



# THE GOOD NEWS

November 2023

## Message from Simon

Dear Friends,

November was such a busy month here at Good Sam!

Alongside the Ghost Town Survivors, we co-hosted a Veterans Day celebration honoring all the men and women who served in the armed services. We welcomed Major General Juan Ayala, United States Marine Corps (retired) and current Director of Military and Veteran's Affairs in SA, as our keynote speaker.

Mr. Ayala, a native of El Paso, delivered a powerful message to over 80 veterans, including 25 Purple Heart recipients, in attendance, going as far back as the Vietnam War.



# Brownsville Spotlight

Our Brownsville staff list is now complete again! Our new additions to the team are **Abdiel de Hoyos**, our VEX PT instructor, and **Karyme Quinonez**, our dance PT instructor. Welcome to the Good Sam team!

This month, we partnered with agencies at the HEB 31st Annual Feast of Sharing to prepare over **1,000 plates** for the entire community.

We also partnered with Raising Cane's, Fays provided students with school uniforms, and we collaborated with the Brownsville Community Health Center (BCHC) for their ¡Vive Tu Vida! Get Up! Get Moving! event at Gladys Porter Zoo.

For Giving Tuesday, Good Sam hosted Barrio Loteria open to the community. Families joined us for a friendly game of Loteria as we raised \$4,241.00 through 25 donors and 18 businesses!



---

## Family Development Services

Our food pantry has been serving our community for over a year now! We currently average over 60 families who are food insecure monthly. Our team is focused on

addressing food insecurity needs among the Westside community and collaborating on several coalitions to address these issues city-wide.

We have begun a capacity-building cohort with the SA Area Foundation as part of the PaCE Health Equity Cohort Grant. Our team is also participating in S.A. Metropolitan Health Departments' Policy and Civic Engagement Offices' Health Equity Network on Food Insecurity and in partnership with United Way of San Antonio Safety Net Impact Council on Food Insecurity.

In the previous year, we made an impact by providing food assistance to **810 individuals**, exceeding our first-year goal of 500! In addition to immediate food needs, we offer referral services, enroll clients in Good Sam programs, and assist with crises as appropriate.

We are accepting community applications for the annual Holiday Bag and turkey voucher drive this December. We hope to receive enough donations to serve all community members in need.

---

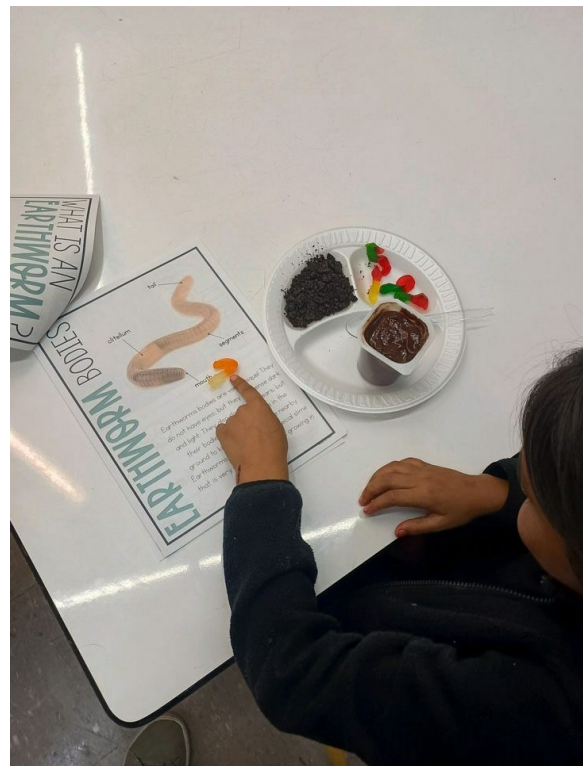
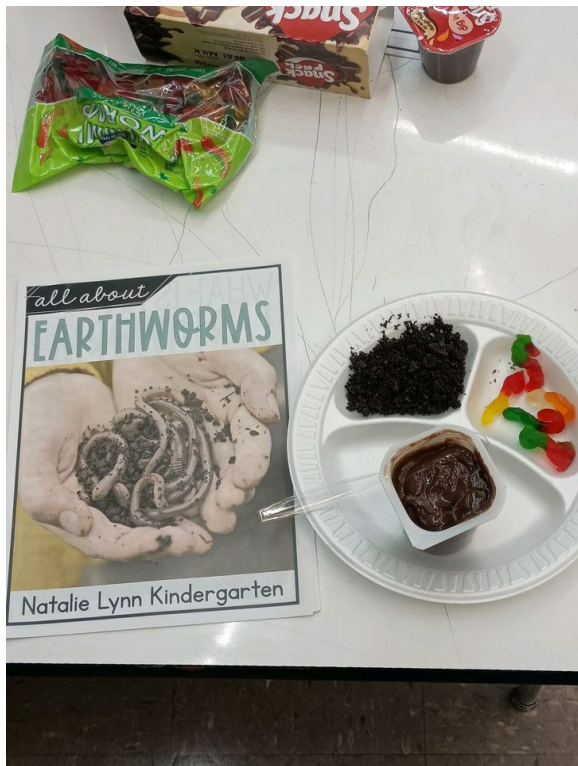
## Youth & Teen Services

Thanksgiving Camp had a STEM twist! The first day was our environmental science day or "Would You Still Like Me if I Was a Worm?" day. Our field trip event took 20 students to Confluence Park in partnership with the San Antonio River Authority (SARA), where Janine and Emily from SARA taught us about the San Antonio River!

Students got to explore Confluence Park, discover flowers and insects that thrive in the park, and work together in an environmental simulation game.



Students ended the day by crafting the "Dirt N Worms" snack.



The second day, we highlighted our Mathletes by having students work on the math activities put together by United Way and Vericast. Students raced to “Make the 100 Dash,” and the winner of our tournament received a \$10 H-E-B Gift card.

## Upcoming Events

# HOLIDAY BAG DRIVE



## DROP OFF BY DEC. 8TH

Please place all items in a reusable grocery bag and drop it off at

**1600 Saltillo St.**  
San Antonio, Texas 78207

between  
**8:30 AM - 5:30 PM**



### ITEMS REQUESTED:

- 2 Cans of corn
- 2 Cans of green beans
- 1 Can of sweet potatoes
- 1 Box of mashed potatoes
- 1 Box of stuffing
- 1 Jar/Package of gravy
- 1 Can of cranberries
- 1 Package of plates
- 1 Package of napkins
- 1 Boxed dessert mix
- 1 Small family gift (board game, book, etc.)





# Save the Date

for the 15th Annual

## Mums & Mimosas

February 1, 2024

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

San Antonio Country Club

### Mums & Mimosas 2024

**WHO:** Everyone!

**WHERE:** San Antonio Country Club

**WHEN:** February 1st, 2024 | 11:30-1 p.m.

**CONTACT:** [lisa.eversole@goodsamtx.org](mailto:lisa.eversole@goodsamtx.org)

Buy your  
ticket!



Visit our  
Website



Good Samaritan Community Services | 1600 Saltillo St., San Antonio, TX 78207

[Unsubscribe kimberly.pulido@goodsamtx.org](mailto:kimberly.pulido@goodsamtx.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [communications.admin@goodsamtx.org](mailto:communications.admin@goodsamtx.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!