



Shively Area Ministries

"UNITING CHURCHES FOR SERVICE"

GOD IS PRESENT TO HIS PEOPLE

The Lord is faithful to His people. We count on that belief and live it out in our daily lives. Nowhere is this more evident than at Shively Area Ministries and particularly in the lives and ministry of the three women who are at the heart of SAM:

Roxanna Trivitt, Susie LaFave and Angie Hare.

These women have served at the ministry for 15, 13 and 12 years respectively and have seen the working of the Lord in their own lives as well as in the life of the ministry.

Ten years ago the budget for SAM was \$137,000 and 14,443 people were served. This year the budget is \$450,000 and the number of clients served has grown to close to 20,000. Those figures are only indicators of how the ministry has burgeoned and the clients have increased. The growth in needs has also seen the growth of a different kind in the people who serve the needs.

When **Roxanna** began her ministry here she had come from the business world. She had earned her business degree and had been working fulltime at Humana, helping her seminarian husband and her two young daughters. But the Lord had other plans for her. Despite the position offered. The Lord was calling her to more.

She prayed, searching for more from life than she was finding in her work. She also sought advice. Her pastor at Dover Chapel, Rev. Bob Heath, offered her counsel and joined her in prayer. Roxanna seemed to wrestle with God but as with all people of faith, she came to peace when she found what God seemed to want for her.

At SAM her work and her love for God came together. People told her, "This work is you," and she found it so. Roxanna was the second director of the ministry. Her staff was small in number, the technology was limited. But she wanted the inside of her ministry to be in order; she wanted the mission to be the guide and this became her driving force.

The mission is what caused her to stretch her gifts. She wrote grants, used her many resources and grew in her excitement. She labored to bring the area churches together, united by the Mission:

"To unite the Shively area churches for the purpose of ministering to the unmet needs of the community through the Spirit of Christ."
Refocusing the Vision

One of the changes that came as the ministry grew is the inclusion of businesses and individuals who serve on the Board as well as donors. Rather than take away from the faith-based thrust of the work found originally in the area churches, these people and organizations have enlarged the scope of the ministry by opening the ministry to others of faith. The expertise of those outside the area churches has broadened what the churches alone could not accomplish, all within the vision of the Mission.

The mission includes the countless **volunteers**, giving these generous people from all the churches a common place to serve together. Their number grew from 48 in 1988 to 140 today, including some of the original number. The volunteers bring a personal witness and unique energy to the mission.

When growth begins, it tends to continue

As SAM grew, Roxanna realized that just as the way the ministry needed to grow, its inner workings needed to grow also. With the help of Sister Darlene Denton, Board chair, she overhauled the structure, seeing that this was more important even than the property which needed a change in venue and facilities. Roxanna tells the way she, God, her computer and Panera Bread (where she worked at a table all one day) came up with new structures for the way the Board, committees and individuals could work together for the Mission. Many events during the years help Roxanna to grow in her faith and commitment to the ministry. One time the ministry was so low on supplies that there was not even bread to distribute. She prayed in desperation. As so often happens in real need, a truckload of bread pulled in. God let Roxanna know that she was not needed; God was in charge and it was His ministry. SAM was a ministry and not a business.



Roxanna Trivitt, Angie Hare and Susie LaFave

Once Roxanna felt burned out, ready to step aside. One of the pastors reminded her that the work was God's and she did not take credit or blame. Roxanna also realizes that she is surrounded by good people, people of faith.

God calls another good woman

Twelve years ago, God sent such a person to SAM. **Angie Hare**, also an employee of Humana, lost her position when the business changed from being a hospital service to the insurance business. Angie had been working in Human Resources with talents very suitable to ministry. She was not to realize this gift for seven years while she ministered to her family, caring for her two children, volunteering at her church and becoming a pre-school minister at Shively Baptist Church.

Angie's talents led to at least three job offers from the secular arena. But they were not for her. Somehow God was calling her to something else, something more. The world wanted a "slot filler" but God had better plans.

Gary Trivitt, Roxanna's husband, surfaced Angie's name for SAM which was in need of a part time administrative person, skills Angie had in abundance. She came on board at first as financial assistance coordinator. Then she became fulltime, adding overseeing the food pantry, Meals on Wheels, supervising various ministries within SAM. She became the "go-to" person. She added more direct service programs involving money and its distribution for various needs. Presently Angie is fulltime Emergency Assistance Director.

Angie is committed to staying in touch with God's call. Each year she takes some private renewal time after Christmas. She has received calls from others to serve in different ways, but in her own prayer she always knows she is to stay where she is. She wants to give away what God provides each day.

One time SAM received a large amount of Ensure, not a commodity much in demand at the ministry. Angie saved it, setting it aside for a later need. The need came soon enough from a daughter whose invalid mother was in great need of liquid nourishment. The same supply-need-supply applies to money and commodities, again and again.

In her position of overseeing the distribution of money, Angie has seen much sadness, blindness of heart. But she has no illusions. Hers is only to deliver the "seed," empowering others – staff, friends, clients – to pass on the message that this is God's work, God's mission.

Another loving woman at SAM

Susie LaFave came on board at SAM 13 years ago. Presently she directs Meals on Wheels. Susie worked at Senior Citizens East where she directed the program for seniors. Her pastor recommended her to Roxanna, but Susie was more than ready, sensing a call to ministry in an atmosphere of faith found at SAM.

Susie directs the volunteers for Meals on Wheels; she has a way of helping others commit to a task even when they do not feel capable of doing it. She makes sure that her volunteers are covered by a substitute so that when they are unable to come on a particular day, someone else will. This way, both the clients and the volunteers can be at ease.

Most referrals for Meals on Wheels come from families. The ministry makes home visits, makes assessment of needs and then adds the client to the list of recipients. St Mary's provides the food, hot meals Monday through Friday.

As at many sites of Meals on Wheels, the SAM clients receive more than just food from the volunteers. They receive visits from caring people who listen and who often assess changes and unspoken needs of the clients. Maybe the organization should be called "**Meals and Friends on Wheels.**"









These volunteers – friends – tend to stay with the ministry. They have been doing this work for God's people, some from the beginning, and all for a long time. Susie stays very involved with the volunteers – all thirty of them – keeping up with their needs as well as those of the clients. *Susie is a people-person and this ministry suits her well.* She loves her ministry at SAM. Susie feels her own faith life has deepened here because of the faith of the staff, the volunteers and the clients. Being here is her answer to God's call. Susie is well-qualified for her ministry to elderly shut-ins. She cared for her own mother and learned greater compassion in that ministry. She grew in the sensitivity needed for this work. Susie likes the new facility but also looks forward to the hope of enlarging it because of the growing need for space to care for a growing number of clients.

Behind the scenes visit

This little glimpse of the inner working of the heart of SAM gives some idea of the faith that keeps the ministry alive and focused. SAM is not a business; SAM is ministry in Shively, dedicated to caring for the needs of the people in conjunction with the area churches. Together with individuals and businesses also concerned with the needs of Shively, much good is accomplished and God shows His care for His people.

**GOD CALLS
GENEROUS PEOPLE
TO HELP IN MANY WAYS**

Recent Major Donors:

LG&E	
PNC Bank	
Norton Healthcare	
Anonymous individual	
State Representative Joni Jenkins	
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth	
Younger Women's Club	
YUM brands	

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**SPRING INTO ACTION
FOOD DRIVE**

SAM seeks to fill up our pantry for those children who need extra help with food during the summer. What do children like?

- PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY,**
- CRACKERS,**
- CEREAL,**
- SOUP AND**
- PACKETS OF KOOL AID!**



Thank you for getting your small group, church or business to help us!

For more information, call **JOE** at 447-4330, ext. 27 to set up a time to deliver.

SAVE THE DATE

September 29, 2011 is just around the corner!

It is the time for the **Annual Banquet and Concert**, featuring again:



The Monarchs.

The fun will be held **Thursday, September 29, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** Once again the event will be at **Incarnation Catholic Church, 2229 Lower Hunters Trace. A \$25 donation is all you need for an evening of good food, great music and even dancing for the young at heart!**

An extra added attraction is a **\$2500 Travel Voucher (cruise or trip), compliments of Group by Design and Ohio Valley Travel.**

\$10 DONATION FOR EACH OPPORTUNITY TO WIN!



Shively Area Ministries
4415 Dixie Hwy.
Louisville, KY 40216

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Louisville, KY
Permit No. 1683

STAFF

- Roxanna Trivitt—Executive Director
- Angie Hare—Emergency Assistance Director
- Sister Jean Ann Zappa, OSU—Mission Advancement
- Joe Nevitt—Food Pantry/Seasonal Program Coordinator
- Susie LaFave—Meals On Wheels Coordinator
- Pat Turner—Intake Coordinator

(502) 447-4330 PHONE
(502) 449-4176 FAX
www.shivelyareaministries.com

NOTES OF THANKS

*Angie,
I just want to say thank you so much because you went above and beyond the call of duty to help me! People such as yourself make the world a wonderful place to be. You are a wonderful person that I will never forget. You have blessed me in such a way! Thanks and I wish the world was filled with more people such as yourself.*

A woman helped through SAM

Thank you so very, very much for your help with my LG&E bill. I don't know what I would have done without your help. God bless all of you for all you do for so many people.

A woman helped through SAM

Thank you so much for helping me with my gas & electric bill in April. It was truly a blessing— you were my last chance! Please thank the people who supplied the funds! May God bless you real good.

A woman helped through SAM

How you helped Sara through SAM

Sara came looking for help to pay her mortgage last November. A staggering list of events had left her in grave need for herself and her 22 year-old daughter.

Her daughter was off to a great start, moving to northern Kentucky and getting herself a job and becoming independent. Then she had a stroke. She had to come home for Sara to care for her while she recuperated.

Sara herself worked at UPS but had to take a leave of absence, using up all of her sick days, personal days and vacation days. Her benefits lasted two months and then she was without any income. She turned to SAM. Because of your generosity SAM was able to help her through the Emergency Assistance Program to pay her mortgage and avoid losing her home. She and Natalie are upward bound again. Their story has a happy ending.

It is only because you are generous that we can help people like Sara and Natalie. We need \$215,000 a year to keep our Financial Assistance Program going, giving aid to people in emergencies. Thank you for your continued help!



SAM is having an anniversary! We'll be 25 years old in 2013!



Our VISION 25 Campaign

- * Debt Reduction
- * Food Pantry Expansion
- * Program Sustainability
- * Endowment