

WHO ARE THE WORKING POOR?

An individual who works at least 27 weeks per year, but their cash income still falls below the federal poverty level - measured by the size of the family.

Based on 2019 statistics, a single adult in Richland County can live decently on \$24,460 annually. The average income of our clients is less than \$20,000 annually.



BE OUR FRIEND!

BE A DONOR

Your financial gift helps us serve more people, getting them on the road to self-sufficiency. You can give online at our website - coopmin.org.

BE A VOLUNTEER

In 2020, 313 individuals contributed 9,602 volunteer hours. Individuals and groups can interview clients, prepare tax returns, help with data entry, sort clothing, help in our emergency food pantry, and serve at the front counter.

DONATE YOUR CAR

We accept cars in all conditions and most are sold for much-needed cash to help clients. Towing is free and we also assist with paperwork. Roadworthy, suitable-for-driving cars are donated to clients needing transportation to work.

TAKE A TOUR

We regularly offer 35-40 minute tours of our facility, and tours can be combined with volunteerism.

INVITE US TO SPEAK

Does your group need a speaker at its next meeting? We have several professional speakers on staff and they love to visit with groups.

THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRY
coopmin.org



WORKING HARD FOR THE WORKING POOR

THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

3821 W. Beltline Blvd.

Columbia, SC 29204

Email: info@coopmin.org

(803) 799-3853

coopmin.org

A LEGACY OF SERVICE

For 39 years, The Cooperative Ministry has served the Midlands working poor, providing short-term crisis assistance toward a goal of long-term sustainability.

Created by five downtown Columbia churches, The Cooperative Ministry is now supported by many churches, corporations, and small businesses as well as thousands of individuals.



FROM **EVERY DOLLAR**
DONATED TO
THE COOPERATIVE MINISTRY,
89 CENTS IS SPENT
ON DIRECT PROGRAM SERVICES.

**THE
COOPERATIVE
MINISTRY**

3821 West Beltline Boulevard / Columbia, SC 29204

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Beth H. Irick, Chief Executive Officer

OUR 2020 IMPACT

The Cooperative Ministry closed its lobby because of the COVID-19 pandemic, but continued to serve Midlands clients using creative remote and arms-length methods.

13,336 PEOPLE received help.

953 PAYMENTS were made for rent or utility assistance.

2,107 PEOPLE benefitted from food assistance.

3,260 PEOPLE benefitted from free clothing for school and work.

7,496 FREE tax returns were prepared.

5 PEOPLE received a car for transportation to work.

313 VOLUNTEERS served 9,602 volunteer hours.

HOW WE SERVE

SHORT-TERM ASSISTANCE

- Financial (Rent and Utility Payments)
- Free Clothing & Furniture
- Counseling (Crisis, Spiritual, Financial)
- Food Vouchers

LONG-TERM STABILITY

- Financial Empowerment
- Career Improvement
- Free Tax Preparation
- Transportation (Car Donations)
- Insurance Counseling

