



COVID-19 Grantee Spotlight: Wrens Chapel Outreach Ministries Inc.



During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Wrens Chapel Outreach Ministry Inc has been out actively working in the community to feed families in rural communities.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity as “a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life.” In Georgia, more than one in five children (21 percent) live in food insecure households; the national average is 18 percent. 15.1 percent of Georgians don’t always know where they will find their next meal; the national average is 13 percent. In rural Georgia 33 percent of children live in poverty and may have very limited access to healthy, affordable food.

“With families losing jobs during this time, it is imperative that we stay vigilant in the effort of making sure no man, woman or child goes hungry.”

Rev. Chekibe Holman,
Wrens Chapel A.M.E. Church

Before COVID-19, our nation was already battling issues surrounding poverty and hunger. On September 10, 2018 the U.S. Census reported that the poverty line sits at 11.8 percent. Statista, an online statistics portal, puts Georgia’s poverty rate at 14.3 %. While this represents progress, there are some counties in Georgia that continue to wrestle with the plight of poverty. The poverty rate in Jefferson County, the county where Wrens sits, is 24.8 percent. However, according to the 2020 World Population Review, **the poverty rate for Wrens specifically is 37.94%.**

People in Jefferson County and in Wrens were in desperate need before the pandemic struck and they are definitely in need now. Despite these statistics, the people of Wrens Chapel A.M.E. Church and Wrens Chapel Outreach Ministry rolled up their sleeves and put

together a plan that would help feed and serve families in need in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic. **In the past 12 weeks, we have served over 200 families because we believe no one should have to go hungry regardless of their race, color, creed or economic status.** We hope and pray to continue to make a difference one family at a time.

The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare societal inequities that Southern Partners Fund has fought since its incorporation. SPF's capacity for enabling its grantee partners to build coordinated rapid response teams in their communities is well documented. SPF's grantee organizations rely on Justice Fund for Disaster Relief and Renewal grants to identify their most vulnerable populations and connect them to agencies and services that can help. In turn, vulnerable populations in these communities trust SPF grantee organizations to provide them with the best support available. In many communities, our grantee partners are their first responders.

COVID-19 is currently the primary focus for the Justice Fund for Disaster Relief and Renewal while SPF aggressively seeks new funding partners. To date, SPF has raised over **\$4M out of a \$10M funding goal** and is already issuing its first round of grants to partner organizations throughout the rural Southeast.

For more information on Wrens Chapel Outreach Ministries Inc., or on contributing to SPF's Justice Fund for Disaster Relief and Renewal, please click below to visit our dedicated COVID-19 page or contact us by phone with the contact details provided below.

[More Info](#)

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