

MADISON EMERGENCY SERVICES ASSOCIATION, Inc.

2021 ANNUAL COMMUNITY REPORT

Our Mission:

To be a resource for our Madison County Neighbors in need



February 2022

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Dear Friends,

Madison Emergency Services Association, Inc. (MESA) is pleased to highlight the impact our programs and services have been able to make in Madison County in 2021. MESA is deeply grateful for the generous capital and operational donations from our community which allows MESA to continue to fulfill its mission and to enlarge its outreach.

It is a blessing and honor to be able to help the number of people we do each year, but nothing we do would be possible without the dedication and commitment of the many people in our community who empower MESA's mission:

Our Donors: who contributed a combined total of \$172,100 in 2021 towards our client programs, services, and operations.

Our Community Partners: who along with monetary support, gave donated food, service, and hygiene products, valued at many thousands of dollars.

Our Volunteers: who donated over 3,600 hours of service in the food pantry, food pick up, thrift shop, maintenance care, and on committees in support of program and service delivery. The value of this donated service in 2021 was more than \$100,000!

Our Board of Directors: who all volunteer of their time and expertise to provide governance and oversight to MESA.

Our Staff: most of whom are part-time, but who always go above and beyond to provide service to clients and to MESA.

Despite the continued challenges of COVID-19 in 2021, we could not have served our neighbors in need without your support. On behalf of those we serve, thank you for your generosity and trust.

Sincerely,

Dan

Dan Albrant
President, Board of Directors

Eleanor

Eleanor Mower
Executive Director

INTRODUCTION

The Madison Emergency Services Association, Inc. (MESA) is an IRS designated 501(c)(3) charitable organization whose mission is to be a resource for our Madison County neighbors in need. Established in 1982, MESA has served the community for 40 years by providing reliable safety-net services to countless numbers of Madison County neighbors and friends. In 2021, our services included a Food Pantry, Thrift Shop, and emergency monetary assistance through our Client Services group.

MESA has grown from humble beginnings to become a mainstay of support for Madisonians in need. This growth occurred due to the extraordinary support received from our donors, churches, businesses, schools, grantors, civic organizations, and the invaluable gifts of time from our many volunteers and dedicated staff.

This Annual Report celebrates all that the people of Madison County make possible each year. On behalf of the Executive Director, members of the Board, staff, and volunteers, we say a heartfelt thank you!

FOOD PANTRY

MESA fights food insecurity through its Food Program, which links food and families by offering food assistance to those in need in Madison County. All food distributed is free-of-charge, and the program focuses on healthy eating, better nutrition, and offers a non-threatening place for individuals and families to come to get food and personal hygiene items.

MESA's pantry provided free food to over 400 people each month, and during 2021, the role that MESA played in the community was even more vital, as the cost of food increased forcing more people to seek assistance at MESA. At least eight percent (8%) of the population for whom poverty status is determined in Madison County live below the poverty line – and a larger percentage are “working poor.” The largest demographic living in poverty are females 55 - 64, followed by males 55 - 64 and then females 35 - 44. And while many of the pantry's clients are on public assistance/food stamps, the assistance is meant to supplement a family's nutrition, and is often not enough. *MESA provides an important stop gap because 1 out of every 12 children and 1 out of every 12 neighbors living in the Blue Ridge service area experiences hunger.*

The pantry's food and hygiene items come from a several important sources: partnerships with local grocery stores and area churches, which are donated weekly; local farmers; and the general community at large. In addition, there are several food and hygiene drives conducted during the year by Catholic Charities, the U.S. post office, local schools, local businesses, and other community organizations. These donations are consistent and critical to keeping the pantry's shelves stocked.

The personal hygiene items distributed from the pantry include toilet paper, toothpaste, deodorant, cleaning supplies, and diapers for infants, toddlers, and adults. In addition, throughout the year, bag lunches are offered to school-aged children who normally receive free breakfast and lunch at school.

MESA's works with two major food partners: the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank¹ (BRAFB) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).²

Results:

MESA's Food Program served 4,820 individuals and 1,875 households.

| | Individuals | Households |
|------------------|-------------|------------|
| Yearly Totals | 4,820 | 1,875 |
| Monthly Averages | 402 | 156 |

MESA's USDA Food Distribution Program served 1,462 individuals and 603 households:

| | Individuals | Households |
|------------------|-------------|------------|
| Yearly Totals | 1,462 | 603 |
| Monthly Averages | 122 | 50 |

In 2021, one full-time assistant manager, supported by many dedicated volunteer pantry helpers and food pick-up drivers, devoted hundreds of hours receiving, sorting, and storing thousands of pounds of food, and serving the pantry's clients. These champions were:

Corina Barden, John Black, Judy Butler, Pauline Clatterbuck
 Calvin Gilley, Tina Gilley, Margaret Gilley, Mike Hale, John Huelskoetter, Carl Kerby, Patricia Lloyd, Parker McMillen, Jeanne O'Donoghue, David Pollack, Josh Powell, Sandra Powell, Fran Prayluck, Larry Pryluck, Cecelia Rowe, Donald Rowe, John Storey, Siri Zemke

¹ Serves 25 counties and 8 cities on either side of the Blue Ridge through distribution centers; provides nutritious food through a far-reaching network of more than 200 food pantries, soup kitchens, schools, churches, and other nonprofit groups.

² TEFAP distributes federally supplied commodities such as canned and frozen food to eligible households. Eligibility is based on recipient income; distribution is limited to one time/ month per family. MESA provides USDA food to its eligible recipients at Beth Car Baptist Church in Madison, VA.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

MESA's Emergency Services program offers help to those who have unexpected emergencies or who are struggling and need support right away. No appointment is necessary; a Client Intake Manager is on site Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. to meet with patrons to understand their need for support or for temporary emergency relief. MESA offers a wide variety of assistance, such as monetary support, information, supportive guidance, and referral to other community resources and family programs.

In 2021, MESA offered **595** individuals help and assistance with:

- ✚ utility payments
- ✚ rent/mortgage payments
- ✚ personal needs
- ✚ firewood
- ✚ referrals to other service providers
- ✚ transportation (gas, car repairs, car insurance, licenses)
- ✚ school supplies
- ✚ diapers for children & adults
- ✚ clothing for the family
- ✚ medical and dental expenses

In addition, MESA's emergency services worked with Catholic Charities and provided **40** families with Christmas presents, gift cards, and dinner baskets. If MESA is not able to offer the type of assistance someone may need, such as housing or employment services, we work closely with local area service providers in Madison County, as well as with the surrounding counties, to find the resources and help needed.

THRIFT SHOP

MESA's Thrift Shop is open to all and sells used goods—clothing, books, music, housewares, videos, collectibles, and furniture—donated by members of the public. The Thrift Shop generates funds to help support our mission and the revenue generated from the Shop annually supports both our client services and emergency relief fund. However, during 2021 the Thrift Shop continued to reduce the hours of operation for shoppers as a safety precaution due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Thrift Shop is managed by one full-time manager and a part-time assistant manager who receive and sort on a weekly basis, approximately 10-15 boxes of home goods, 10-12 large bags of clothes, and furniture items. Critical assistance was provided by a limited number of dedicated volunteers in 2021 who gave **310** hours of volunteer time and assistance to MESA's Thrift Shop. These wonderful helpers include Vera Brenneman, Norma Larkin, Gene Mower, and Debbie Villermaire.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY (Unaudited)
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2021

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Donations | \$ 78,162 |
| Rents/sales | \$ 81,886 |
| Campaigns/grants | \$ 132,215 |
| <u>TOTAL REVENUE</u> | <u>\$292,263</u> |

EXPENSES

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Program services | \$ 141,394 |
| Fundraising | \$ 9,699 |
| Management and general ³ | \$ 100,387 |
| <u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u> | <u>\$ 251,480</u> |

NOTES:

Revenues: Revenues were \$292,263 or \$21,363 better than budgeted. While shop sales were lower than projected, revenues were higher than projected for campaigns, grants, and overall community donations.

Expenses: 2021 expenses of \$251,480 were \$13,584 higher than budgeted due to the unexpected repairs for MESA's facilities and spikes in insurance coverages.

Surplus/(Deficit): MESA ended the year with a greater surplus than projected.

Bank Accounts: MESA has three (3) bank accounts with a total current cash balance of \$259,814.57

Mortgage: Current mortgage balance is \$441,284.56. Interest paid in 2021 was \$12,336.31. The mortgage payment is \$19,981, due each September.

³ Includes yearly mortgage cost

2021 MESA Board of Directors

Dan Albrant, President
Jerry Butler, Vice President
Erin Nicholls, Treasurer
Jeannine Utz, Secretary
Dan Barden, Director
Jana Jackson, Director
Dink Kreis, Director
Peggy Hobbs, Director
John Huelskoetter, Director
Gerald Monnat, Director

2021 MESA Staff

Eleanor Mower, Executive Director
Shiphra Berman, Office Manager
Phyllis Browning, Consultant, Client Services
Robin Corum, Assistant Manager, Food Pantry
James Martin, Assistant Manager, Thrift Shop
Katie Throckmorton, Thrift Shop Manager
Cindy White, Bookkeeper

MESA

927 Orange Road, Pratts, VA 22731
540-948-4427

ONLINE AT:

<https://mesamadisonva.org/>

LIKE US FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/MesaMadisonCountyVA/>



MISSION - *To be a resource for our Madison County neighbors in need*
VISION - *Building community by empowering neighbors*