



BARBARA, THE LINEN LADY



Greenhouse Ministries has stories about how our clients lives have been impacted when they walk through our doors. However, we have just as many stories about how our **volunteers** lives have changed as well. One of these volunteers, is our “linen lady,” Barbara (pictured below on the right). Barbara started volunteering almost a year ago in our warehouse, sorting and organizing all of the linen donations we receive. This is a huge job and Barbara does it perfectly. We love Barbara for her linen sorting skills, but we have loved to see her come to life at Greenhouse even more so. Allow her to share her story, and when you’re finished reading, come write your own volunteer story!



“What am I going to do now? I have to do something because I cannot just sit here anymore. This is what I (Barbara) thought as my kids grew up, two of my best friends had passed away and the other two recently moved away.

I eventually stumbled upon Greenhouse Ministries and began volunteering in the warehouse with the linens. I started to feel needed. I had never really gotten a “thank you” or a “good job” in my life before I came to Greenhouse. If I ever have anything bothering me at home, as soon as I back out of my driveway to come to Greenhouse, all the worry goes away. And when I get home, I’m in a better frame of mind to deal with whatever it is. Even more so, I never really thought church was something I should do. Until I came to Greenhouse and heard everyone talking about church. Another volunteer, Donna (pictured above on the left), told me I should give church a try, and so I did, and I love it.

Greenhouse is now a part of my life and I am here forever until I can’t walk anymore or until they kick me out!”

GET TO KNOW GREENHOUSE

Our Greenhouse Ministries spotlight this month is our Investor Relations Specialist, Sarah Gwinn. Sarah is quick on her feet, exudes energy in all atmospheres, and is known for her contagious laugh! She consistently uses her creativeness to improve the flow of programs and services at Greenhouse. She does this through grant writing, which can be federal, state, or local city money. In simple terms, grants allow Greenhouse to do what we do! Sarah also works with our donors -present and future- to ensure they are kept up to date with what their money is going towards. Sarah is a key part in keeping our programs functioning and financially supported.

1. How long have you worked at Greenhouse?

June 1st marks my two year anniversary at Greenhouse. I first came as a volunteer client counselor in 2010.

2. What is your favorite part about working here?

My favorite part about working at Greenhouse is the freedom to try something new and fail. It is a safe place to GO BIG or GO HOME. If it doesn’t work, we will learn from it. We can try again and then do better the next time.

3. What is your favorite event at Greenhouse and why?

My favorite Greenhouse event is the Thanksgiving Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry. From the moment the event begins there is a constant theme of thanks!

309 South Spring St.
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

PHONE: 615.494.0499

FAX: 615.494.0065

greenhousemin.org

HOURS OF OPERATION

Tuesday - Friday:
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tracey Binkley

Mark & Janet Blackwelder

Andrae Crismon

Phil Dodd

Steve & Teresa Howell

Rosland Rhyne

Drew & Christy Sanford

Cliff & Jane Sharp

Jon Troutt

The Greenhouse News is published monthly by Greenhouse Ministries, a 501 (c) 3 Inter-denomination non-profit organization.

CLIFF'S NOTES

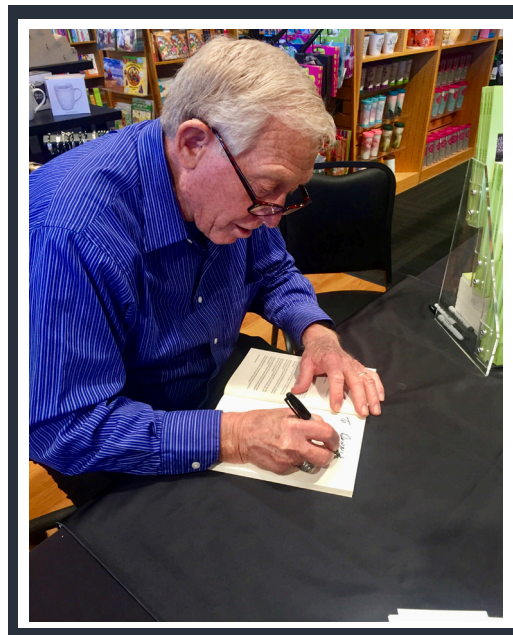
Gerri came to Greenhouse Ministries about 3 years ago needing help and looking for a job. As I visited with her I asked her what she would like to do. Her reply was that she would like to have her own business and that she was really good at cleaning houses. We prayed God would give her the right direction and make it happen.

About six months later she was at The Garden Patch Thrift Shoppe buying some things and was telling our staff that she had started her cleaning business and it was doing well. She said that she now had two office buildings to clean along with her houses. Gerri was even making plans to talk to an apartment manager about cleaning and painting after someone vacates a unit.

Even more time passed and I saw Gerri again as she was looking for bikes for her children. She wanted to tell me that her husband had quit his job and was helping her with the painting because the business was getting to be more than she could handle by herself. She was very excited about how God continued to increase the possibilities for their family. She said they had saved some money and needed to buy a used van to keep their supplies in. She wanted me to pray with her about finding the van. I told her how proud I was of her and her success. When I said let's pray and thank God for this, Gerri said, "this all started with your encouragement and prayer."

I think nothing gives me greater pleasure than seeing people who have struggled and have now reached a level of success. It is especially gratifying when you know that we have prayed with them and have had a small part in their success. At Greenhouse Ministries it is our policy to pray specifically about situations we find our clients in. I pray that you will find someone this week to pray for and give them encouragement in the name of Jesus. Follow up and watch God work!

Col 2:2: "...that their hearts may be encouraged..."



Greenhouse has copies of Cliff Sharp's book "Cliff's Notes" available for purchase. "Cliff's Notes" is filled with God's stories at Greenhouse! The cost for the book is \$11.99 plus shipping. If you are interested in purchasing a book, you can stop by Greenhouse or contact Rachel Young at rachel.young@greenhousemin.org. You can also call Greenhouse Ministries at 615.494.0499.

DONOR APPRECIATION MONTH!

Greenhouse Ministries would cease to exist without our donors. For this reason, we want to say thank you to our donors this year in a **BIG** way! The entire month of July will be Donor Appreciation Month as we say **THANK YOU** to those who donate to Greenhouse Ministries. You choose to serve the underserved in our community and more importantly, you choose to give hope. **HOPE** for the single mother who now has food to feed her children. **HOPE** to a homeless veteran who has a mentor through our mentorship program. And **HOPE** to all of our clients who have never had hope until they walk through our doors. To our donors, be on the look out for more details about Donor Appreciation Month and thank you for planting hope in the 'boro.



THE PAST MONTH AT A GLANCE

-  Please make note that for the summer months (June, July and August) Garden Patch Thrift Shoppe will be **CLOSED** on Saturdays. We will also not be taking donations on Saturdays.
-  We had another successful Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry thanks to our sponsors, Shawn and Jennifer Kaplan!
-  Wilson Bank & Trust goes beyond banking and into the door of the community to help serve others! Their \$1,000 donation is tremendously appreciated!
-  We welcomed a new public relations intern for the summer, Marissa Countess! She has already been a wonderful worker and we are thrilled to have her.
-  Liberty Mutual Insurance and St. Thomas Medical Partners spent their time this month volunteering in our warehouse!
-  Our Learning Center had 18 people in their Microsoft Word class where they learned basic skills to better enhance their job possibilities.
-  Publix Super Market Charities, through their 2016 Food For All Campaign, donated \$20,814.83. Publix's mission is to be involved citizens in our community and they do an excellent job in fulfilling their mission! Thank you Publix!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 3:
ReCYCLE Bike Repair Event

June 8:
Volunteer Orientation

June 15-17:
Girls Wilderness Treck

June 22-24:
Boys Wilderness Treck

THANK YOU!

MTSU Fraternity and Sorority Life donated Ramen Noodles to our food pantry. Thank you MTSU!

Thank you so much to Lucky Ladd Farms who donated over 2200 pounds of food and \$400 from their Community Appreciation Day!

Kingwood Church of Christ's Tuesday Women's Bible Study group donated some desperately needed items for our food pantry and community rack. Thank you Kingwood!

Yet another thank you to Cascade Elementary and High School for decorating, assembling and donating sack lunches to bless our homeless clients.

MEMORIAL GIFTS:

In memory of Raymond and Imogene Mann:
Ned and Jackie Myers

In memory of Mrs. Katie Wynn:
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Watson

In memory of Ruth Dial:
Jack and Teresa Stone

GREENHOUSE NEEDS:

1. Food for the food pantry including:
 - Canned beans
 - Canned chicken
 - Soup
 - Hamburger helper
2. Items for our community rack:
 - Women's deodorant
 - Shaving cream