



Annual Report 2013



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" . . .and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

Micah 6 Coalition is a network of faith communities within the University of Texas area that answers the call of Micah 6:8 to

...do justice through education, dialogue, and advocacy

...love kindness by compassionately serving those who come to us for assistance

...walk humbly with God by providing opportunities for the spiritual growth of those we serve, our congregations, and other community partners

Micah 6 of Austin is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, incorporated in July 2004.

MESSAGE

From Liz Nash

Each time our board and staff meet, we read our Mission Statement, centered around the great call from Micah 6. It reminds us why our 11 member churches joined together, why our work goes beyond the tasks immediately before us, and how our first calling, above all else, is to lift up the God-given dignity of each person connected with Micah 6.

Weekly in 2013, we gave away groceries, served food, and offered a place of welcome to more than 450 people. We also committed our resources to two affiliate programs, freeze nights and Thursday drop-in clothes shopping, both for street youth.

I am profoundly grateful for the many volunteers who made this happen, including some who have given hours each week for years. And our staff members offered more than part-time effort. What an amazing blessing!

We faced a few challenges this past year: food was occasionally inadequate to meet the need, long-time volunteers in positions of leadership moved on, new volunteers for the drop-in center continued to be hard to find.

Although we ended the year with a deficit, we had an excellent cash reserve, and fully met all our financial obligations. We will be working harder to raise money to sustain our programs next year.

We are looking for ways to expand our services, reach out even more to people in need, and support our community more fully. It is a great privilege to be part of this work. What we do—what you do as part of Micah 6—is truly God’s work.

Rev. Dr. Liz Nash, Micah 6 Board President



Blessed are those that are generous,
because they feed the poor. *Proverbs 22:9*

Micah 6 Food Pantry

The food pantry began to operate like a grocery in 2013. Although surplus food was sometimes scarce as the Farm Bill languished, Pantry Director of Operations Joe Bell was truly creative in finding new food sources, with great variety.

◆ Trader Joe's joined H-E-B, Randalls, Whole Foods, and Pepperidge Farm donating additional food.

◆ Shopping visits remained about the same as last year; 2,526 people were first-time shoppers.

◆ A new emphasis on sourcing fresh produce often meant shoppers could choose from more than a ton of fresh fruits and vegetables.

◆ 466 shoppers, or about 13%, self-identified as homeless. Many other shoppers had a fixed income, disabilities, or were low-income working families.



500,000

pounds of food in

18,649 baskets

went to **3,521**

households





What if all our kids had backpacks filled with supplies for back to school?"

Krista Fogleson

Children's Corner Coordinator

For many years, children's corner coordinator Krista Fogleson and her mother and sister have cared for children while their parents shopped. Weekly, they led them in activities appropriate to the season. In May, Krista formally proposed a comprehensive backpack program. She worked with Kristine Newlin of the Allandale H-E-B, who provided backpacks and supplies at cost. In September, we had 116 happy kids!



The kids show off their new backpacks. Each registered child received age-appropriate supplies. Thanks, H-E-B!



Give, and it will be given unto you.

Luke 6:38

Street Youth Outreach

2013 was the second full year of the Street Youth Drop-in Center. The center continued to rely on a small band of dedicated volunteers, and was open every Sunday afternoon. The board and senior pastors initiated a dialogue with Austin Police Department representatives regarding humane treatment of street youth.

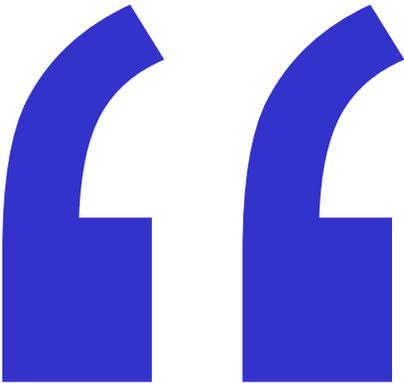
- ◆ Each Sunday, the drop-in center hosted an average of 29 young adults, with a high of 51 guests.
- ◆ There were about 1,350 visits to the center altogether.
- ◆ Participation in the UUMC Fig Leaf clothes drop-in averaged 18 guests.
- ◆ November brought extremely cold weather. The Freeze Night shelter opened 23 times through March 2014, offering hot food and more than 320 sheltering spots.



2,022

Plates of hearty, nutritious food were served on Sundays at the drop-in center





What if we added more computers to our computer bank?"

Craig Bell

Drop-in Center Host

From the beginning, the Street Youth Drop-in Center was designed with today's connected young people in mind. The center began with six computers; guests self-manage access time. With an average of 29 guests each week, access had to be limited to one hour, with a long waiting list. Thanks to the efforts of former board member and long-time volunteer Craig Bell, three more computers were added in September. More guests are now able to research sources of assistance, work on applications, and mostly, just have fun.



Computers aren't the only attraction at the drop-in center. Guests play board games, create art, and of course, enjoy a great Sunday dinner!

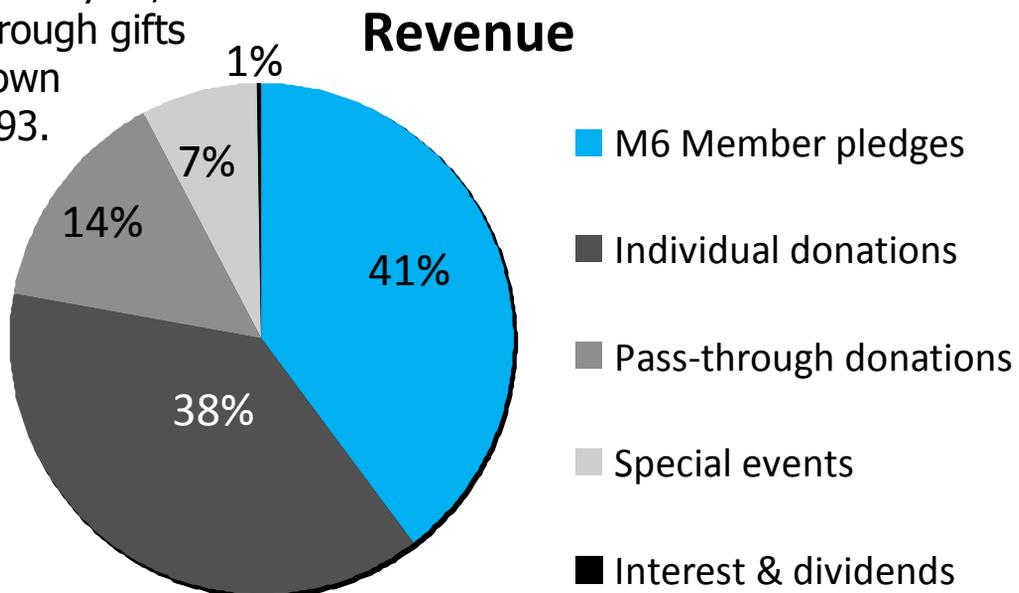


2013 FINANCIALS

Micah 6 2013

Revenue	
Coalition Member pledges	\$42,606
Individual donations	\$40,719
Pass-through donations	\$15,409
Special events	\$7,798
Interest and dividends	\$279
Other income	\$31
Total	\$107,451

The Micah 6 Board structured the budget to allow for additional staff and expanded programs. Pledge amounts for Member Congregations remained the same as the prior year, while pass-through gifts were down by \$7,793.

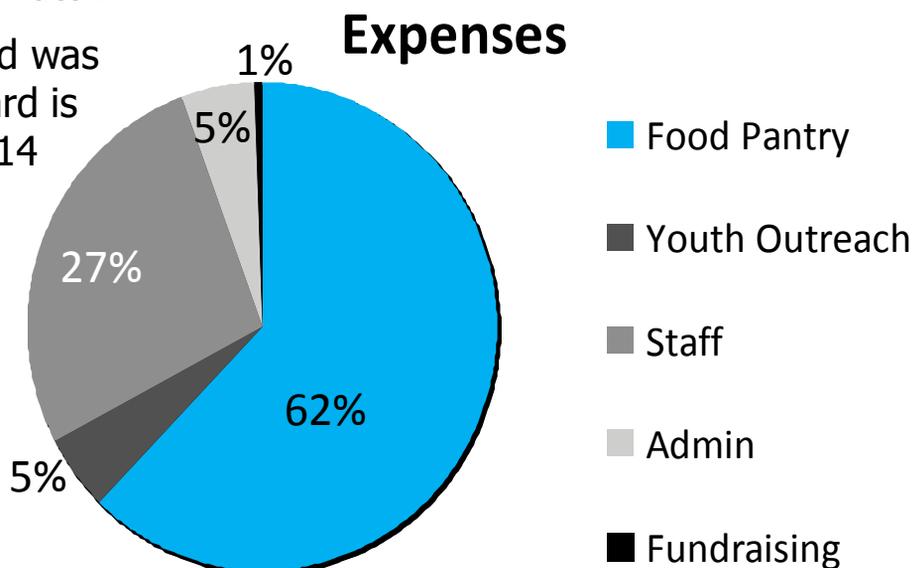


2013 FINANCIALS

Expenses	
Programs	
Food Pantry Operations	\$75,799
Street Youth Outreach	\$6,292
Staff	\$33,229
Administrative Overhead	\$5,976
Fundraising	\$673
Total	\$121,968

In consultation with the leadership of member congregations, and given the substantial surplus at the beginning of 2013, the board voted to efficiently use surplus funds. They stepped out in faith in April to hire a part-time coordinator.

Deficit at year-end was \$14,517. The board is confident that 2014 donations will return to prior year levels.

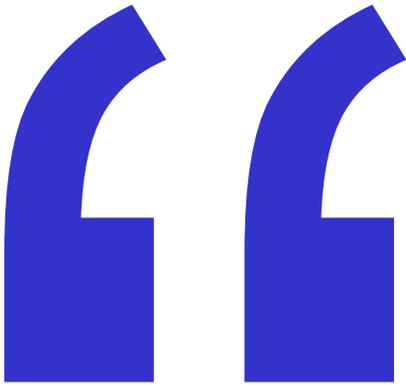


THANK YOU

This was a year of focus on volunteer efforts. Micah 6 volunteers contributed at least 1,000 hours to the Street Youth Drop-in Center, more than 10,500 hours to the Food Pantry, plus countless hours driving, picking up and delivering food, ordering food, capturing data on shoppers and volunteers, and tending Micah 6 plot at Sunshine Community Gardens. What amazing acts of kindness!

A very special thank-you to Joyce Moos, Harriet Choffel, and Mary Bowles who, after many years of service to Micah 6, committed their talents to other causes dear to their hearts. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. May your new ventures bring you many blessings!





I give to Micah 6 of Austin because they show kindness... It's a very simple mission, carried out by hundreds of volunteers every year, week after week."

Jackie Chuter

Board Member, Volunteer





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Micah 6 of Austin is grateful to its eleven Member Congregations, without whose continued prayers, pledges, and volunteer effort, this work would not be possible.