



Annual 2023 Update

Dear Partners

As we reflect on the culmination of another year, we are thrilled by the impact we've made in the lives of the less fortunate. Your unwavering support has been instrumental in advancing our mission, facilitating positive transformations in numerous lives. In the year 2023, we achieved significant milestones, providing nourishment to over 2,000 individuals, executing 259 home deliveries, and distributing more than 9,000 pounds of food across Beaufort and Jasper counties.

Whether clients are struggling with situational or generational poverty, facing job loss, receiving inadequate wages, or navigating the complexities of raising grandchildren on social security, we stand committed to aiding those in need. Our unique approach involves meeting individuals precisely where they are, delivering food to their homes, and establishing relationships that cultivate trust and open communication. Our service goes beyond mere transactions; we aim to understand each person's story, extending spiritual support through prayer and godly counsel. Our ultimate goal is to guide them towards stability in the face of an otherwise tumultuous environment.

We often find ourselves assisting struggling mothers, endeavoring to provide the essentials for raising their children. Many of these mothers work at jobs that fail to pay enough to cover basic living expenses. The escalating cost of living, not just in South Carolina but nationwide, poses barriers for the economically disadvantaged. In South Carolina, where eviction rates are among the highest in the country, a minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour against soaring living expenses, such as an average monthly rent of \$1,652 for a two-bedroom apartment, paints a stark picture. A \$15.65 per hour job, while seemingly better, still leaves individuals with only around \$420 per month after rent for other necessities like food, daycare, transportation, utilities, cell phone, and internet. It's an ongoing struggle.

While Seed in the Ground acknowledges that it cannot address all the challenges of those in poverty, our biweekly food distribution alleviates some of the burden by reducing monthly food costs. Additionally, our commitment to delivering groceries directly to homes is particularly crucial for clients who lack reliable transportation, even if they had the means to purchase groceries.

We witness firsthand the positive changes in the lives of our clients and their children when they realize they have someone looking out for them. We refer to this transformative process as "Sowing Love and Growing Hope."

We invite you to continue with us on this impactful journey to serve the unserved and underserved in our community. Your support, whether through one-time donations or automatic recurring monthly contributions, makes a significant difference. Visit our website at www.seedintheground.org to continue supporting our mission.

Thank you,


Anthony Ghoston
President



April Ghoston
Executive Director