UCHM NEWS

magazine 2025

Brittany Horn

A LIFE-LINE AT HER TURNING POINT

Brittany Horn was pleased for stronger. She'd spent the last 48 days on leave from her supervisory job at Norton Healthcare, caring for her critically ill mother-in-law in Indiana recovery center.

She'd learned so much. But now she felt like someone who had been away from home only to bring a tattered sign of cliff edge. She was fearful of what she'd find when she got power bill. The parent you she received while on family and treatment leave covered only some of her expenses while she was in treatment. Her rule was about to be repossessed. A car payment was due in days, but she still owed $1,000. And she was back in the workforce. Brittany and her daughter her back in the bedroom for the fridge. **Continued, page 2**

FIVE MONTHS OF AID

UCHM helped 45 families stay in their homes

From November through March, we helped 45 families in the 40290 zip code pay their rent, speaking bills or both.

UCHM helped 17 families keep the lights on.

The utility-related $15,350 in grants helped 17 households in 11 families keep utilities turned on. **We provided food and hygiene products for 60 households.**

With about $10,700 in donations, we supported 60 families for 5 of the 6 months of the program. That's 1,800 people. Individuals received about $35 each.

OUR CHALLENGE: YOUR CHALLENGE

Until June, UCHM matched every $1 families who needed help with rent or utilities, etc. didn't have the money.

In many homes, we signs building exits many of our materials. Let us know what you need, and we'll match your donation $1-$1,000 in expenses for critical needs.

But we remain the safety net for the people who fall through the cracks. We need you to be our lifeline, too.

Please consider donating monthly at uchmlouisville.org/donate or #UchmGiving.

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A life-line at one woman's turning point

drug that, when she was using, convinced her she was super-mom and super-employee – that's all the $55 to $75 a day cocaine habit and its chase hit.

Rock bottom, she simply decided to talk to the manager of the Buckheimer apartment where she lived. He pointed her to UCHM.

"Sometimes they help," he told her.

Within 24 hours of contacting United Crescent Hill Ministries, she was approved for rental assistance. Within days, a landlord picked up checks for $600 – the maximum amount UCHM can grant. UCHM wasn't out of what she had expected, she said. Usually asking for help requires at least one day of work. "They're trusting to have all these printed-out documents of the last bank statements. It's so much, you're almost like, I would rather just work for it. I'm not a beggar. But at [UCHM] it was so smooth. Everybody was so nice."

A few months later, she contacted United Crescent Hill Ministries again about her rental unit [redacted].

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Our Gratitude Journal

Our ancient, leaky roof has been replaced!

Thanks to the most generous donors who came forward to complete this critical repair.

We took $125,000 out of our endowment fund, but **Northeast Christian Church**, Brownsboro Road, stepped up with $50,000. Another contribution **Chris Hanegan** popped up with $500. **The Downtown Lion's Club** gave us a generous $5,000 donation.

Big hugs and many blessings to all those who helped carry the burden with us so we can continue helping our neighbors living into the future.

And special thanks to the local pros at **Sparta Roofing!**

Thanks to Teen N Textiles

The Girls Inspire Chapter Level Board came through big time for our Easter Parade participants, providing our members' T-shirts free of charge.

So many to thank!

Once again, we must thank **St. Leonard Catholic Church,** Zorn Avenue, for providing prepared meals. Pantry customers love them.

A round of applause to **Grace Community Church of Christ,** Story Avenue, for the congregations' food pantry donations.

And let's not forget **Second Presbyterian Church**, Old Brownsboro Road, for its continuing support, as well as **Crescent Hill Baptist Church. St. Mark's Episcopal** continues to help us meet clients' rent and utility bills.

And another thanks to **Northeast Christian** for support of UCHM staff education.

The Lucky Ones

The fact is, not everyone's story turns out the way Brittany's has. Last year, we turned away 517 families because we ran out of money.

Consider becoming a monthly donor to UCHM to help create happy endings for families like Brittany's.

How you can help

- **Sponsor a child's** Summer Camp '26 participation for $75.
- **Sponsor the Robotics Program** for summer camp: $300.
- **Provide lunch** for our Field Day during the Summer Camp program: $150.
- Cover the cost of the Field Day **Summer Camp water slide:** $600.
- Become a **Back-to-School Drive donor,** helping supply children in the 40206 zip code with backpacks and school supplies. $30.
- **Give free money** with a Kroger-Plus Card. Log-on to Kroger.com. Look to the upper right-hand corner for the icon with your name. Click on the arrow and select "My Account" from the drop-down menu. Scroll down to "Community Rewards." Enter "United Crescent Hill Ministries" in the search bar and select it. Now, whenever you use your card, Kroger sends us a little money, and it doesn't cost you a thing.

Summer Camp '26 Registration Open

Sign your kids up for our June 1-5 summer camp today.

If your child starts first through fifth grades this fall, they're eligible for camp.

This year we're going full STEAM ahead, with loads of cool hands-on projects in the worlds of science, engineering, math, and of course art.

Camp includes experiences that enhance social-emotional learning, confidence-building and communication skills.

Each day begins at 9:30 a.m. with breakfast and ends at 2:30 p.m. Campers also receive lunch and a heap plenty of fun around time.

The week ends up with a high-energy Field Day. The registration fee is $75 per child, and financial assistance is available.

To apply, scan the QR code below or go to bit.ly/UCHMcamp26 or call 893-0346.

SCAN ME

VOLUNTEER TO HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS

We always need volunteers! Our biggest need is for someone to help stock the pantry on Wednesday mornings.

We also need one more pantry volunteer to work Thursday afternoons, 12:30-4 p.m.

To volunteer, scan the QR code to the right or call 893-3941. ✨

Be an Ambassador for UCHM's Give for Good campaign

United Crescent Hill Ministries hopes to raise $30,000 this year during Give for Good on Sept. 10, and we need your help.

Give for Good is an annual day of giving, sponsored by the Community Foundation of Louisville.

Non-profit organizations throughout the city go all-out to attract donors to pledge dollars to their organizations.

If you've received help from UCHM in the past, or you know people who have, or you're interested in helping your community, or you're one of our regular donors, we need you.

Our goal this year is to collect enough money to help everyone who asks us in 2027.

Last year, we had to turn away more than 500 people when we ran out of emergency assistance dollars.

Ambassadors will help us reach out to the community by contacting their friends and family. We will offer training this month to get you started. And we'll be here to help you along the way.

To sign up to be a UCHM Give for Good Ambassador, drop an email to UCHMvolunteer@gmail.com. Put AMBASSADOR in the subject line. Include your name, address, phone number and email address. ✨





2025 race participants



















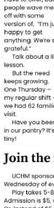











You can register now for the 39th Annual 5K Santa Sprint & Stroll.

The Dec. 19 race around the Cherokee Park Loop may be the final run 5K of the year, with fleet-footed Santas, elves, gingerbread people and Christmas tree dogs.

To register to run or stroll, go to rebrand.ly/santasprint26 ✨

60-PLUS MAY

TUESDAYS

10:15 a.m. Every Tuesday: Chair yoga. Open to all.

10:30 a.m. May 5: Celebrating Cinco de Mayo

10:30 a.m., May 12: Aunt Sally Crafts and nutrition education.

10:30 a.m., May 19: Ms. Charity Dawson's golf game.

10:30 a.m., May 26: Deanna Scoggins plays the piano.



50-plus Coordinator Monique Shaughnessy with "Aunt" Sally

WEDNESDAYS

10 a.m., every week: Strength and resistance training. All welcome.

10 a.m., every week: Crochet group meets. All ages and experience levels welcome, including first-timers.

THURSDAYS

10:30 a.m., May 7: Mike O'Leary, president of the Clifton Community Council, speaks to the 60-plus gang.

10:30 a.m., May 14: Mini French Festival with a performance by La Petite Musique.

10:30 a.m., May 21: Blue Moon Karaoke.

10:30 a.m., May 28: Toast to Older Americans Month!

LUNCH & BINGO

11:15 a.m. Every Tuesday and Thursday: LUNCH! Diners must make reservations one week ahead of time by calling 893-0346.

BINGO: A crowd favorite, Bingo follows lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



Garret from the Crescent Hill Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library with 92-year-old Fred during our first tech workshop.

Fill the Pantry

No matter how bare our shelves grow, our pantry shoppers never stop saying thanks.

Sometimes, I can't stop myself from apologizing for how little we have to offer, but people wave me off with some version of, "I'm just happy to get anything. We're so grateful."

Talk about a life lesson.

But the need keeps growing. One Thursday – my regular shift – we had 62 families visit.

Have you been in our pantry? It's tiny!

Pushing 62 families through that little store in three hours – we're tripping over each other.

When I started at UCHM four or so years ago, a normal Thursday was 14-17 families. A big Thursday might rise as high as 24. Clearly, things are in flux in the community. Ongoing cuts to food stamps haven't helped.

But supply is not keeping up with demand. *Our last food shipment from the U.S. Department of Agriculture* included no frozen meat. A little more than two years ago, those monthly meat deliveries filled six or more large freezers.

So, pick up a little extra next time you're at the store and help feed your neighbors. Our greatest needs:

- frozen meat
- canned corn
- soups other than vegetable
- meals in a can, such as Chef Boyardee lasagna and ravioli
- milk, including powdered milk, cooking oil
- ground coffee,
- toilet paper
- diapers, all sizes
- shampoo, conditioner, soap, and other hygiene items

– **Jenni Laidman,** volunteer

Join the mahjong fun!

UCHM sponsors mahjong games the second Wednesday of every month.

Play takes 5-9 p.m. May 13 and June 10. Admission is $5, which supports the food pantry. Or, instead of $5, you can donate cans of Chef Boyardee foods, salad dressing, or pasta and sauce.

Bring your own tiles, and we will have tiles on hand. Refreshments are available for players. ✨