

The Samaritan Inn

— 2024 —

Volunteer

Impact Report



*At The Samaritan Inn, we strive to empower and engage individuals in our community to make a difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness. We do this through **volunteer** opportunities at The Samaritan Inn, creating a compassionate and supportive environment for both our guests and **volunteers**.*



Thank You — to Our Volunteers

2024 marked 40 years since The Samaritan Inn first opened its doors. This milestone achievement is in part made possible thanks to the incredible dedication, unwavering support, and hard work by our volunteers.

Since 1984, The Samaritan Inn has been a beacon of HOPE for so many in the North Texas region. We strive to empower each of our residents to maintain their dignity and regain their independence by providing a structured program that continues to lead to long-term success.

We would like to thank each of our volunteers for your willingness to give your time and energy to make a profound impact on the lives of others. Whether it's serving a meal, sorting a donation, or simply answering a phone call, each act of kindness you perform brings hope and comfort to those who need it most. Together, you are helping to make a difference.

On behalf of the entire staff we would like to extend our thanks to each of you. We are grateful for your support.



2024 in review



"I had so much fun being a part of the Samaritan Inn Teen Action Council this year! Gaining volunteer experience and giving back to my community has truly made me grow--- not just as a volunteer, but has made me a more empathetic and caring person."
~Kunal Setty

Teen Action Council

In 2024, we created our inaugural Teen Action Council, TAC. The TAC is composed of Collin County teens in grades 9-12, who together formed a leadership board; eager not only to make a difference in their communities but to learn more about homelessness in North Texas.

The TAC meets on a regular basis to gain knowledge about The Samaritan Inn and discuss ways to be advocates for the homeless in their communities. They also help organize and assist in our Family and Teen Service Days as well as other service projects throughout their term.

Members gain experience in teamwork, develop leadership skills and learn ways to advocate for those in need to raise awareness and drive positive change in their communities.



"Having the opportunity to serve with TAC has truly been a two-way street. I have learned so much about myself and my community alike. TAC has opened my eyes into the power of helping others and this experience has stuck with me in all aspects of my life. I'm beyond thankful to have been a part of TAC this year!"
~Cole Wakefield



~James, Juliette, Lisa, Camille and Chloe Hatfield serving with the TAC at Family Serve Day.

Homeless Awareness Week

Homeless Awareness Week, HAW, is an annual event held the week before Thanksgiving. Volunteers, board members and staff serve alongside one another to represent The Inn at partnering restaurants and grocery stores to raise financial support and collect perishable and non-perishable grocery items, while raising awareness about homelessness in North Texas.



~Janiece, John, and Fallan Carrillo collect food donations for The Samaritan Inn.

Kids Summer Fun

What's more fun than summer break? In the summer of 2024 we began our Kids Summer Fun program. With the help of 10 volunteers, several community groups, and 17 YMSL and NCL chapters, students at the Inn engaged in exciting activities and projects while they were not involved in summer camps.

Holidays at the Inn

Holidays at The Samaritan Inn are a time of community and hope. Volunteers are abundant this time of year as everyone works together to provide our residents with an unforgettable holiday season! Whether you help us trim our trees, sponsor a meal, or donate a special gift, your acts of kindness help us create a sense of home and belonging to each of our residents.



~Members of Newcomer Friends of Greater Plano volunteers to help wrap gifts at Nebraska Furniture Mart to collect donations for The Samaritan Inn.



~Above Left, Jaxson Turner and members of his group at Jaxson's Annual Christmas Party for our resident children. Middle, Merina White decorates the lobby Christmas tree. Right, a young resident visits with Santa Clause at Santa's special visit to The Samaritan Inn.



"I started shopping at the Inn Style thrift store about 20 years ago. I knew right away I wanted to do more to support the Inn, so I got involved as a volunteer at Inn Style and also support special events and fundraisers. I believe everyone deserves a place to call home, I am thankful we have the Inn to help so many people."
~ Merina White

Serve Days

Serve Days at The Samaritan Inn allow community members, teens and families with young children to have the opportunity to volunteer alongside us without completing our volunteer application. Over the course of 2024, seven Serve Days were hosted to help others learn about the Inn, our mission and programs while volunteering.



~Bev Lee leads a group from our Family Serve Day in a kitchen activity.

Volunteer Appreciation

One of the best weeks each year is when we celebrate and appreciate the invaluable contributions of our volunteers! 2024's theme was "Everyday is a Picnic with our Volunteers." Congratulations to each of our volunteer award winners, especially Bonnie Rahne, our 2024 Volunteer of the year.



~Top right, Cheryl Spofford, Bonnie Rahne, and Julie Berger. Middle left, Samaritan Inn staff with John Tegeler our top hours earner. Middle, Diane Agan and Cheryl Deupree, thrift store volunteer of the year. Middle right, Bonnie Rahne, Cheryl Spofford (staff), Lisa Porter, Beth Poteniec Special Events Volunteers of the year. Bottom left, Samaritan Inn staff with Dewaine Miller, Programs Volunteer of the Year. Bottom middle, Helen Blacklock and Thelma Taylor. Bottom right, Cheryl Spofford and Newcomers of Greater Plano Group members, Group volunteers of the year.

Volunteer McKinney, Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to John Tegeler, Volunteer McKinney, Volunteer of the Year. Since 2016, John has served over 7,000 hours, supporting the Inn by helping with our food pick-up program. This recognition by Volunteer McKinney is a testament to John's exceptional dedication, hard work and unwavering commitment to make a positive impact for not only the residents that call The Samaritan Inn home, but also for the McKinney community.



~John Tegeler is awarded, Volunteer McKinney; Volunteer of the Year.

BookHounds

BookHounds began in 2013 and continues to be one of the favorite volunteer programs at The Samaritan Inn. BookHounds teams, composed of a dog handler and a certified therapy dog, help foster and encourage reading and literacy among our child residents. Perhaps, as important as encouraging a love of reading is the gift of friendship and security that each dog team provides. Each week, BookHounds provides a safe and relaxing space to allow each child a respite from the world around them. It's a place safe from judgment where they can get lost in a great book while loving on a furry friend.



Faith, co-founder of BookHounds, who served from 2013-2015

Pop Up Shop

While residing at The Samaritan Inn, residents are provided all necessary toiletry and personal items. But sometimes it's important to get a little something fun and extra! Over the course of the year, volunteer groups help us offer our Pop-Up Shops, where residents get to shop for free for additional clothing, beauty and other goodies!



The Loomis Agency providing a Pop-up Shop for our residents.

Tutoring Program

At any given time, approximately a third of our population are children under the age of 18, and many of those are students. Our tutoring program is a vital component in helping ensure that those students succeed in school. With the dedication of a group of core volunteers, many of whom are retired teachers, students get the 1:1 attention that they need.



*"The Samaritan Inn is really unique and special. When I look at the number of people who are helped here, in addition to those who walk in the door who might need a blanket or a hot meal, I know this place is the best fit for me as a volunteer."
~ Rick Jondron*



*"I love to cook, and I love the companionship of serving with other people in the kitchen. There is always something to do. I go home worn out, but I always feel lifted up knowing I helped someone."
~ Bev Lee*

Ambassadors

Our Ambassador Program has been a strong component of our volunteer department for many years. Ambassador Volunteers work to strengthen connections between our local community and The Samaritan Inn, representing the Inn at various community events and volunteer fairs throughout the year.



Katy Edwards, Cindy Edwards, and Charles Nash serve as Ambassadors during Homeless Awareness Week.

40th Anniversary — & Gala

Saturday, April 20th we celebrated 40 years of Transitions, Transformations and Growth as we journeyed through the decades at our 40th Anniversary and Gala at the Omni PGA Frisco Resort

The contributions of over 80 volunteers helped us ensure that our Gala was a success!





The Samaritan Inn by the Numbers

PEOPLE SERVED by the Samaritan Inn in 2024

1,600

people assisted across all housing programs

438



people spent 50,074 nights at the Samaritan Inn shelter

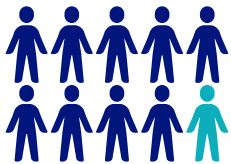
104,972

Meals Served



\$1.3 million

in food and supplies shared with community agencies



90%

of those who entered the shelter in crisis or vulnerable, and stayed at least six months, were safe or stable when they left the inn



"I help residents take a breather, sometimes look at one bad day as just that, one day, with the hope that tomorrow will be better. The Inn gives residents that moment to reset, redirect and redefine themselves."
~ Mamie Hyman,
Assistant Team Lead
Program Specialist





Individual Volunteers by the Numbers

At The Samaritan Inn, volunteers serve in many capacities; helping each area of the shelter with needed services for our residents. While all of our volunteers do not volunteer directly with our residents they each provide necessary support to essential functions at The Samaritan Inn.

Volunteers can be one of two different types: individual or as a member of a group.

In 2024:



1,113

Active Volunteers



34,594

Total Hours Served

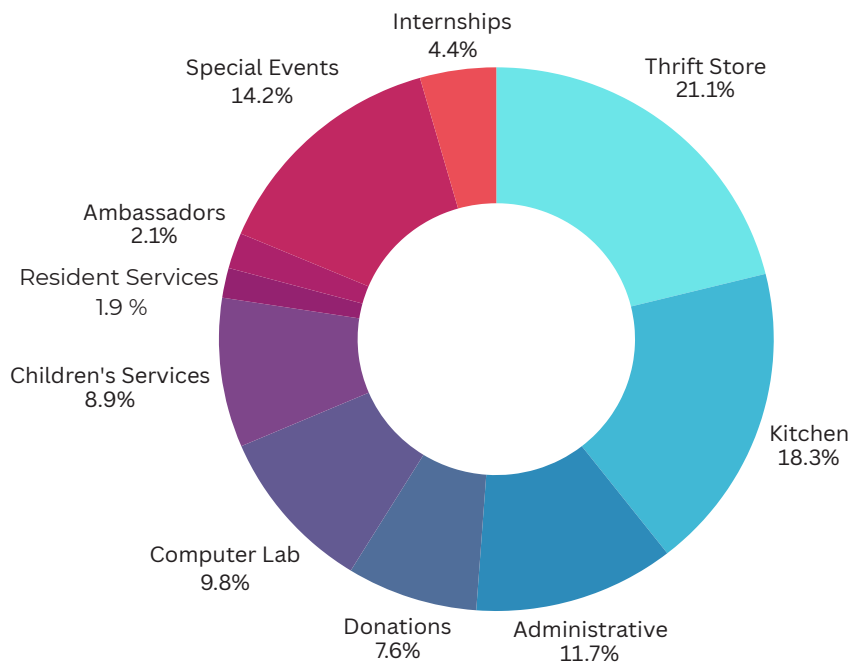


\$1,104,932.36

Total value of Volunteer hours

Individual Volunteers by area

565 individual volunteers served in the following areas in 2024. *

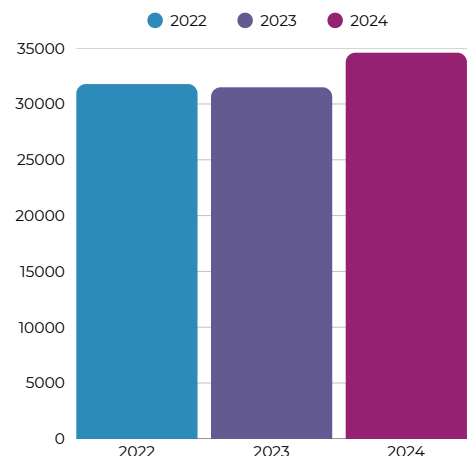


*Individual volunteers have completed our volunteer application process and are not a part of a group.



"There is too much work to do not to help address the problem of homelessness. For me, there is no better place than here. I talk about the shelter everywhere I go, and I use my connections to help raise awareness."
~ Charles Nash

Volunteer Hours by the Year



Did you know?

According to the Independent Sector, the value of a volunteer's time in Texas is : **\$31.94** per hour!



How to get involved as an individual volunteer

Volunteer opportunities are available for individuals ages 14 and above. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please view the steps below and join the **71** new volunteers from 2024.

Steps to Become an Individual Volunteer

1) Visit our website

Volunteer information can be found at:
www.saminn.org/volunteer, view potential volunteer opportunities and see the steps to become a volunteer.



2) Complete the Online Application

Please complete the online volunteer application for all individuals interested in volunteering. Teens must be between the ages of 14-18 to volunteer alongside a parent.

3) Complete the Background Check Form

We complete a background check for all potential volunteers. Download and complete the DPS form and upload to the form using the link on the website or email to volunteer@saminn.org.



4) Submit a Processing Fee

Please submit individual volunteer fee of \$25 per person to help cover the cost of a background check and processing fees.

5) Attend an Introduction to the Inn

The volunteer coordinator will email the applicant once all information is received and application is completed to schedule an Introduction to The Samaritan Inn shift.



"There is a place for any type of volunteer here, regardless of skill set or age. The Inn will find a place for every person to make a positive difference."

~Deawn Goedderz

Opportunities are available for



Individuals.

Individual volunteers who are interested in volunteering on a regular, on-going basis. Please complete the steps below to become an individual volunteer.



Court Ordered Community Service.

We allow community service volunteers over the age of 18 to serve at our thrift store. If interested, complete the Individual Application steps.



Service Learning and Internships.

Opportunities are available for service learning as well as social work and counseling interns. Service Learning volunteers need to complete the steps below. Internships need to email volunteer@saminn.org to inquire on available internships.



Teens.

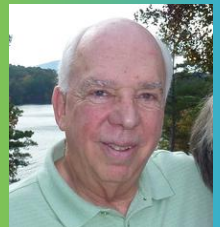
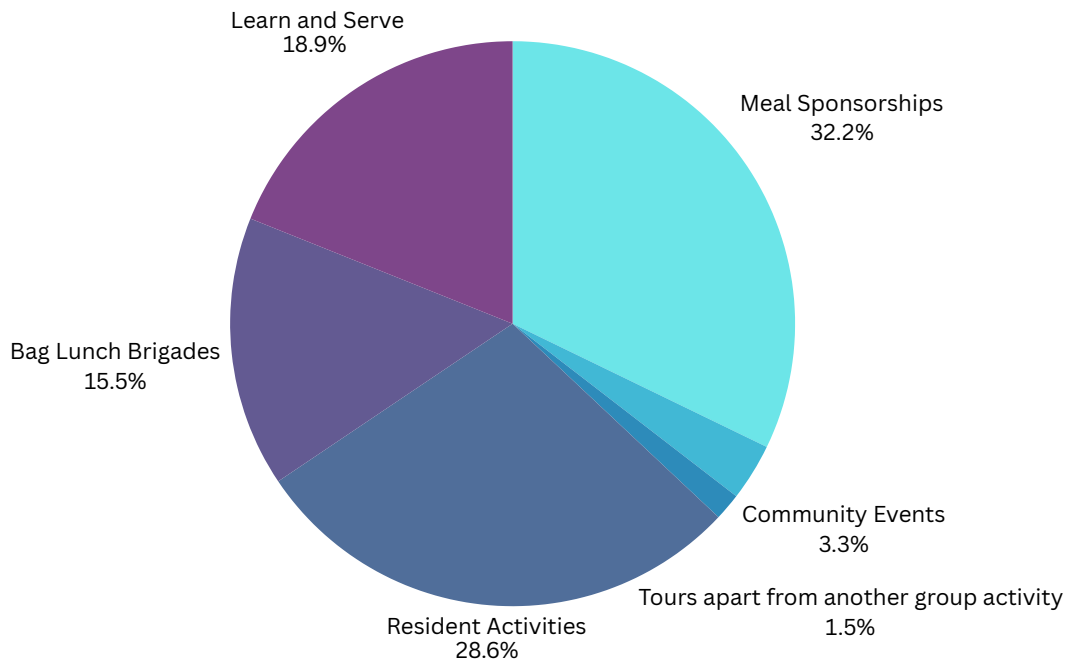
Teen volunteers (14-18) can become Individual volunteers by completing the steps outlined. Teens (14-18) must volunteer alongside a parent or adult guardian. Parents and adult guardians must complete the application process as well.



Group Volunteers by the Numbers

At The Samaritan Inn, group volunteers provide support through a number of organized activities designed to help meet the needs of the shelter. Groups include corporate teams, school clubs, faith-based organizations, families, and community service groups. By working together, volunteer groups help The Samaritan Inn complete needed tasks while learning about The Samaritan Inn and our programs, while also raising awareness about homelessness within our community.

Group Activity Breakdowns



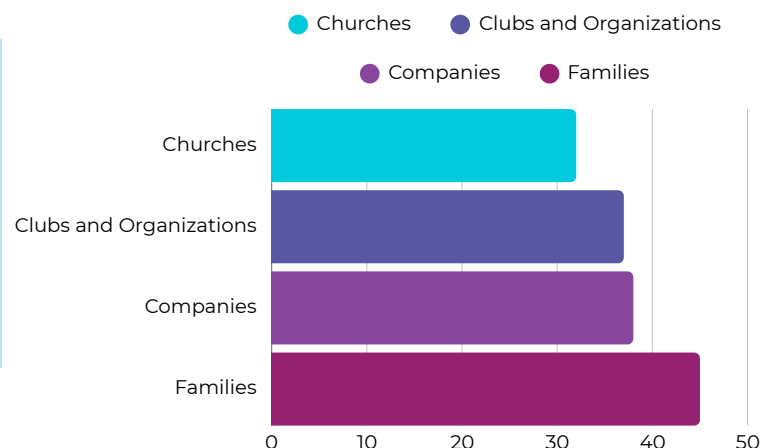
"Volunteering to help those less fortunate is such a rewarding experience. I have always had a good feeling when I am able to do something, albeit so small, to make their lives a little bit better. Bringing a group is even more rewarding as you have the opportunity to have all the group members experience the rewarding feeling. As far as the Inn itself, everything is so well organized that volunteering is easy. I would recommend it for everyone who can find a few free hours - and you know you can!"
~ Dave Robertson,
Coordinator for Gateway Church

Types of Groups who Volunteered

In 2024: **582**



Volunteer Groups
served at
The Samaritan Inn





How to get involved as a Group

Learn and Serve

Groups will begin with a tour of our shelter to learn more about our program. Upon completion of the tour, your group will do various jobs like sorting, organizing, inventory of donations, deep cleaning, etc.

Meal Sponsorship

For a financial sponsorship of \$500 up to 8 people can come and serve a meal to our residents. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner sponsorships are available.

Bag Lunch Brigade

Groups can assist in making bag lunches. Your group can help by bringing the supplies and making bag lunches in our dining room.

Resident Activity

Plan a resident activity alongside our resident activities coordinator.

Donation Drive

Collect some of our most needed items within your friend group, club, neighborhood, school or church and deliver to the shelter. Please connect with the volunteer department for a calendar for needed items, as well as gift card donation information, and hygiene and linen kit information.

Thrift Store Workday

Organize a service day at our Thrift Store, where tasks include sorting, organizing, and receiving donations.

Schedule a Tour

Schedule a tour of our shelter to learn more about the work being done at The Samaritan Inn. Tours can be combined with any of the above, encouraged with donation and gift card drives.



"The Newcomer Friends of Greater Plano love volunteering at the Samaritan Inn. As one the few homeless shelters in Collin County they provide an essential role in our community. Whether our team of ladies volunteer to organize their food pantry, make 'to-go' brown bag lunches for the residents, assist with their fund-raising galas or other various activities, the staff is always organized, helpful, friendly and appreciative of our help. The Samaritan Inn continues to give hope to those trying to rebuild their lives and we are so very glad to be a small part of their services to the community."
~ Barb Berard
Newcomer Friends of Greater Plano



Top Row: (L) Crosspoint Church men's group receives a tour of the shelter led by Julie Berger. (M) Meal Sponsors, SiteOne Landscape Supply, serves lunch to our residents. (R) Del Webb Trinity Falls Neighborhood collections donations as a party of their annual Polar Plunge. Bottom Row: (L) A group from Safelite helps organize our pantry during a Learn and Serve Event. (Middle-L) Project Beauty volunteers to provide our residents haircuts. (Middle-R) HistoryMaker Homes helps refresh InnStyle Resale with a new coat of paint. (R) Texas Mutual Insurance Company helps make bag lunches.



Interested in Volunteer Opportunities?

For more information about the Volunteer Department and available volunteer activities:

**www.saminn.org/volunteer
volunteer@saminn.org
972-542-5302 x 806**

A special thanks to Sandy Demskie. Thank you for your invaluable help with the Volunteer Impact Report. Your attention to detail, thoughtful input, and commitment to quality played a key role in bringing everything together.