

Merry Christmas

by Jessica Bergerson, Intake Specialist

The glow of Christmas lights and crunch of Christmas cookies offer a much-needed reminder of how much we have to celebrate this December and into the New Year. Almost always mentioning the year 2020 comes with a collective groan or even wince from my very small quarantine bubble of friends and companions, but here at the Samaritan Center, we have a lot of really important accomplishments to recognize. It's even more important to acknowledge the impact these efforts have in our community in a time that the need is the greatest it's ever been.

In one of our spiritual reflections, it was said that "we are human beings, not human doings". I want to invite you to take a moment to inhale, relax your jaw, stretch your fingers



and take time to appreciate the great accomplishments you've been a part of here at the <u>Samaritan Center</u> over the last 12 months. In a Herculean effort that required every staff member to stretch his or her comfort zone and skillset, we were able to pivot from working from the office to working from home <u>without missing a single day of services</u>. Our golf tournament was one of the most successful ones we've ever had- and that's really saying something in the middle of the pandemic. To add even more highlights to our year we've initiated strong relationships with local schools and youth organizations as well as NAMI Central Texas.

Our Christmas traditions and holiday gatherings look different this year than in years past, and we may need to eat more of those cookies by ourselves, but one thing is the same-the passion of this staff to serve the most vulnerable in our community and to work collaboratively to make that mission a resounding success.

We know it's been a tough year for everyone. Thanks to all who have been able to help us provide hope and healing for our neighbors. We couldn't do this without you.



Giving For Wellbeing



A Gift of Hope and Healing

At Samaritan Center, we are seeing more and more families struggling who can't afford the cost of service because of lost jobs and lost health insurance. There are more people than ever struggling with anxiety, depression, grief, and trauma. We are seeing an increase in substance abuse, suicide, and domestic violence. Will you help us reach our mission to heal hearts, provide hope, and enhance lives with our holistic approach to mental health for all?

Did you know that the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) expanded giving incentives for taxpayers? You can now make up to \$300 in charitable contributions, and deduct that amount on your 2020 taxes in addition to the standard deduction. If you itemize, the legislation removed the income limitation for deducting charitable contributions. Donate by Dec 31.

Donate











Vision

We envision a healthy and compassionate community in which every individual achieves mental, physical, spiritual and social well-being.

Mission

We heal hearts, provide hope and enhance lives with a holistic approach to mental health for all ages, whole families and the military community.

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