

NAM NOTES

STORIES OF NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

NAM Earns

Coveted 4-Star Rating From Charity Navigator



Northwest Assistance Ministries is honored to have attained the coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for demonstrating strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

This marks the second consecutive year that NAM has earned the highest possible rating from Charity Navigator, indicating that NAM adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a financially efficient way. Attaining a 4-star rating verifies that NAM exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its area of work. Only 31% of charities evaluated have received at least two consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that NAM outperforms most other charities in America. This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets NAM apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness.

The nonprofit sector is advancing and expanding. As organizations evolve, so do the desires and interests of supporters.

Astute donors are yearning for greater accountability, transparency, and for concrete results. With more than 1.5 million American charities, Charity Navigator aims to accentuate the work of efficient and transparent organizations with the intent to provide donors with essential information to give them greater confidence in both the charitable decisions that they make and the nonprofit sector.

Forbes, *Business Week*, and *Kiplinger's Financial Magazine*, among others, have profiled and celebrated Charity Navigator's method of applying data-driven analysis to the charitable sector. Data shows that prospective donors utilizing Charity Navigator's site donated more than they planned after reviewing findings and it is estimated that last year Charity Navigator influenced approximately \$10 billion in charitable gifts.

The positive review of NAM's financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency can be viewed on NAM and Charity Navigator's websites.

NAM Welcomes

New Chief Program Officer



Northwest Assistance Ministries is honored to welcome its new Chief Program Officer, Allison Booker-Brooks. In this position, Booker-Brooks will be responsible for all client service delivery at NAM. This position is also a key member of the NAM executive leadership team, interfacing with internal and external stakeholders including collaborative partners, funders, the Board of Trustees, the NAM Endowment Fund, and the Congregational Advisory Council.

"We did an extensive search and interviewed many qualified applicants, and I feel Allison is going to be a great fit at NAM," said President/CEO, Les Cave. "She has an impressive professional background, and we are looking forward to working with her as we advance 'Neighbors Helping Neighbors' at Northwest Assistance Ministries."

Booker-Brooks' qualifications include leadership positions at the YWCA of Houston and United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast. She is a native Houstonian who has been doing social work the majority of her working life. She has worked with foster children, adoptive parents, young adults, and seniors.

"I guess you could say I have worked the circle of life," said Booker-Brooks. "I have always known that I wanted to work in the nonprofit sector," she said. "I am excited to continue with that work at such a wonderful organization like NAM."

Her tenure as Chief Program Officer began on Monday, February 25. NAM is looking forward to having her and is excited to look towards the future with Booker-Brooks seated in one of its leadership roles.

Letter from the CEO

April is National Volunteer Month, a time to celebrate and honor the difference volunteers make in our communities. At NAM, we have a lot of celebrating to do!



In the last fiscal year, more than 2,875 volunteers gave over 83,250 hours of service to NAM. That's incredible!

NAM's volunteers give of their time, energy and expertise in every area—providing direct service to clients, working behind the scenes to keep our programs running efficiently, raising funds, and serving in leadership roles including our Board of Directors.

In everything they do, our volunteers are actively living out NAM's core philosophy of Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

The joy with which they serve is infectious. Some of NAM's volunteers have served for decades, going back to our earliest days in 1983. Others started as volunteers and then joined our staff. There are volunteers of all ages, from Scouts and high school students, to retirees and every age in between. And there are an impressive number of couples who serve together in programs such as the Joanne Watford Nutrition Center and Meals on Wheels—teaming up, working together in service of others. What a love story!

No matter where or how they serve, NAM's volunteers bring a special level of compassion and understanding to our clients that is immeasurable. Because of their service, NAM is able to assist thousands more families than we otherwise could. So to all of NAM's volunteers...thank you! You are what makes NAM so special and so unique, and we are forever grateful.

Sincerely,

Les Cave

Linda & Harlan Martens Endowed President & CEO



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Five Months Ended 2/28/19 (unaudited)

Total Support and Revenues.....	\$5,594,409
Expenses	
Program Services.....	\$4,938,927
Management and General.....	\$305,782
Fundraising and Development.....	\$519,076
Total Expenses.....	\$5,763,785
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets.....	\$(169,376)

NAM's fiscal year runs October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Development/Cash Donations.....	(281)-885-4609
Assistance & Housing Services.....	(281)-885-5600
Joanne Watford Nutrition Center.....	(281)-885-4589
Disaster Relief Services.....	(281)-885-4593
Pediatric Health Center.....	(281)-885-4630
Furniture Donations.....	(281)-885-4545
Family Violence Center.....	(281)-885-4673
Interfaith Homeless Network.....	(281)-885-4567
Training & Learning Center.....	(281)-885-4616
Meals on Wheels.....	(281)-885-4628
Senior Services.....	(281)-885-4600
NAM Resale.....	(281)-885-9000
NAM Resale Boutique.....	(281)-885-4544
Volunteer Coordinator.....	(281)-885-4604

Other agencies at NAM:

Harris County Social Services.....	(281)-885-4591
Harris County Sheriff's Department.....	(281)-885-4523

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

*Cash gifts of \$1,000 or more, excluding events, from
January – March 2019*

ExxonMobil Foundation

Healthcare and Nursing Education Foundation

Hewlett Packard Enterprise

Junior League of Houston

Plains All American

PV Fluid Products

Southwestern Energy

The Andrews Foundation

The Prudential Foundation Matching Gift

The Simmons Foundation

The TJX Foundation

Tomball Hospital Authority

THANK YOU!

NAM Endowment Fund Dinner 2019

NAM raised over \$200,000 during the 2019 NAM Endowment Fund Dinner —an annual event held to raise funds to enhance the financial stability of NAM and to offer security for the future.

The event took place at the Marriott Springwoods Village on Monday, February 4, 2019. This year, NAM welcomed guest speaker Bart Millard, front man of award-winning Christian group MercyMe. The iconic song, “I Can Only Imagine” was written solely by Millard and made history in 2014 as it surpassed 2 million digital downloads, making it the first song in Christian music to go platinum and double platinum in the digital domain. The song is also the inspiration behind Millard’s first memoir and the critically acclaimed film of the same name.

The evening started off with a lovely cocktail reception where Bart Millard greeted guests, posed for pictures and signed copies of his book. After the reception, the program began with an amazing performance of the National Anthem by Halie Cormier, a talented young singer from Copperfield Church. Later, Millard shared his inspirational story with over 300 guests in attendance and answered questions in an intimate conversation moderated by FOX 26 news anchor Melissa Wilson, who also served as this year’s emcee.

Millard spoke of growing up with an abusive father and his father’s transformation after being diagnosed with cancer and letting Christ into his life. He talked about how close he and his father became during that time and how he cared for his father during his final days. He also told the audience how he wrote the song “I Can Only Imagine” in 10 minutes while on his tour bus and the process of turning his song and memoir into a movie. It was an inspiring and motivating evening for everyone.

Special thanks to this year’s major supporters: Reneé and Danny Rea, Denise and Buddy Bolt, Cindy and Scott Chenoweth, The Engraved Pencil Foundation, Linda and Joe Fowler, Wendy and Jim Fryfogle, Darlis and Tom Fuller, Houston Methodist, Jeannie and Nolan Lehmann, Southwestern Energy, Kroger, and PurePoint Financial.

Book sponsor Barnes & Noble Champions Village, who were at the event selling Millard’s memoir, MercyMe CDs and “I Can Only Imagine” DVDs, donated 15% of the evening’s proceeds to the NAM Endowment Fund.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the night a memorable one.





Young Hearts Matter

3RD ANNUAL ART & WRITING CHALLENGE WINNERS

February was Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and in support of healthy dating relationships, NAM called upon creative Houston area students to enter the "Young Hearts Matter" Art & Writing Challenge.

Students in junior high and high school were asked to use their artistic abilities to create an original poem, essay, sculpture, drawing, painting, or other creative piece that expressed their views on the characteristics of either a healthy or an unhealthy teen relationship.

The winning works from these talented students were revealed at a viewing party and reception at NAM on Tuesday, March 5. The writing and art pieces were on display in NAM's lobby through March 29.

Congratulations to all of the winners!

Art Category:

- Laurel Anfrom – 1st place – Middle School Art
- Precious Davidson – 2nd Place – High School Art
- Gabriella Romero – 1st Place – High School Art

Writing Category:

- Ashlyn Long – 1st Place – High School Writing
- Nolan Butler – 2nd Place – High School Writing
- Aaliyah Ibarra- 3rd Place – High School Writing
- Jariel Carter – Honorable Mention – High School Writing
- Aaliyah Foster – 1st Place – Middle School Writing
- Sidney Brumley – 2nd Place – Middle School Writing



JEANS & JEWELS KICKOFF PARTY

Over 50 guests gathered at Champions Golf Club for the Jeans & Jewels Kickoff Party on Wednesday, March 27. Light bites and cocktails were served throughout the evening as everyone listened to the exciting plans for this year's Jeans & Jewels Luncheon and Gala.

Jeans & Jewels consists of two events within the year which together form the largest annual fundraiser for Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM). The proceeds benefit NAM's programs and services. Last year, all of the Jeans & Jewels events together brought in over \$770,000.

During the Kickoff Party, it was announced that the Jeans & Jewels Luncheon will be at Shirley Acres on Thursday, September 12, 2019.

It was also announced that the 21st Annual Jeans & Jewels Gala...A Texas Size Party theme will be "Las Vegas Rodeo". There is sure to be all the glam and glitz that fills the city of Las Vegas, along with that touch of western flair.

The event will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2019 at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott. This year's Gala honorees will be Carol and Calvin Cobb, with Corporate Honoree, Southwestern Energy. And just like last year, the Gala will be followed by a Young Professionals After-Party, presented by PurePoint Financial, with a live performance from the Austin based cover-band, Skyrocket!

For sponsorship and table packages, contact Samantha Gonzalez at sgonzalez@namonline.org or call (281) 885-4609.



23rd Annual INTERFAITH QUILTING BEE

Klein Texas Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints sponsored the 23rd annual Interfaith Quilting Bee which took place on Saturday, February 16, at the Klein Stake Center.

This year's theme was "Ties that Bind" and celebrated the connections made through serving and reaching out in love together. Many local congregations gathered to culminate a year of working on quilts to donate to Northwest Assistance Ministries.

During the presentation of the quilts, guest speaker, Lesa Skipper, told a touching story of finding a quilt that her grandmother had saved. "After my grandmother passed away, my family and I were going through her things and we came across a beautiful quilt that was made entirely out of ribbons," she said. "To this day, that quilt is still in our family and it is a very special heirloom that we will always cherish."

Some of the groups that participated in this year's Quilting Bee included Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Community, Hosanna Lutheran Church, Northwoods Presbyterian, Greenwood Forest Quilters, St. Edwards Catholic Community, Ninth Church of Christ Scientist, Waller Ward of the Cypress Texas Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Klein Texas Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Quilters of all skill levels worked together to create 216 quilts and blankets, which will benefit NAM whose programs help local families in crisis.



RESALE

Sidewalk Sales

Come out and catch some great deals at a NAM Resale Sidewalk Sale! There are even bigger discounts on furniture, housewares, décor, and more. Be sure to mark your calendar!

- April 13
- April 27
- May 11
- May 25
- June 8
- June 22
- July 6

*Mark
Your
Calendar!*

Also, come in and ask about our NEW Customer Rewards Program today!



Spring into Savings

70% OFF

ENTIRE PURCHASE
WITH THIS
COUPON

NAM RESALE

Monday - Saturday
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 (281) 880-9000
namonline.org/resale

Located behind NAM's main building at 15555 Kuykendahl Rd.
 on the first floor in the back of The Harrell Family Opportunity Center
 Turn in the first parking lot entrance to the NAM building from
 Kuykendahl Rd and go straight back!

The way Resale should be.



NEIGHBORS **HELPING** NEIGHBORS

The wonderful women from Alpha Kappa Alpha showed that they are true to their sorority's mission to promote unity and friendship among college women and to be of "Service to All Mankind". In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Day, over 100 volunteers dedicated their time, skills and hearts into making touching Valentine's Day cards for the seniors and disabled adults who are recipients of NAM's Meals on Wheels program. While some of the ladies and their families crafted, others volunteered at NAM Resale sorting and organizing clothing and houseware donations or stocking the shelves in NAM's Joanne Wafford Nutrition Center. We appreciate everything they did and continue to do for NAM. Thank you!

If you or your organization would like to volunteer with NAM, please contact volunteer@namonline.org or call (281) 885-4604.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Corporate Volunteers

Argo Surety Group
Cypress Creek Hospital
ExxonMobil
Houston Methodist
PurePoint Financial
PV Fluids
Southwestern Energy
TechnipFMC



Service Affiliates

Abiding Word Lutheran School
Champions Sunrise Rotary Club
Commissioner Pct. 4 Senior Adult Program
Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum
Da Gang Golfer's Club
E.B.O.N.Y.
First Choice Homes
Houston Northwest Filipino American Community
Junior Guild
Junior League of The Woodlands
Klein Collins Cultural Heritage Appreciation Club
Klein High School
Klein ISD - Life Readiness Program
Legacy League
Lonestar College-North Harris Student Ambassadors
National Charity League - Champions Chapter
National Charity League - Cypress Belles Chapter
National Charity League - Cypress Creek Chapter
National Charity League - Wildflower Chapter
National Charity League - Yellow Rose Chapter
Primrose School of Champions
TEAM Abilities
Spring High School
Willowbrook Rotary Club

Congregation Volunteers

Abiding Word Lutheran Church
Bammel Church of Christ
CHI St. Luke's Health-The Vintage Hospital
Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Community
Congregation Jewish Community North
Cy-Fair Christian Church
Cypress Creek Christian Church
Cypress Trails United Methodist Church
Faithbridge Church
Harvest Time Church
Holy Comforter Episcopal Church
Hosanna Lutheran Church
Houston North Stake-The Church of Jesus
Christ of Latter-day Saints



Immanuel United Church, UCC
John Wesley United Methodist Church
Kinsmen Lutheran Church
Klein United Methodist Church
Klein Texas Stake-The Church of Jesus
Christ of Latter-day Saints
Lakewood United Methodist
New Jerusalem Community Baptist Church
Ninth Church of Christ, Scientist
North Oaks Baptist Church
NorthWest Bible Church
Northwoods Presbyterian Church
Pass-A-Grille Beach Church
Plymouth United Church, UCC
Prince of Peace Catholic Community
Resurrection Lutheran Church
Spring Creek Seventh-Day-Adventist Church
Spring Woods United Methodist Church
St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church
St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
St. Edward Catholic Community
St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Community
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
Trinity Klein Lutheran Church
Unity Church of North Houston
Valley Rise Church
Windwood Presbyterian Church

Holiday Volunteers

Champions Fire Department
Chaparral Management
Pointnext Supply Chain
Gary Greene BHCRC
Heritage Texas Properties
Propel Physical Therapy
Ladies Association at Champions Park
Houston Methodist Willowbrook Hospital
Molo Montessori
Office Systems of Texas
BXS Insurance
VORTX 3735
Cypress Ladies Book Club
Doerre Enigma Teams- Klein ISD VorTX
Alfa Romeo Club
Conservatory at Champion Forest
HP Inc.
Detection Suppression Int.
Augusta Meadows Apartments
Canyon Gate at NorthPointe
H&R Block



NEW NAM-STARS

Allison Booker-Brooks – Administration
Claire Cox – Meals On Wheels
Erica Jordan – Learning Center
Joe Navarro – Meals On Wheels
Karen D. Thomas - Assistance



NAM HAS LAUNCHED ITS **NEW** WEBSITE

NAM is proud to announce the launch of its new website and we're excited to introduce you to the new look. The website provides a clear message of who NAM is, what we stand for and how we can help. It is also fully responsive with mobile devices making it even easier for anyone to sign-up for NAM's services online. The website boasts a clean design and a navigation system that directs people to the information most relevant to them. Visit NAM's new website at namonline.org.

SAVE *the* DATE

Luncheon

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

Shirley Acres- 11:00 a.m.

Jeans & Jewels Gala

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019

The Woodlands Waterway Marriott 6:00 p.m.

More details to soon follow.



NAM IN ACTION



50+ AARP SAFE DRIVING CLASS

On Thursday, May 23 from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. NAM's Fifty Plus Center is hosting an AARP Safe Driving Class. Learn professional tips for staying safe on the road. For more information or to sign-up, call 281-885-4600 or visit namonline.org.



H.E.A.L. SUMMER CAMP

The Pediatric Health Center is hosting the Healthy Eating & Active Living (H.E.A.L.) Ranch Summer Camp June 10 through June 13 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. The cost is only \$10 per child. Everyday kids will be able to participate in fun and educational activities, and lunch will be provided. Parents must register their child by May 1. Call 281-885-4542 now to get them signed-up.



BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT

Registration has started for NAM's Back to School Project. Assistance will be signing-up parents who have students that will be attending grades K-12 when the school year begins August 2019. Parents may come in on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays between 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. and on Tuesdays from 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Please call 281-583-5600 for more information.



NAM/BJM 2019 SPRING CAREER FAIR

NAM's Learning Center and Between Jobs Ministry hosted their 2019 Spring Career Fair on Tuesday, March 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in The Harrell Family Opportunity Center. It was free of charge to the **400** job seekers who attended as well as over 50 exhibitors such as Southwestern Energy, National Oilwell Varco, Lone Star College, Workforce Solutions, and more. A special Job Readiness Workshop led by Bill Proctor of NextStep Career Management was also available during the event.

The Learning Center at NAM provides adult students with the vocational training they need to start a new career and offers GED and ESL classes. For more information about NAM's Learning Center visit namonline.org.



FREE WELL WOMAN EXAM

The Pediatric Health Center will be hosting the Christus Mobile Unit on Wednesday, May 15 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The Christus Mobile Unit will be on site in the NAM parking lot to provide FREE Well Woman Exams. No appointment is necessary.





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Nonprofit Partner
DONORHOUSTON
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Summer can be a difficult time for NW Houston-area residents. 2019 has already brought a significant increase in requests for services. This increase has stretched NAM's resources to the limit. Please consider a generous gift today. Your support will help ensure NAM will continue to deliver needed services to our community.

Your gift will make a difference for neighbors in need!

\$35 \$50 \$100 \$350 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

NAM NOTES

Spring 2019

NAM Notes is the newsletter of Northwest Assistance Ministries. NAM Notes is published quarterly.

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