



THE LIGHT

Christians Helping in Crisis™

Christian Clearing House

The light shines in the darkness ... (John 1:5a)

Winter 2025

Your Kindness Makes a Difference Volume 11, Issue 4

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At Christian Clearing House, we are constantly reminded of how blessed we are to have such compassionate and caring donors. Your kindness and generosity truly shine through each and every day. Because of you, we are able to respond to needs as they arise and help the most vulnerable members of our community, often in moments when they need it most.

Each day brings new and unexpected challenges. One Monday morning, just a few weeks ago, the office phone rang. On the line was Becky. She had visited Christian Clearing House the week prior and received a food voucher, so she knew she wasn't eligible for additional assistance so soon. But the tone of her voice told a very different story.

Becky explained that her fifteen-year-old son had been rushed to Children's Hospital. What doctors first thought was just an upset stomach had turned into a life-threatening emergency, his appendix had ruptured, and he was now facing several serious complications. Becky was frantic. She needed gasoline to get to her son's side but had no way to afford it.

Thank goodness that at Christian Clearing House we have guidelines, not rigid rules and because of the generosity of our donors, we were able to give Becky a gas card so she could be with her son during that critical time.

Moments like this remind us why we do what we do. It is through your compassion and continued support that we can respond quickly and provide hope when it's needed most.

As we look ahead and consider the challenges that may come we know that with your ongoing support, Christian Clearing House will continue to be a place of comfort, compassion, and care for our neighbors needing support.

From all of us, our board, staff, and volunteers, thank you for walking alongside us through the Christmas season and throughout the year.

**Together, We Make an Impact.
Together, We Make a Difference.**

This holiday season, we invite you to consider making a financial gift to CCH to help us continue our vital work. Your ongoing support ensures that we can keep providing for those who need it most, right here in Hancock County.



Gifts of support can be mailed to:
Christian Clearing House
1800 N Blanchard St. Suite 107
Findlay, Ohio 45840
Or www.cchsupport.org



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Message from our Executive Director

2025 has certainly kept CCH's Board and staff on our toes. The demand for assistance has continued to rise, surpassing even the already high numbers from 2024. Alongside this increase, we've seen a significant spike in requests for food assistance. As food prices soar and the cost of utilities and rent continue to climb, many of our most vulnerable neighbors are struggling to make ends meet. The recent government shutdown has only worsened the situation, impacting countless households here in Hancock County and across the nation. These challenges have made it increasingly difficult for families to afford even basic necessities, and we've seen firsthand how these economic pressures have deepened food insecurity in our community.

We are incredibly grateful for the vital support we've received from United Way of Hancock County and from our faithful donors who continue to respond with generosity and compassion. Your contributions enable us to provide emergency assistance to neighbors in crisis, offering not only financial relief but also hope and stability during uncertain times.



Tammy Stahl
Executive Director

Our Assistant Director, Heather Davis, continues to be a true blessing to CCH and the families we serve. She consistently stays informed about the latest programs available to best assist our clients, ensuring we provide the most effective support possible. In May, we were also able to expand our team thanks to a grant from the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation. We welcomed Ashley Campbell as our Office Coordinator, and she has already made a meaningful difference through her kindness, compassion, and support for both clients and volunteers.

This year's Treasure Hunt for a Cause Benefit Sale was a tremendous success, thanks to the overwhelming support of our community, both through donations and participation. A special thank you to Brinkman's for their ongoing partnership with this annual event. We're already looking forward to the 2026 sale on March 14th–15th.

CCH also hosted the Sparkle & Shine Prom Dress Giveaway. We hope to expand this program in 2026, continuing to make a positive difference for local students.

In partnership with CedarCreek, we were able to distribute 1,300 backpacks filled with school supplies and 800 shoe vouchers to local children as the new school year began. Our Back-to-School Sock Drive, supported by local churches, was another highlight. The response was outstanding, providing enough socks for every backpack and even extras for families visiting our office. During the winter months, we also participated in Operation Warm, providing 252 new winter coats to children throughout Hancock County.

On a professional note, Heather and I participated in the Lilly School Organizational Strengthening Program and several AI training sessions this year. These opportunities have helped us strengthen our fundraising efforts and stay informed about the latest trends and tools shaping the nonprofit sector.

While it can be easy to feel removed from the hardships others face, the truth is that many of those we serve are hardworking individuals and families who have encountered unexpected financial setbacks. Many rely on Social Security or Disability benefits, and even a single unexpected expense, like a car repair or medical bill, can quickly lead to crisis. At CCH, we are honored to walk beside them, offering a helping hand when it's needed most.

As we look toward 2026, please continue to keep those who rely on our services in your thoughts and prayers. Your ongoing financial support is a true blessing, not only to CCH but to every neighbor who receives hope and help because of your generosity.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our mission. Together, we are making a difference, one family at a time.
Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

God Bless,

Tammy Stahl



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CARING CUPBOARD

The Caring Cupboard is seeing a growing need, and items are leaving our shelves faster than we can restock them. With CCH serving 500–600 families each month, donations of essential household items remain critical.



We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing support of local churches and community members who donate regularly, your generosity makes all the difference.

Most-needed items include laundry soap, dish soap, toilet tissue, diapers, and other everyday essentials. As winter approaches, we are also requesting hats, gloves, and scarves to help keep families warm. Without this consistent generosity, the Caring Cupboard would not be able to provide our clients with the necessary items that are often crucial for day-to-day living.

If you'd like to help, donations can be dropped off at the CCH office . Please call ahead to schedule a time.

Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need!

Caring Cupboard Items

- Toilet paper
- Diapers
- Deodorant
- Feminine products
- Laundry detergent
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Tooth paste
- Tooth brushes
- Bath soap (bars)
- Shaving cream
- Dish detergent
- Hats, gloves, scarfs
- Baby wipes

Is it time for a Required Minimum Distribution?

Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) provide you the opportunity to make withdrawals annually. If you'd like more information on the requirements, be sure to contact your tax preparer before year-end. But when it comes to withdrawals please consider:

Gifting it—perhaps you'd like to donate to Christian Clearing House. Your distribution dollars could possibly help you reduce taxes and best of all help those with needs locally.

Use it to create a legacy—if you are interested in leaving money to CCH as a legacy gift that will continue to support those with needs forever, please contact 419-422-2222. Or consider setting up an endowment fund at The Findlay-Hancock Community Foundation in support of CCH. CCH also has established funds at the foundation that are open to deposit into.

- **Gene and Evelyn Kelsey Fund**.... this fund was established by the CCH Board of Directors in honor of the couple's many years of dedication to the organization.
- **Jerry Sprouse Fund**.....this fund was set up by College First Church of God, honoring Jerry's long-term dedication to CCH.
- **Marv and Judy Rower Fund**....this fund was established for CCH to support local individuals in need of assistance with housing, utilities, medical needs, food and transportation.
- **Project Happy Feet Fund**....this fund is designated to supply area children with new school shoes.
- **The Smile Maker Fund**this designated fund was established to provide emergency dental services to eligible clients who reside in Hancock County.
- **Richard and Mildred Bishop Fund**....this fund was established by their children to support Christian Clearing House. The couple volunteered at the agency from 1994 until 2010. This fund pays for the agency's rent at The Family Center.



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1800 North Blanchard St.
Suite 107
Findlay, Ohio 45840
www.cchsupport.org
419-422-2222

Our Vision:

Christian Clearing House exemplifies Christ's love through assisting our community in times of need.

Our Mission:

To provide emergency assistance for our neighbors facing financial, emotional, or spiritual needs in Hancock County.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID PERMIT #544
FINDLAY, OHIO

Join us for our Annual Meeting

January 26, 2026
8AM (breakfast provided)
K of C Hall
701 W Main Cross St.
Findlay, Ohio 45840
RSVP 419-422-2222 (by 1/22/26)



Donation were made to Christian Clearing House

"In Memory Of"

April Lehman
Rick Lowery
Doris Moore
Paul O'Sullivan



"In Honor Of"

Lynda Gallant

Donating in "memory" or "honor of" someone is a wonderful way to show how special they are and how they have touched your life.

Looking for an easy way to support CCH?

Kroger Community Rewards Enrollment: Log into www.krogercommunityrewards.com, type in the CCH enrollment number 84413 or select Hancock Christian Clearing House, and send your Kroger Plus Points our way! After you are enrolled, all you have to do is use your Kroger Plus Card and the points go to CCH, which turn into \$\$ for the agency.

Great Scot Receipts: Drop your Great Scot store receipts off at the Christian Clearing House office and 1% of your purchase will be donated to the agency. Every penny adds up.

Gordon Foods: At the check out, let the cashier know that you want to support CCH.

E-Bay: Post items and send proceeds to CCH: Charity Id: 193351.

Thank you for supporting Christian Clearing House!



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