

# Annual Report 2021



Nutrition · Education · Connection

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## Message from Executive Director Mary Ann LeRay

The Filling Station has a three-prong mission: Nutrition, Education, Connection which has kept us focused in 2021. In a year where everyone is still navigating a world pandemic, our role has been more important than ever. We have been able to offer a safe, clean environment for volunteers to serve those who requested their unmet need to be filled.

The Board of Directors and Executive Director have intentionally developed a Strategic Plan and Committee process based on four core values: Christ-Focused, Educate, Empower and Equip.

Our goals for 2021 included:

1. Hiring an Executive Director in March.
2. Assisting with filling unmet needs while monitoring the safety of the clients and volunteers.
3. Developing Policies and Procedures and strengthening the organization.
4. Partnering with the Neuse River Bridge Run for the first time
5. Hosting our first Annual Fundraiser "The Perfect 10" to fund the Teaching Kitchen
6. Continuing to build church, corporate and individual partnerships
7. Creating and delivering a General and Client Newsletter

With the help of our dedicated Board of Directors and faithful volunteers, we accomplished what we set out to do this past year!

Additional accomplishments include:

1. Celebrated our 4th anniversary.
2. Hosted an Art & Dance Camp attended by 30 children.
3. Hosted a Music Education Workshop attended by 15 children and 25 adults.
4. Opened the Lenoir Community College Computer Lab which served five students.
5. Received significant volunteer assistance from the students of the Epiphany School of Global Studies to reorganize and clean the facility.
6. Rebuild and paved the parking areas.
7. Installed a Little Free Library.
8. Began construction on our teaching kitchen.

We look forward to continuing our core missions in 2022 in bigger and better ways as we assist the residents of Jones County improve their lives.

We believe God is leading us every step of the way and making connections with partners who allow us to bless others richly.

*Mary Ann LeRay*

For more information on partnering, donating, and volunteering, please visit our [website](#) and subscribe to our newsletter.



Nutrition      Education      Connection

## **The Filling Station Overall Strategic Plan** **2022 - 2025**

### **Vision**

**The Filling Station is the premiere connector of people and resources in Jones County and the world.**

### **Mission**

**Our mission is to assist with filling unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection serving the residents of Jones County.**

### **Goals**

1. **Finance and Investment** - to have a balanced budget and have an investment portfolio supported by a yearly plan that will increase the quantity, variety and consistency of funding sources by 10%
2. **Facilities** - to maintain and improve the buildings, grounds and real property to better serve the people of Jones County
3. **Marketing/Media/Public Relations** - to partner with local, state and national organizations, churches & religious organizations and set an industry standard in community outreach for marketing and public relations
4. **Programs** - to provide programs and partnerships with organizations and to deliver education and connections for the residents of Jones County
5. **Orientation/Training/Nominations** - to provide orientation and annual training for all individuals associated with The Filling Station, including Board nominations

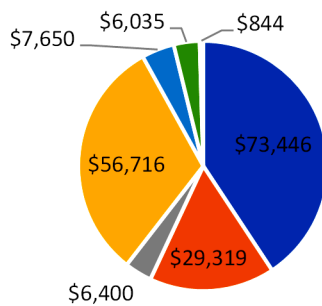
### **Core Values**

**Christ-Focused, Educate, Empower, Equip**

**November 2021**

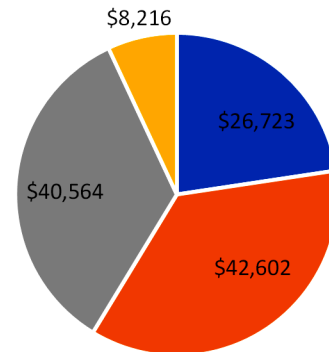
## Performance Statistics

**2021 Income--Total \$180,410**



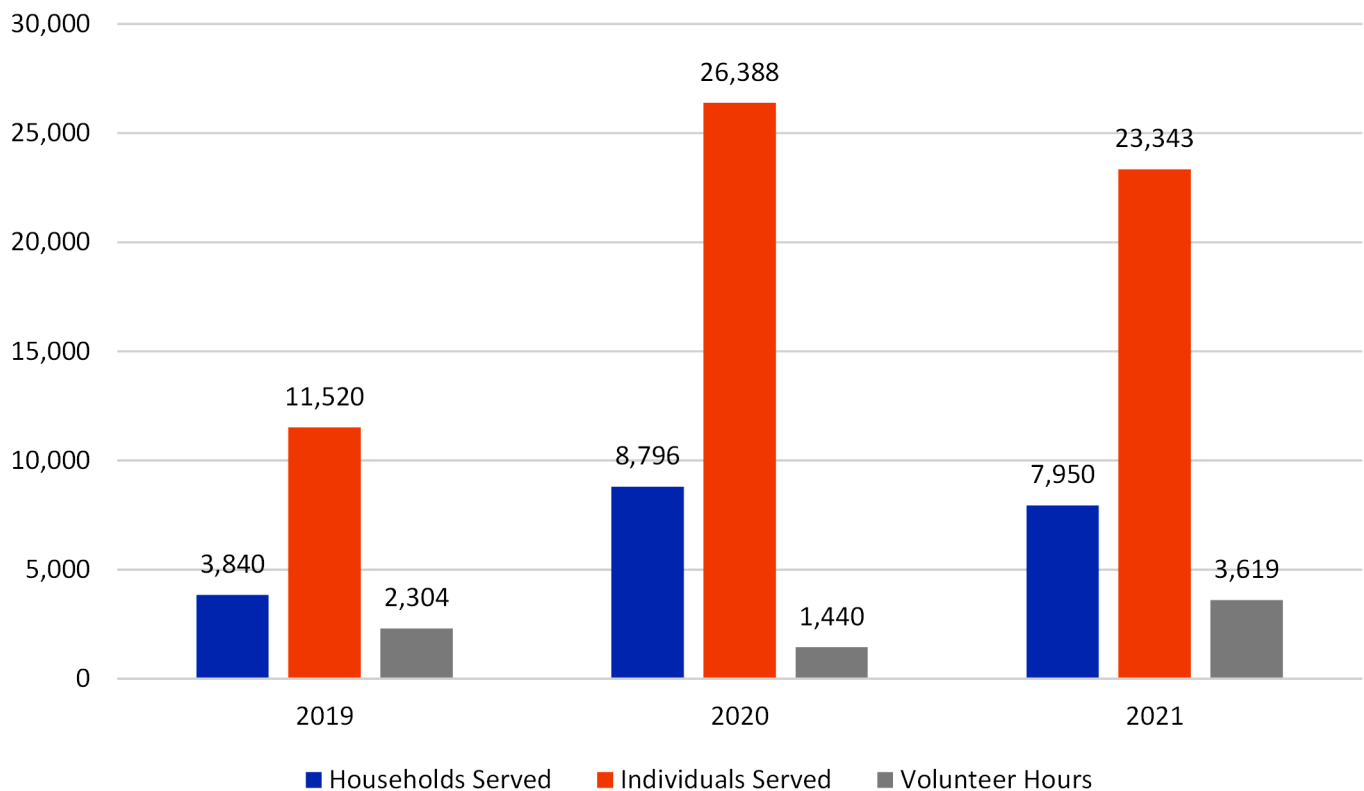
- Grants
- Individual Donors
- Civic Organizations
- Perfect 10 Fundraiser
- Church Partnerships
- Bridge Run Event
- Business/Corporate

**2021 Expenses--Total \$118,105**



- Renovations
- Operations
- Payroll
- Contract services

**2019 to 2021 Comparisons**



Notes on chart: 2019 was the beginning of the pandemic. 2020 was the height of the pandemic and while numbers served were high, the volunteer hours were kept deliberately low. The pandemic continued in 2021 but restrictions loosened up some.

## Major Contributors in 2021

### Church Partners

Christian Faith Assembly  
 Clinton Memorial Chapel AME Zion Church  
 Coastal Carolina Church  
 Cypress Creek United Methodist Church  
 Friendship Church  
 Garber Methodist Church  
 Jacob's Well Fellowship Church  
 Pollocksville Baptist Church  
 Pollocksville Methodist Church  
 Pollocksville Presbyterian Church  
 Remnant Believer's Church  
 St. James Church AME Zion  
 St. Matthews Church AME Zion  
 St. Phillips Church Missionary Baptist Church  
 The Living Word Worship Center  
 Triune Holiness Church

### Service Partners

American Heart Association  
 Atlantic Dance Theatre  
 Carolina Handling  
 Coastal Women's Shelter  
 Eastern NC Broadband  
 Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC  
 Jones County Parks and Recreation  
 Lenoir Community College - Jones County  
 Maysville Rotary Club  
 N.C. Cooperative Extension - Jones County  
 Neuse Regional Library  
 New Bern Amateur Radio Club  
 N.C. Commission on Volunteerism  
 N.C. Symphony Music Education  
 Pollocksville Fire Department  
 Pollocksville Rotary Club  
 Religious Community Services  
 Town of Pollocksville  
 United Way of Coastal Carolina

### Individuals/Foundations

VX Baldwin  
 Allen and Jean Bender  
 Bruce and Linda Berry  
 Hanna Compton  
 Lindsay Compton  
 Robert Foscue/Abundant Living Farms  
 Kim Chapman Freeman  
 Katherine Haroldson  
 Judy Hills  
 Ed Jekel—Facilities Manager/Renovations  
 Noreen Jekel—Interior Design  
 Scott and Holly Ladner  
 Jimmie and Tharesa Lee  
 Jeremy LeRay  
 Pamela Masters  
 Bob and Carol Mattocks  
 John Robert and Alison Mattocks  
 Harvey McNairy Foundation  
 T Wes Moore  
 Cynthia Reason  
 Jeffrey Reynolds  
 Troy and Cathy Smith  
 Buddy and Wendy Stallings  
 Jeffrey White

### Corporate

Anonymous Trust Fund  
 Bear Towne Tents  
 Carolina East Health System  
 Copy & Print Warehouse  
 Harold Bate Foundation  
 International Paper  
 Jones Onslow EMC  
 Life Plus Foundation  
 Moen  
 Weyerhaeuser

\*\*\* If we forgot to acknowledge your donation/gift, please know that it was not intentional. Let us know so we can update this report.

## Jones County Perfect 10 Event Sponsors

### Title Sponsor

CarolinaEast Health System

### Mile Sponsors

Jones-Onslow EMC  
Harold Bate Foundation  
Segal Family Charities  
Loni Meadows Banks

### Water Station Sponsors

Craven Ag (in kind)  
Trent Cadillac  
Solid Rock Accounting Firm  
Virgil Bender Family  
Pat Kahler  
Dr. Cynthia C. Riley  
Mike's Custom Cabinets  
International Paper

### Ten Mile Fork Sponsors

Mitchell's Hardware (in kind)  
Sylvia Miller

### Filling Needs Sponsors

Linda Staunch  
Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Pavey  
Randi Allard  
Mowing Buddies  
Grilling Buddies  
Bill and Thea Kincaid  
Robinson & Stith Insurance  
Charles and Patricia Jones  
Lawrence Family  
The Insurance Center  
Scott and Holly Ladner  
Jack and Julia Bircher/Century Farm  
Crosses

### Connection Sponsors

Lindsay Compton  
Gary and Susan Timco  
Jan and Bob Manning  
Linda Price  
Steve Mabie  
Rankin and Fiume Orthodontics  
Jan Holt  
Ed Koffenberger  
Linda Mathiasen

### In-Kind Sponsors

John and Sue Baldwin  
Banks Brothers Farm  
Dan and Clare Jenkins  
Kitty's Korner  
Allan and Karen Plaster  
Wallace Farms  
Z.A.K.'s



Dear Jones County Community,

# Save the Date

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021 | 1:00-6:00**  
The Filling Station fundraiser,  
*"Jones County – A Perfect 10"*



We are planning an afternoon of good country fun to raise funds and awareness of  
The Filling Station and our community.

**WE ARE "FILLING NEEDS"**  
We will be asking for support through voluntary donations.  
The event will be held along 10 Mile Fork Road,  
Kitty's Korner, etc... to Z.A.K.'s of Milledgeville.

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:**  
*Ceramics painting, Things From Yesteryear, a Hay Ride,  
Musical Entertainment, a Walk in the Woods, Farm Animals,  
Cow Pie BINGO, and shopping at Z.A.K.'s.*

Visit <https://fillingstation1075.com/> or call Karen at 252-635-0828  
for more information.

A County Wide Mission: Nutrition, Education, Connection  
Our Partners: Lenoir Community College / Jones County Center  
Coastal Women's Shelter / New Bern Radio Club

**RAIN DATE OCTOBER 17, 2021**

## 2021 Volunteers

1 Peter 4:10-11 God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

## WE CAN'T THANK OUR VOLUNTEERS ENOUGH!

Kelly Balentine

Dianne Banks

Eddie Banks

Ellis Banks

Peggy Barnes

Annie Baugus

Bree Baugus

William Beech

Allen Bender

Jay Bender

Jimmy Bender, Food Pantry Director

Hilda Bender

Jean Bender

Sheron Bender, Food Pantry Donations

Sumer Bynum

Christine Clark

Billy Cole

Compton Family from Raleigh, NC

Eldredge Family from Maysville, NC

Geraldine Eubanks, Volunteer Coordinator

Eileen Griswold

Bea Harriett

Mike Harriett

Marcy Hoffman

Janis Hudgins

Noreen Jekel

Kit Jordan

Richard Long

Norma McDonough

Izzie Meadows

Jennifer Miller

Sylvia Miller

T Wes Moore

Clyde Murphy

Julia Murphy, Senior Commodity Program

Angie Muse

Shelly Muse

Becky Norton

Karen Plaster

Nate Polo

Adam Ross

Margaret Ross

Gary Sinclair

Sheri Smith

Willie Smith

Joan Taylor

Turco Family from Lexington, KY

Rosina Venegas, Pollocksville Public Library

Lauren Voyles

Darrell Ward



Food Pantry Volunteers







Rebuilding & Paving Project



4th Anniversary  
Filling Station



Art & Dance Camp—Atlantic Dance Theater



Little Free Library—  
Weyerhaeuser & UW project



Music Discovery Program  
N.C. Symphony



Art & Dance Camp—Atlantic Dance Theater



A Perfect 10  
Fundraiser Supporters



The Epiphany School of Global  
Studies HS Seniors Volunteering



# Fill 'Er Up



1075 Family Newsletter

August 2021

Vol. 1 No. 4

## Yes, There's an App for That: Food Storage Advice

The FoodKeeper Mobile App was originally published as a brochure in 1994. The new FoodKeeper App provides valuable food storage advice to help consumers maintain the freshness and quality of foods. The guidelines recommended in The FoodKeeper can also help consumers use food while at peak quality and reduce waste. The guide was created through the work of FMI, Cornell University's Department of Food Science, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). We encourage you to download and utilize the FoodKeeper App for free. It is what we use here at the Filling Station. Click one of these:



You may also search The FoodKeeper online through [FoodSafety.gov](https://www.foodsafety.gov). This database contains all the information available in the mobile app and shoppers can easily search food products to find proper storage details. [Click here](#) to access this site.

## The FoodKeeper



## August 2021

- 3 Food Distribution
- 5 Food Distribution
- 10 Food Distribution & Senior CSFP
- 12 Food Distribution & Senior CSFP
- 17 Closed for paving project
- 19 Closed for paving project
- 24 Food Distribution
- 26 Food Distribution
- 27 Filling Station 4th Anniv. Celebration
- 31 Food Distribution



August 21st is National Senior Citizens Day

National Senior Citizens Day was created to give back to the seniors that have impacted our lives and those who have already given so much.

# Food for Thought



1075 General Newsletter

September 2021

Vol. 1 No. 2

## Message from Executive Director Mary Ann LeRay

I am so excited to share the updates since our last newsletter!

Great progress is being made in fulfilling our mission of assisting with unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection. Our annual Board Training was held on July 17, 2021 at Triune Holiness Church in Maysville. We are grateful to Triune and Sheri Smith, our board secretary, for hosting our meeting. During our time together, we worked on the Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and outlining the goals making sure the unmet needs of Jones County residents are being filled. Also at this meeting, the Executive Committee recommended and voted to offer the Executive Director position and I accepted. My heart is wrapped up in this great mission given to the church partners of Jones County. What a privilege to have the opportunity to work with our Board of Directors, volunteers, partners and donors!

Look how God has been blessing the mission!

- North Carolina Community Foundation funded a grant of \$40,000 from the Healing Communities Fund which will be used for general operations
- We received a grant of \$8600 from the VFW Fund through the Governor's Commission to hire a volunteer coordinator and create a training plan.
- 922 households were served from the Food Pantry July/August 2021

- 328.25 Volunteer Hours were logged July/August 2021
- 30 children benefited from the Art, Dance and Music Education during the week of July 19th made possible through a partnership with Atlantic Dance Theatre and NC Symphony



Briles Johnson, NC Commissioner of Vol and Comm Service & Mary Ann LeRay

- Perfect 10 Fundraiser will be held October 10, 2021 - goal is to raise \$25,000 for the renovation and building of a teaching kitchen. We are delighted to have CarolinaEast Health Systems as our Title Sponsor!
- 150 children received new backpacks with non-perishable food/snacks at the Back to School Bash held at Jones Sr. High School/Partnership event with Jones County Parks and Recreation

- Asphalt Project completed with the leadership of John Taylor, Building and Grounds Chair

The Filling Station celebrates its 4th Anniversary August 2021.

Thank you for your support and most of all, prayers over this important work we are doing together as we assist in filling unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection. You make a difference!

Mary Ann LeRay

VALUE OF  
VOLUNTEERS  
@ \$28.54 PER HR  
\$103,286

"Grow Yourself. Grow Your World"

ART AND DANCE DAY CAMP



Sponsored by  
The Filling Station &  
Atlantic Dance Theatre

Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup> | Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>  
Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> (3 days)



Garden Venue  
ON THE FILLING STATION CAMPUS  
221 Main Street  
Pollocksville, North Carolina

COST: \$5 DONATION  
to the mission of  
The Filling Station...  
Nutrition, Education,  
Connections

TIME:  
9am  
till  
Noon

REGISTER  
TODAY!  
20  
SPOTS AVAILABLE

AGES:  
8-11  
YEAR OLDS  
SNACKS  
DRINKS  
INCLUDED

Email: [info@fillingstation1075.com](mailto:info@fillingstation1075.com)  
Yes, I would like to register my child for the Fall's Day Camp  
and forms will be supplied to complete registration.

Lost your job?  
LCC is here to help YOU!

HRD Career Ready computer labs are open and available to assist you with:

- Updating your resume
- Job application assistance
- Job searches
- Interviewing
- Changing to a new career
- Classes to upgrade your skills

Two locations are open to serve you! Starting September 7, 2021

LCC Jones County Campus  
Career Ready Lab  
room 111  
Monday/Wednesday: 9 AM - 2 PM

The Filling Station:  
221 Main St., Pollocksville  
Computer Lab  
Tuesday & Thursday 9 AM - 1 PM

There is NO FEE if you are unemployed or underemployed!!  
Formore information, call:  
Felicia Brinkley at 252-445-5921 or  
Mona Rodes at 252-527-6223, ext. 781

LENOIR  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JONES COUNTY CENTER



**Nutrition · Education · Connection**

*Mission: To assist with filling the unmet needs in the areas of Nutrition, Education and Connection serving the residents of Jones County.*

PO Box 222

221 Main Street  
Pollocksville, NC 28573

252.224.1127

[info@fillingstation1075.com](mailto:info@fillingstation1075.com)  
<https://fillingstation1075.com/>  
[Facebook.com/FS1075](https://www.facebook.com/FS1075)

### **Board Members**

Chair: Maria Robles

Vice-Chair: Charlie Dunn, Jr.

Treas: Dr. Norma Sermon-Boyd

Secretary: Sheri Smith

John Bender

Bobby Darden

Willie Jones

Zack Koonce

Sylvia Miller

Clyde Murphy, Jr.

Karen Plaster

Cheryl Simons

Willie Smith

John Taylor

Carol Mattocks, Board Advisor

Theresa Lee, Consultant

Cathy Smith, Planning Consultant

Mary Ann LeRay, Ex. Dir.

Judy Hills, Editor

### **Client Testimonial**

"I have been coming to The Filling Station since shortly after I lost my job last year. This pandemic was here for the long haul and things were looking bleak for an older adult like me. To be honest, it took me a while to get the courage to come. It wasn't until things really got tough for me, that I decided to accept help.

"The volunteers have been amazing, friendly and compassionate. This is a no judgment zone. I've made some friends and enjoy seeing the warm smiles as I drive up to have my vehicle loaded with healthy, generous portions of food. I usually pick up for myself and a neighbor who is a shut in and she enjoys her box of goodies as much as I do. I am now working again, but my time of being unemployed at the height of the pandemic has netted me quite some debt and I am still trying to catch up with my bills. So I continue to come to The Filling Station for healthy, nutritious edibles. Thank you for your service and loving manner in which you give it."

Millie Belfort

### **Parent Testimonial**

Regarding the Art and Dance Camp - Partnership with Atlantic Dance Theatre

"My children really loved learning about different cultures through dance. They come home and want to learn more. They really enjoyed the craft projects to remind them of a wonderful week. My children are telling everyone about the wonderful summer camp at The Filling Station."

(Parent of 2 children attending the camp)

### **Teaching Kitchen Support**

"We look forward to partnering with The Filling Station if they are able to obtain funds to build a teaching kitchen for both online and in person food preparation classes. Teaching people how to prepare food at home is one of the best ways to eat healthy and save money."

Jacob Morgan, County Extension Director  
N.C. Cooperative Extension