



# CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Fall 2025

## Here's how you're making an impact:

Hunger Free Holidays Food Drive

Loads of Caring Laundry Program

Senior Independence Program (SIP)

The Caring Place Fundraiser - Amplify 2026

Good Neighbor Fund

Volunteer Opportunities



## Board of Directors 2025 - 2026

Pictured From Top To Bottom, Left to Right:

Michelle Betts, Jan C. Love, Lindsay Harris,  
Glenn Schwab, Royce Lindsey, John Stock,  
Paul Partlow, John Sullivan,

Ian T. Todd, Harriett Jones (President),  
Jen Mauldin, Robin P. Stewart  
Chuck Collins, Alexis Michael



## Contact Us



**512-943-0700**

[info@caringplacetx.org](mailto:info@caringplacetx.org)



[facebook.com/thecaringplace/](https://facebook.com/thecaringplace/)



[instagram.com/thecaringplacetx/](https://instagram.com/thecaringplacetx/)

[www.caringplacetx.org](http://www.caringplacetx.org)



# A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Dear Friends,

As we enter the holiday season, more of our neighbors are facing challenges—and your support has never been more vital.

It seems like each month we are witnessing record-breaking numbers of people presenting for help with the most basic human needs: food, housing, utilities, transportation, and clothing/household items. These numbers from September are just a snapshot of the number of people coming to The Caring Place for help:



- The Food Pantry served 4,594 unduplicated individuals in September – The MOST people we have ever served in one month!
- Fresh Food for Families served 452 neighbors – 35% more than last year
- HOPE (Healthy Options Program for the Elderly) served 492 seniors – 19% more than last year
- Assistance with utilities is up 104% from September 2024
- Housing assistance has increased 177% compared to last September
- **In just 3 years, through September, the number of unduplicated neighbors The Caring Place serves has doubled from 5,313 in September 2022 to 10,575 in 2025.**

These numbers are more than statistics—they represent real people, real stories, real struggles. Behind every request is a neighbor seeking hope, help, and a path forward. Thanks to your generosity, we've been able to meet these needs with compassion and urgency.

We expect the need will continue to grow. As we head into the holidays, we anticipate even greater demand for help with basic needs. You are invited to partner with The Caring Place through donations, volunteering, shopping, or simply spreading the word about our services.

Together, we can ensure that all people in our community have access to basic human services in a welcoming, respectful, and caring way.

With gratitude,

*Ginna O'Connor*

Executive Director





OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> - DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>



# HUNGER FREE HOLIDAYS



## HUNGER FREE HOLIDAYS

The holidays should be a time of joy and not worry about where your next meal will come from. That's what Hunger Free Holidays Food Drive is all about, and we need your help.

This year we want to collect a minimum of **350,000 pounds of non-perishable food items** to help neighbors struggling in Georgetown and northern Williamson County. Let's make sure our neighbors have food!



From October 1st through December 31st, community members who drop off non-perishable food items at The Caring Place, host a food drive or make a monetary donation to the Food Pantry will contribute to reaching this goal. Your generosity will help us provide food to children, families and seniors during this busy and festive season.

For more information about Hunger Free Holidays Food Drive, a list of requested items, how to borrow a blue barrel, or volunteer at the food pantry, visit [www.caringplacetx.org](http://www.caringplacetx.org).

Non-perishable donations can be dropped off Monday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at 2000 Railroad Ave. For additional information about scheduling large individual or group donations, and pickups contact [fooddonations@caringplacetx.org](mailto:fooddonations@caringplacetx.org).

To donate online visit [www.caringplacetx.org/donate](http://www.caringplacetx.org/donate).



# LOADS OF CARING

## BECAUSE EVERYONE DESERVES CLEAN CLOTHES

Clean clothes aren't a luxury—they are a basic need. Loads of Caring is a free washing program to support individuals and families facing tough times by providing a safe, welcoming space to do their laundry.

### What We Offer:

- Free access to washers and dryers
- Detergent and dryer sheets
- Friendly community volunteers ready to help
- A clean, welcoming and respectful environment for all

Location: Washatopia, 1910 S. Austin Ave.,  
Georgetown, Texas

Program Hours: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday and Last  
Thursday of the month, 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

### Upcoming dates:

- Thursday, October 30
- Tuesday, November 11
- Tuesday, December 9



Whether you're experiencing homelessness, financial hardship, or simply need a helping hand, Loads of Caring is here for you. Because a new start can begin with a fresh load of laundry.

This program is sponsored in partnership with The Caring Place, Washatopia, and a local host organization.

## LOADS OF CARING HOSTS NEEDED

Would your organization be interested in hosting a Loads of Caring Event in 2026? There are a few dates still available for next year. Sign up your group now to reserve an evening to help your neighbors.

As a host group, you are asked to commit to the following:

- A financial commitment of \$1,000 - \$1,200 to help cover the cost of the program.
- Provide 6-8 volunteers for each of the 2 shifts (3:45-6:00 PM and 5:45-8:00 PM). Volunteers will be available to help neighbors access washers and dryers.

Contact Erin Becnel, Programs and Services Director at [ebecnel@caringsplacetx.org](mailto:ebecnel@caringsplacetx.org) or visit <https://bit.ly/HostLaundry> to learn more.

*Help Your  
Neighbors  
by Hosting  
an Event*





## SENIOR INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM

### SUPPORTING SENIORS TO THRIVE AT HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY

Is someone in your household 65 or older? If so, you may be eligible for extra support through our Senior Independence Program.

The Caring Place is piloting the Senior Independence Program (SIP) for families with a household member age 65 or older. This program offers a compassionate response to senior families living on fixed, unchanging incomes who struggle with the increasing cost of basic needs.

How SIP helps seniors with crisis assistance:

- Help with housing and utility costs
- Access to health and wellness resources
- Support navigating community services
- Connection to social and enrichment programs

For more about this program, contact The Caring Place at (512) 943-0700.

So far in 2025, **102** senior families received a total of **\$67,710** in rent, mortgage and utility assistance.

## SNAPSHOT OF 2025 - THROUGH SEPTEMBER

With only a few months left in the calendar year, The Caring Place is outpacing historical averages in delivering basic needs services. As a result, The Caring Place is serving more people and distributing higher volumes of food, clothing, and emergency assistance than ever before.



**10,575**  
Total Individuals



**38,241**  
Total Individuals



**5,583**  
Total Neighbors



**1,034**  
Total Seniors



**49,623**  
Total Hours



**1,400**  
Total Individuals



**\$144,798**  
Total Value



**1,007**  
Families



**23,902**  
Total Cars

**Total Value of Assistance:**



**\$3,371,458**

Every donation, every volunteer hour, every purchase, every act of generosity has an impact on a neighbor in crisis.



# JOIN THE CARING PLACE FOR AMPLIFY 2026!

At The Caring Place, Caring is our Super Power—and every act of generosity is a heroic step toward a stronger, more compassionate community. Since 1985, our neighbors have come together to provide food, rent, utilities, and hope to those in crisis. Thanks to your support, so far in 2025 we have assisted over **10,575 individuals** with more than **\$3.3 million** in direct aid.

But the need continues to grow—and so must our impact.

## Become a 2026 Amplify Wilco Sponsor for The Caring Place

Help us reach our goal of **\$150,000** to serve even more families in Georgetown and northern Williamson County.

Your sponsorship fuels life-changing support and empowers families to thrive.



**TOGETHER, WE CAN BE THE HEROES OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS!**

To learn more or become a sponsor, visit us at [www.Caringplacetx.org](http://www.Caringplacetx.org) or contact Rita Turner at [rturner@caringplacetx.org](mailto:rturner@caringplacetx.org) or

(512) 943-0702.

## GOOD NEIGHBOR FUND

In Georgetown, community means more than just proximity — it means showing up for one another. That's why the City of Georgetown proudly sponsors the Good Neighbor Fund, an initiative designed to support eligible Georgetown Utility customers who are facing financial hardship.

This vital program is powered by voluntary contributions from residents like you and is administered by The Caring Place. Every dollar donated goes directly toward helping neighbors in need keep their lights on and water running.



### Need Help?

If you or someone you know is struggling to pay a utility bill, The Caring Place is here to help. Reach out directly to our Programs and Services team to learn more about eligibility and how to apply.

Visit Programs and Services Monday – Friday from 9AM-4PM at 2001 Railroad Ave. or call us at 512-943-0700.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Add the dollar amount to your GTX utility bill payment
- Opt to "round up" your bill to the nearest dollar
- Set up a monthly pledge through your online [CSS portal](#) under Payment Programs

### THROUGH AUGUST

Thanks to the generosity of our community:

- 118 families have received assistance through The Good Neighbor Fund
- 48 of those are senior households
- A combined total of \$64,432 has been distributed through The Caring Place and the Good Neighbor Fund.





The Caring Place - Fall 2025

## HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH PURPOSE



This holiday season, make your gift-giving go further by shopping and supporting The Caring Place. Every purchase and donation helps neighbors in need—and spreads joy in more ways than one.

**Three ways to shop: The Shops at The Caring Place**

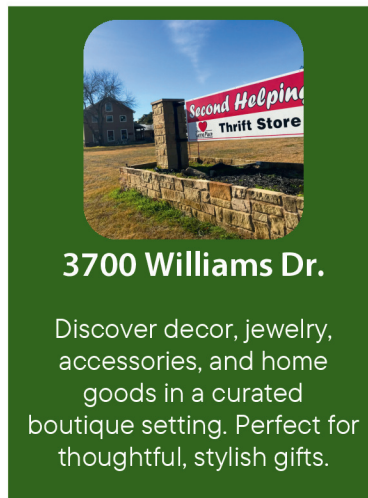
**Second Helping**

**Online on ebay**



**2000 Railroad Ave.**

Find affordable treasures, holiday décor, and unique gifts. Every item supports local families with food, financial assistance, and care.



**3700 Williams Dr.**

Discover decor, jewelry, accessories, and home goods in a curated boutique setting. Perfect for thoughtful, stylish gifts.



**caringplacetx.org/ebay**

Shop rare finds and collectibles online from anywhere. Proceeds benefit The Caring Place's mission to provide for the basic needs of our neighbors in need.

**Give a gift of hope!**



SCAN ME

**Make a Holiday Donation**

Your generosity helps provide groceries, utilities, and emergency support to families facing hardship.

**Honor a Loved One**

Give a gift in someone's name and receive a holiday letter to share the impact of your gift.

**Host a Drive**

Organize a collection of food through your church, business, or neighborhood.

[www.caringplacetx.org/donate](http://www.caringplacetx.org/donate)

## VOLUNTEER AT THE CARING PLACE



Looking for a meaningful way to give back and connect with your community? The Caring Place is growing and in need of compassionate, reliable volunteers—and you might be the perfect fit! Whether you're stocking shelves, sorting donations, assisting shoppers, or greeting families with a smile, your time makes a real difference. Just a few hours a week can help us serve hundreds of neighbors.

Whether you have a few hours a week or just one afternoon a month, your time can help us:

- Distribute food to families
- Keep shelves stocked and ready
- Help with donation intake
- Sort, prepare, and price items for resale
- Support seasonal food drives
- Assist neighbors with intake paperwork, referrals, and resource navigation

**Join Us**



[caringplacetx.org/volunteer](http://caringplacetx.org/volunteer)





# JOIN US AS A FAITHFUL FRIEND BY BECOMING A MONTHLY GIVER



## MEET NEEDS ALL YEAR LONG



Every day, families in our community struggle to meet their basic needs:  
food insecurity, overdue rent, medical needs, and more.

At The Caring Place, we work to assist with those needs—but we can’t do it without you.  
By becoming a monthly donor, you’ll provide steady, reliable support that helps us respond quickly and be prepared when a neighbor comes to us for help. Your ongoing gift means that basic needs are met for those who need it most.

- Here’s what your monthly gift can do:
- \$10/month provides 81 pounds of food
  - \$25/month provides 12 rides to medical appointments
  - \$50/month helps pay the utility bill for a senior

Monthly giving is simple, secure, and powerful. You’ll be a “Faithful Friend” who believes everyone should have access to life’s most basic needs.

[www.caringplacetx.org/donate](http://www.caringplacetx.org/donate)

The mission of The Caring Place is to provide for the basic human needs of all people in our community in a welcoming, respectful and caring way.



*"I felt happy and extremely grateful for the food I received from the Food Pantry because, for several months, that food was the only nourishment I had while waiting for SNAP benefits to get approved."*

Programs & Services  
Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
2001 Railroad Avenue, Georgetown

Food Pantry  
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
2000 Railroad Avenue, Georgetown

The Shops at The Caring Place  
Thrift Store, Mon-Sat, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
2000 Railroad Avenue, Georgetown

Second Helping  
Thrift Store, Tues-Sat, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
3700 Williams Drive, Georgetown  
512-987-2998

Item Donations  
Mon-Sat, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
2000 Railroad Avenue drive through, Georgetown  
512-943-0700  
caringplacetx.org

Helping neighbors in need since 1985

PO Box 1215  
Georgetown, TX 78627-1215

**The Caring Place**