. Since 2013, SPARC Hope has assisted over 500 single parents and over 1,000 children. 71% of our single moms and dads are considered low income and 14% are barely above that level. It is our mission to relieve their stress as they pursue a postsecondary education to improve their career prospects and end their dependency on federal aid and their cycle of need. In addition to financial assistance, SPARC Hope offers mentoring, life skills coaching and financial education. We want to give these families a "hand up", not a "hand out".

In July we had our Back-to-School event. Our moms brought their children, from infants to high school seniors, to Shoe Carnival to select a new pair of shoes for the school year. Through generous donations we were able to pay for these shoes in addition to provide them with 3 outfits, a new backpack, and school supplies. It was hard not to get caught up in the excitement of these young people as they shopped. But what moved me was the pride the high school age students had in their mothers. They talked about doing homework together at the kitchen table. The high and middle school students were telling us about their plans for the future, including postsecondary education. We're not just changing the lives of single moms and dads; we are changing the future of their children who have seen the value of determination and education.

Our End of Year Giving Campaign has begun. It takes \$12,000 to support a family of three for one year: \$1000 a month or \$250 per week. As you make your Christmas gift list, won't you remember SPARC Hope's families? Share your blessings with others!

<https://www.sparc-hope.org/eoy/>

Ruthe Holmberg
Development Director



SPARC
HOPE
Single Parent Resource Center

SO FAR IN
2022...

FAMILIES SERVED

So far this year SPARC Hope has assisted 30 single parent families, including 54 children, through our assistance programs.



GROCERIES GIVEN

So far in 2022 SPARC Hope has given out roughly \$117,637 in groceries to single parents.

ASSISTED WITH UTILITIES

We have assisted our single parents with \$10,375 for utilities such as rent.



GAS CARDS GIVEN

This year SPARC Hope has assisted with \$25,830 in gasoline cards for our single parents to get to & from school & work.



FAMILIES CONNECTED

We have connected 114 families, including 214 children, with other resources or programs to help them find the assistance they need.



Help Santa out this Christmas!
Give the *Gift of Hope*.
SPARC Hope Christmas Gift Drive 2022

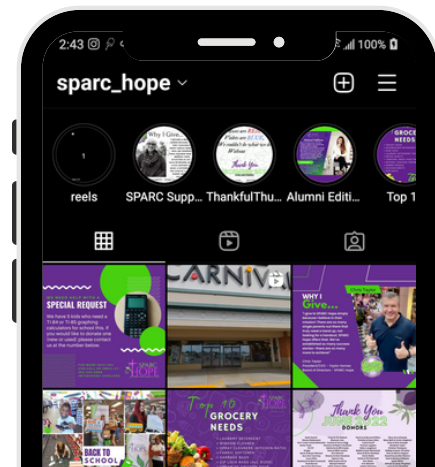


CONNECT WITH US

The best way to keep up with SPARC Hope is to follow us on social media. Every week you get updates on current clients and you can keep up with our graduates with our "Alumni Edition". We post pantry needs and volunteer needs. We even spotlight some of our wonderful supporters and post information on upcoming events.

Check us out on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, or TikTok.

Want to make an impact!? Something that can really help SPARC Hope would be to give us a Google review, you can do so here.



WHY GIVE MONTHLY?

IT'S AFFORDABLE

You can invest what makes sense to you, while making an impact over the course of a year!

IT'S SUPPORT

This investment allows SPARC to plan and grow because we have the support in place to make a difference in our community!

IT'S IMPACTFUL

You will receive updates on how your investment is changing the lives of people in our ministry!



Become a SPARC Supporter at <https://www.sparc-hope.org/sparc-supporters/>