



March 2017

Volume 3, No. 1

# Newsletter

## POINT IN TIME !

### Since our Beginning In October 2010

- ✓ 203,145 meals served
- ✓ 49,023 Volunteer hours
- ✓ 100 – 200 meals served daily

### GRAND CENTRAL STATION 2017 NEEDS LIST

- CANNED Coffee 3#
- Gal size tea bags
- Plastic Forks, Spoons, Knives
- Styrofoam soup bowls
- Pam Cooking Spray
- Trash Can Liners, 13 & 33 gal
- Sandwich, Quart & 1 gal Zip Lock Bags
- Brown Paper Bags 12#
- Razors
- Deodorant – small size
- Hotel samples of shampoo, lotion, body wash
- Toothbrushes
- Travel size toothpaste
- Blankets
- Sleeping Bags
- Tents, for our homeless
- Sweet Relish
- # 10 Canned Goods
- Louisiana Hot Sauce

Volunteers from all over Texoma came out to help with the **Point-in-Time Count (PIT)** through the Texoma Homeless Coalition on January 26, 2017. 37 Grand Central Station Volunteers made 500 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to put in the backpacks taken out to the homeless during the count that night.

**PIT is an** unduplicated one-night estimate of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations. The **PIT** provides the number and characteristics of persons who are homeless on the night of the count. Sheltered means that a person was in emergency shelter or transitional housing on the night of the count.

Unsheltered means that the person was on the street or in some other place unfit for human habitation on the night of the count. During the counts, communities are required to “identify whether a person is an individual, a member of a family unit, or an unaccompanied youth under the age of 18.



In addition, communities must identify if a person is chronically homeless, indicating long-time or repeated homelessness and the presence of a disability.”

Stephanie Chandler, president of the Texoma Homeless Coalition, which works in Grayson, Fannin and Cooke counties, said the count is geared at getting funds to get people off the streets.

To qualify for any state or federal homeless funding you must have three things; 1) an established homeless coalition that meets four times a year, 2) a steering committee for the annual point-in-time count, and 3) conduct a point-in-time count. The coalition has a 24-hour period to conduct the count for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

## GRAND CENTRAL STATION Appreciates Your Continued Support!

Grand Central Station needs and welcomes your donation in any denomination! Every dollar counts and is used for food for our visitors, Children's Backpack program, and day-to-day operations for our Soup Kitchen. Your donation is TAX DEDUCTIBLE. Please send your donation to: Grand Central Station, P.O. Box 3173, Sherman, Texas 75091.

## GRAND CENTRAL STATION DINING CAR

### SERVING LUNCH TO THOSE IN NEED

110 THROCKMORTON SHERMAN, TX

(Between E. Lamar and E. Houston)

*Anyone that comes to our dining car is welcome.*

Service area: North Texas

**Monday-Friday 9:00am-1:00pm**

**Coffee, Juice & Rolls at 9am**

**Hot lunch served between 11-1**

**Saturdays-Sack lunches 9:00 until all distributed**

**Showers, washer, dryer available M-F**

**TV & Computer with Internet Access**

**Volunteer assistance with applications and forms**

## OUR MISSION

The mission of Grand Central Station is:

To operate as a local outreach mission sponsored by a group of Grayson County Texas churches that share a commitment to help reduce the effects of resource limitations by helping those in need.

We hope to do this by:

Providing nutritious meals to alleviate hunger.

Education, training, and social services to empower lives.

Opportunities for community services as needed.

### Board of Directors

Gail Utter, Sheryl Bradshaw,

Leigh Ann Sims, Buffy Todd,

Laura Wheeler, Ralph Bluemel, Webb Sanderson,

Rita Noel, Jamie Riddels, Samantha Riddels, Anne

Webb, Debbie Allison, Natalie Hulsey,

Scott Jasper, and Greg Balek

Executive Director: Karen Bray

Kitchen Manger/Chef: Ben Merrill

**PHONE: 903-957-0264**

**Email:** [grandcentralstation@gccisp.com](mailto:grandcentralstation@gccisp.com)

**Website:** [www.grandcentralsherman.com](http://www.grandcentralsherman.com)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Grand-Central-Station-The-Dining-Car-Soup-Kitchen-129468947076611/>



## THE GREENHOUSE

### FREE FOOD & CLOTHING

SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

OPEN: M, W, F 1 - 4 PM



The Green House Food & Clothing Pantry was blessed recently by the efforts of two church groups to help with much needed projects around the house and grounds.

Trinity Lutheran Church sent a team of members to work for a day at the Green House as part of their "God's Work - Our Hands" community outreach day. The volunteers did a top to bottom cleaning, replaced a ceiling fan and worked to fill a large hole in the driveway.

They brought a donation of household items, clothing and food items containing meat to restock shelves. They also donated and installed a new telephone and stand fan.

Late 2016, Texoma Christian School brought a group of 10<sup>th</sup> grade girls to work at the Green House as part of their annual Care-a-thon. The students and their sponsors raked and bagged leaves,

weeded flowerbeds, portioned out dry goods, stocked pantry shelves and did some general cleaning.

They also brought a donation of clothing and food they had collected.

Located at 921 East Houston, Grand Central Station's Greenhouse, supplies our local visitors and families with clothing and food at no cost, and no appointment is needed!

All that is required, is proof of Address & ID for each family member.

***The Greenhouse is always looking for volunteers and groups for various projects!***

**Phone: 903-868-2604**





Around Grayson County, you'll find many teachers who can tell you about a student who came to school on Monday, not reluctant to start the school week, but eager to get back to school after going through Friday evening, all day Saturday, and all day Sunday without a square meal, or knowledge of a source for their next meal. Those children are the reason for Children's Express.

Children's Express is a program that functions under the wing of Grand Central Station (GCS). It began in 2013 as a program to feed children during the summer months, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring Break holidays, to ensure that children in

## Volunteers needed

Grayson County do not go hungry. February 2016, we expanded the program to include weekend lunches during the school year, The Backpack Food Program. A bag of healthy food is distributed to children on a weekly basis.

Each Thursday during the school year, volunteers can help load food from the North Texas Food Bank truck at 10:45 and/or pack bags for backpacks at 11:45. Volunteers are always needed to deliver the food bags to the schools on Thursday afternoon. For more information contact Sara Tarvin at [gastrvn@gmail.com](mailto:gastrvn@gmail.com) or Anne Webb at [annekwebb@gmail.com](mailto:annekwebb@gmail.com).



## GRAND CENTRAL STATION RECEIVES FUNDING FOR A VAN

**Many thanks to Thelma Braun and Bocklett Family Foundation and The Sherman Service League!**

**Grand Central Station was able to purchase a 2008 Ford Econolin Van for the transportation of food from the North Texas Food bank and other retail stores to our Soup Kitchen and other partners.**

**GCS no longer needs to borrow vehicles to pick up our food and deliver. Now with the large van, we can pick up large donations from Sam's, Target and Walmart and other retail stores.**

**Before the purchase of the van, we would have to wait for volunteers with vehicles to pick up donations, sometimes missing the window of opportunity! Thank you again!**



## VOLUNTEERS TAKE ON GCS WAREHOUSE!



Thanks to Marty Williams and his Men's Bible Study group from McKinney! January 28<sup>th</sup> Marty along with Matt Gingerich, Chip Pace, John Bray and Dan Block did an outstanding job in stabilizing all the shelving at the warehouse. Thank you, Dorothy McKee, and Carol Noltensmeyer for helping with cleaning and organizing too!

Several shelves started to "dip" in the middle, due to the weight of the cans. They had to remove all the cans from the shelves and install support reinforcement bars on each shelving unit.

An additional benefit, a few of them were being a little OCD as they explained, so now the cans are all organized, neat and tidy! We are good to go!





**THANK  
YOU  
SAINT  
MARY'S  
YOUTH  
GROUP!**

This past Christmas, GCS had countless volunteer groups through Churches, businesses, non-profits, civic organizations, and individuals. We can't begin to thank you enough for all your time, heart, spirits and donations!

The youth group from Saint Mary's Church took all the gifts from these organizations and put them together in gift bags for our visitors. It was such a special day as our underserved received blankets, scarves, gloves, hats, toiletries, perfumes, and many other specialties! Thank you!

**We are always scouting around to add new volunteers! Let us know if you or your friends would like to volunteer at the Soup Kitchen!**

On behalf of Grand Central Station's Dining Car, Visitors, Staff, and Board, we thank you for your continued support!

Thanks to your support you have helped feed hungry families and individuals throughout Grayson County and provided life-changing programs that help our struggling neighbors. We are grateful for your generosity. As many of you know, Grand Central Station relies heavily on the support of individuals like yourself to continue our mission

Please donate today, or send a check to:  
Grand Central Station P. O. Box 3173  
Sherman, Texas 75091.



**GRAND CENTRAL STATION**

110 S. Throckmorton  
Sherman, Texas 75090