

## ***Great River Region Disciples Women Service Projects 2018***

<b>Global Project:</b> Trauma Recovery and Income-Generation Project for Women		<b>Regional Project:</b> Great River Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
<b>Arkansas:</b>	<b>Mississippi:</b>	<b>Louisiana:</b>
Arkansas Foodbank	Southern Christian Services for Children & Youth	Woody's Home for Veterans, Shreveport

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### **GRR DW Global Service Project – Woman to Woman Worldwide 2018: Trauma Recovery and Income-Generation Project for Women (Cuba)**

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**Trauma Recovery and Income-Generation Project for Women** of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Center\*



The Trauma Recovery and Income-Generation Project for Women of the Center is a network of emotional support, skills training, and income-generation projects for women from difficult circumstances.

Using the model of popular grassroots education, many women find healing from domestic violence situations in the group, and find a network of support from women in the community.

Each woman in the project learns an artistic skill and means of self-expression such as doll-making, making clothes, cooking, and more. Women in the group then

use these skills to generate an income and to contribute back to the project for other women to join.

\*The [Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Center \(CMMLK\)](#) is an organization of Christian inspiration in which Cuban people and their churches contribute prophetically to the solidarity of their country and communities. The Center contributes to society with a liberating and contextual theology and practice. They give hope by organizing social participation, ministering with the Cuban people, actively striving for social justice.

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## **GRR DW Regional Service Project – Great River Region of the Christian Church (DOC)**

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The Great River Region is a ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) which seeks to build up the Body of Christ and strengthen the ministries of Disciples of Christ congregations in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Focused on discernment of God's call in each of our lives, congregations and shared ministries, we work through regional staff, congregational leaders, and denominational ministries to bring God's love and redeeming grace to the point of greatest need. (Eph. 4:11-16, Micah 6:8, Acts 1:6-8)

In 2018, at Regional Assembly in Shreveport, we voted on the following goals for the Great River Region.

- To develop transformational Clergy Leaders who foster good collegial relationships and teach each other
- To facilitate and resource congregational program life through the development of the Great River Region Institute
- To re-develop congregations through strategic partnership and new church development
- To seek Racial Reconciliation and justice and full participation of all church in regional life

Be creative when thinking about how your Disciples Women group can actively support the goals of the Region. Here are a few ideas:

- Sponsor a special event (salad dinner, bake sale, or something similar)
- Have a Churchwide silent auction, or rummage sale
- Take up a special offering at one of your meetings

In addition, financial support is not the only way we can serve the region, spread the news of what the Region is doing for congregations IN your congregations – on church bulletin boards, in congregational newsletters (write an article, share pictures from regional events you've participated in), etc. You could also make it your mission to make sure that our regional newsletter, Currents, is made available for folks to read (post it, print it, share it).

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## GRR DW Arkansas Projects – Arkansas Foodbank

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### 2018 Facts

87,000 households served      80,000 children served      27,000 seniors served  
2.1 million visits made to Arkansas FoodBank member agencies

#### Who is at risk for hunger? Arkansas

- **18.4% of Arkansans** do not know where their next meal is coming from. (2nd worst in the nation)
- **277,150 people** face food insecurity in our 33-county service area; **81,550 are children**.
- **One in FOUR** children (2nd worst) are at risk for hunger in Arkansas.
- **One in FIVE** seniors (5th worst) face the threat of hunger in Arkansas.

#### Whom does the Foodbank serve?who

- We assist people in 33 counties across central and southern Arkansas. Of the **280,000 clients** we serve; **33%** are children under age 18 and **11%** are seniors over age 60.
- In 2017, we distributed **26 million lbs. of food**; enough for **57,000 meals a day** and **2.1 million visits a year**.
- **77%** of the food pantries we serve are faith-based.

#### How does the Foodbank fund its work?

- The Arkansas Foodbank relies on support from individual donors; farmers; corporate partners like Kroger, Walmart, Target, Performance Food Group, US Foodservice, L'Oreal, Diesel Driving Academy, Stallion Transportation and many others; as well as media partners and public food drives to help hungry Arkansans.
- **94 cents of every \$1** goes to programs to feed the hungry.
- We can provide **FIVE meals for every dollar** in donations.
- The Foodbank had **9,264 volunteers** for **26,034 hours** in 2016.
- We are members of Feeding America, the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance and are certified by the Better Business Bureau.

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## GRR DW Mississippi Service Project – Southern Christian Services for Children & Youth (SCSCY)

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### Our Mission

In response to the love of Christ, Southern Christian Services for Children and Youth, Inc. serves and equips vulnerable children and youth, assisting them in the process of becoming self-sufficient and contributing members of society.

### Our Vision

To be an organization that has a positive, recognizable, long-term impact on ALL children and youth in our care by providing professional, cost-effective and timely services.



Southern Christian Services for Children and Youth, Inc. provides children and family services throughout the State of Mississippi. Licensed by the Mississippi Department of Human Services and certified by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, SCSCY is a member agency of the Mississippi Association of Child Caring Agencies and *is an affiliate of the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as well as a member of Disciples Care Network*

### Wishes, Wants & Needs for Boy's Group Homes - 2019

- Dish soap
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Shampoo
- Body Wash
- Deodorant
- Hand soap
- Washcloths/towels/  
Bath towels
- Twin Sheet Sets
- Liquid laundry detergent and fabric softener
- \$10 gift cards (Target, WalMart, etc)
- Board games, ages 12+; Playing cards; card games (ie, Uno)

Funds: We always need funds to help with operating expenses which cover the cost of children living in our group homes.

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## GRR DW Louisiana Service Project – Woody's Home for Veterans, Shreveport

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### Mission

To provide a stable home environment for veterans in need of continued psychiatric care. Woody's Home for Veterans provides housing, medication assistance, transportation, meals, supportive care, etc. We strive to impact our community by maintaining an environment that encourages residents to comply with their treatment while treating them with the respect and honor they are due for service to country and fellow man.



**Woody's Home for Veterans** was founded in 2003 as a way to honor veteran Harold “Woody” Key, 8<sup>th</sup> EVAC Hospital, 5<sup>th</sup> Army, who was the father of the founder and director, Dr. Ronald Key. In 2008, a second home for veterans was founded and they are currently looking to open a third location.

From Dr. Ronald “Doc” Key:

*Our veterans are the forgotten ones. Most people remember and support the veterans who return from overseas with an obvious handicap. Our residents came back from their time of service with deep wounds not necessarily visible to the naked eye. Conditions such as (PTSD) Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and depression, both brought about by the horrors of combat, can be devastating and permanently alter a person's life.*

*We provide a home and safe haven for our veterans, aged 42-73. They can interact with one another, feel safe, and continue to receive the care they need and deserve. In 2008, we opened the doors to our second home and currently are at 90% capacity or more.*

*We are accredited with the VA hospital. Locally, the VA has over 300 registered homeless veterans in our area and unsure of nonregistered. The numbers continue to grow in every town, city and state.*

*Our goal is to assist as many veterans suffering from mental health issues and give them a place to call home. We will continue to open more homes as funding allows.*

For more information about Woody's Home for Veterans, you can visit their webpage at [www.wh4v.com](http://www.wh4v.com)