



2025 IMPACT REPORT

A year of Grace at work



Feeding hungry families in North Georgia.

ministriesofgrace.com



Dear friends & partners in hope,

As I step into this role and reflect on 2025, I'm filled with gratitude for what God has accomplished through the faithfulness of this community. This was a year of building; building systems, building partnerships, building capacity, and most importantly, building pathways for families to move from surviving to thriving. The foundation we laid in 2025 positions us for something even greater in the years ahead. We didn't just meet needs—we created sustainable solutions that will serve families for years to come.

Through our three interconnected programs, we served thousands of families with dignity, care, and hope:

Meals by Grace welcomed more than 19,000 volunteers who served with compassion and consistency throughout the year. We served families week after week, and when our shelves reached critically low levels, this community rallied immediately to ensure no family went without food. The faithfulness of our volunteers and the generosity of our donors made it possible to provide not just groceries, but dignity and relationship to every family who walked through our doors.



Graceworks Training and Education Center helped 69 people search for life-changing employment, including positions earning six figures. We launched our first Forklift Certification Program and built partnerships with 12 employers who are committed to hiring the people we serve. These aren't just jobs—they're pathways out of poverty and into stable, thriving futures.



Grace Cares served 299 families at full capacity by year-end, conducted 258 home visits, and celebrated 28 families who graduated from the program. We distributed 341 coats during the winter months, provided emergency assistance to families facing eviction and utility shutoffs, and coordinated Christmas for over 41 children. Every number represents a family in crisis who found hope, stability, and a path forward.



Beyond our programs, 2025 was a year of strategic growth. Our Table of Grace Gala raised more than \$274,000, nearly doubling our sponsorship revenue from the previous year. We launched the Gobble Wobble 5K, bringing in additional resources and engaging our community in new ways. We strengthened our digital presence, growing our website traffic and search visibility significantly. And we came within \$8,681 of our annual budget, a testament to the discipline and stewardship of our team and the generosity of our supporters.

We also welcomed incredible new team members. **JC Chacon** joined Grace Cares as Family Support Specialist, bringing fluency in Spanish and a heart for serving families. **Hannah Faye** joined Graceworks as Program Director, building employer partnerships that are translating into real opportunities. **Jill Gapper** joined our Development team, focusing on deepening relationships with our mid-range and major donors. Each of them has strengthened our capacity to serve well.

As I look back on 2025, what moves me most is not the numbers or the programs, it's the stories. The single mother who found stable employment after months of unemployment. The family who avoided eviction because someone stepped in at just the right moment. The child who had a magical Christmas because a church decided to sponsor them. These are the moments that remind me why this work matters.

But here's what I want you to know: 2025 was a good year, but great is coming. The foundation we built in systems, in partnerships, in trust is positioning us to serve more families, serve them better, and help them move from crisis to stability to self-sufficiency. We're not just meeting immediate needs anymore. **We're creating pathways to transformation.**

In 2026, we're focused on re-engaging donors, broadening our reach into the community, growing our recurring giving base, and expanding our capacity to serve. We're doubling our employer partnerships through Graceworks, launching new training programs, and adding staff to Grace Cares so we can serve more families from our waiting list. We're building on what worked in 2025 and boldly stepping into what's next.

None of this happens without you. Your prayers, your partnership, your generosity, and your belief in this mission make all of it possible. Thank you for walking with us. Thank you for believing that every family deserves dignity, hope, and a pathway forward. And thank you for trusting us to steward your investment well. I'm honored to lead this organization into its next chapter, and **I'm excited about what God is going to do through us in the years ahead.**



Carmen M. McCauley
CEO, Ministries of Grace

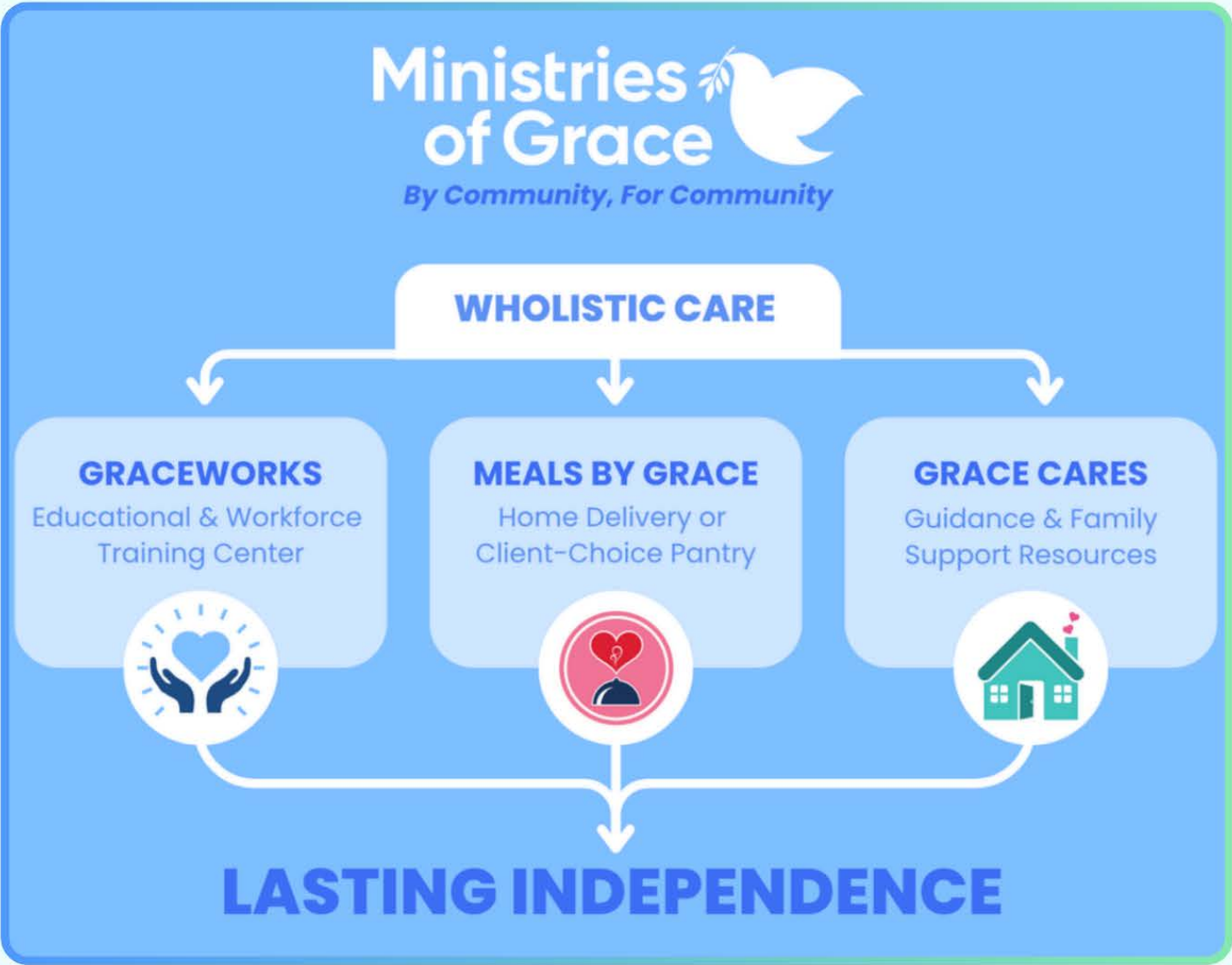
Carmen M. McCauley



A Place Where the Whole Person Can Thrive.

Graceworks, Meals by Grace, and Grace Cares work hand in hand to meet families with compassion and purpose.

Each one plays a different role, but together, they offer more than support, **they share God’s faithfulness through wholistic care** and a path forward filled with hope.



The Need is Still So Big!

In 2024, Dawson and Forsyth Counties reported a growing number of school-aged children enrolled in free or reduced breakfast and lunch programs, a clear sign of rising food insecurity in our communities.

This means **more children are living in households struggling to make ends meet**. Your support not only helps ensure they have access to nutritious meals, but also equips parents and guardians with the tools and resources to build a more stable and hopeful future for their families.

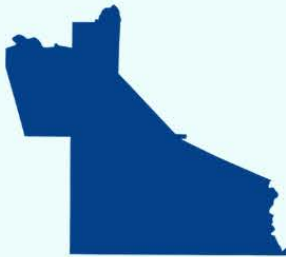
Forsyth County



12,316

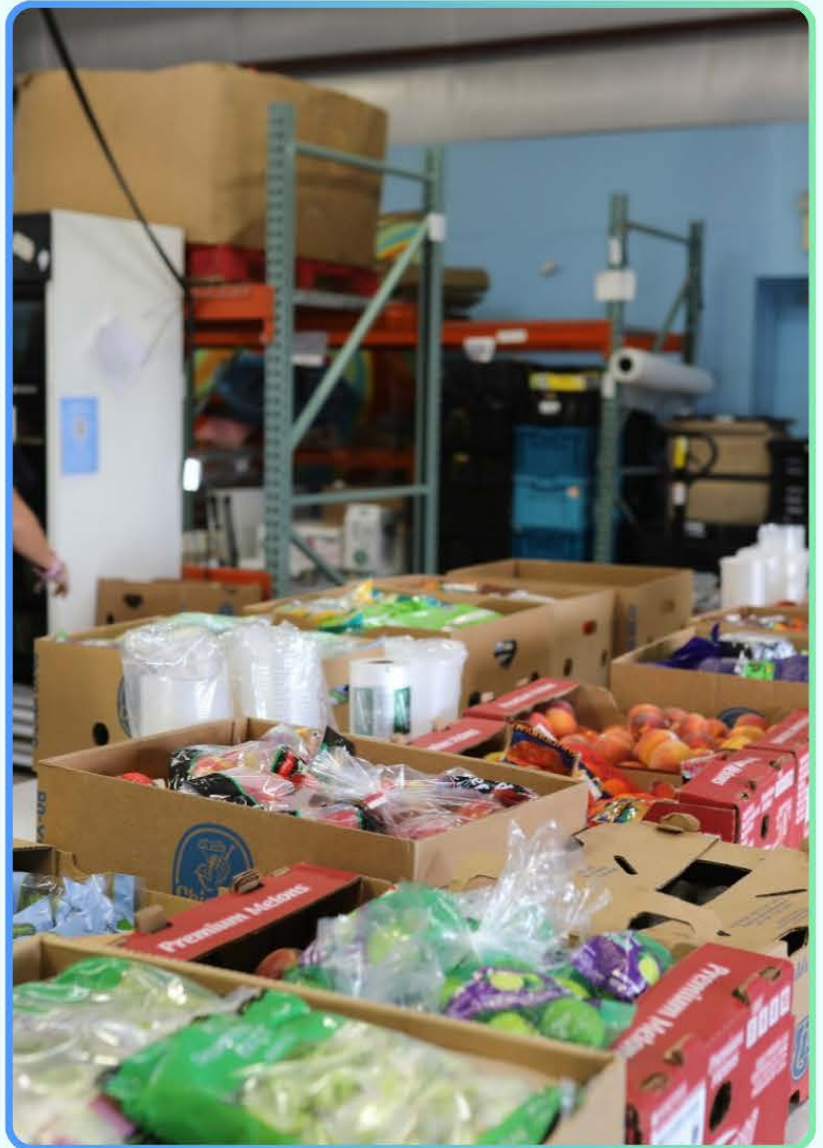
children receiving free or reduced breakfast or lunch

Dawson County



2,238

children receiving free or reduced breakfast or lunch





Meals By Grace



Feeding Families, Fueling Hope

Nearly 15,000 school-aged children in North Georgia, along with their families, face the uncertainty of not knowing if they will have enough food this week. **Meals by Grace** is a community-driven ministry committed to helping families move from in need to self-sufficient.

Through a dedicated network of staff, volunteers, donors, and advocates, Meals by Grace provides both food and life skills to families who need a loving embrace and a hand up. More than a pantry, it is a place where struggling families find open arms, full shelves, and the reassurance that they are seen, supported, and valued.

2025 Meals By Grace Impact

69,571

people served

43,035

*Break Bags
delivered*

18,741

*volunteers gave
their time*

29,091

children served

\$1.4M

*in gifted time
and services*

8,033

seniors served

As needs grew, so did God's faithfulness. Through your support, families received nourishing food, dignity, and a reminder of God's love.

A Meal Can Change Everything

At the end of a long, narrow dirt driveway lives a grandfather and his grandson, Bentley.

After losing his mother, Bentley came to live with his grandfather, who is now homebound and unable to leave his bed.

Each morning, Bentley walks that long, bumpy dirt driveway alone to catch the school bus.

Their home is falling apart, the ramp that once allowed grandpa to leave his home is broken and busted.

“Without Meals by Grace, we would not eat.”

Bentley has shared with the social worker several times how much he loves the frozen pizza that comes. It’s quick and easy for him to make for himself and grandpa. Grandpa always expresses his gratitude, as he cannot leave the home.

We’re changing lives, one “Bentley” at a time.

Thank You Steve and Suellen Daniels!



Since 2011, the Daniels, **founders of Meals by Grace**, along with an army of donors and volunteers, have been bringing food, hope, and transformation to those experiencing hunger in North Georgia.

As they step into a well-deserved retirement, we are deeply grateful for Steve and Suellen’s faithful leadership and the lasting impact they’ve made on countless families.

Youth Leadership Board Highlights

The 2025 Youth Leadership Board included 25 students ranging from rising sophomores to seniors. Each year, we bring together students who are passionate about developing their personal and professional skills while helping create a community focused on **happiness, not hunger**.

Students who join the Youth Leadership Board gain valuable opportunities for mentorship, learn interview skills, hear from guest speakers, earn volunteer hours, and receive letters of recommendation for jobs and college applications.

YLB members had three quarters of training:

- ✓ **Fall:** Food Drives – Taught by Amanda Clark (Focus: Social Skills)
- ✓ **Winter:** Studied the Book “Extreme Ownership” by Willink and Babin (Focus: Leadership Skills)
- ✓ **Spring:** Fundraising and Events (Focus: Strategic Planning and Execution)



Youth Leadership Board Testimonials

“The biggest lesson for me was about self-compassion. To have a good life, I have to love myself.”

“You did a great job planning each meeting and teaching us leadership skills. The sessions were fun and interactive.”



2025 Impact Report

Empowering Neighbors Through Employment

Graceworks Training and Education Center equips pantry neighbors and community members with the skills, confidence, and professional connections needed to secure stable employment and build long-term financial independence. Through personalized coaching, workforce training, and strategic employer partnerships, Graceworks helps individuals move from uncertainty to opportunity.

By the Numbers

69 clients served through career coaching and workforce development

15 clients hired through Graceworks coaching and employer partnerships

20 individuals enrolled in workforce training programs & certifications

12 employer partners working with Graceworks to create job opportunities

Transformational Employment Outcomes

Graceworks clients secured meaningful employment across several industries through coaching, résumé development, and employer connections.

Notable placements included:

- Technical Engineer Coordinator – \$98,000 annual salary
- Graphic Designer – \$65/hour contract position

Several individuals hired had been unemployed for more than four months, highlighting the impact of personalized coaching and employer partnerships.



2025 Program and Growth

Workforce Training

Forklift Certification Program

In 2025, Graceworks launched its first forklift certification program, expanding workforce training and preparing clients for in-demand logistics and warehouse jobs. Four staff members completed certification to lead the program, which will be offered quarterly to community clients.

Career Coaching

Graceworks provides individualized coaching that includes résumé development, interview preparation, and career strategy. Clients receive personalized guidance designed to help them reenter the workforce and pursue higher-paying opportunities.

Employer Partnerships

Graceworks continues to expand relationships with local employers to create new hiring pathways for clients. These partnerships help connect qualified candidates with meaningful job opportunities.



Maria's Story

Maria was a single mother who had limited job opportunities due to her lack of education. She participated in a financial literacy program and learned how to manage her finances effectively. Now she has a stable job and is financially secure.



Walking With Families in 2025

In 2025, Grace Cares continued to support families through home delivery, care plans, and emergency assistance. Through consistent relationships and practical support, families received the resources and guidance needed to move toward stability.

By the Numbers

1,529

Total number of delivery families

258

Home visits providing personal support

130

Outside referrals to additional resources

84

Care plans created or updated

93

Collaborative support connections

76

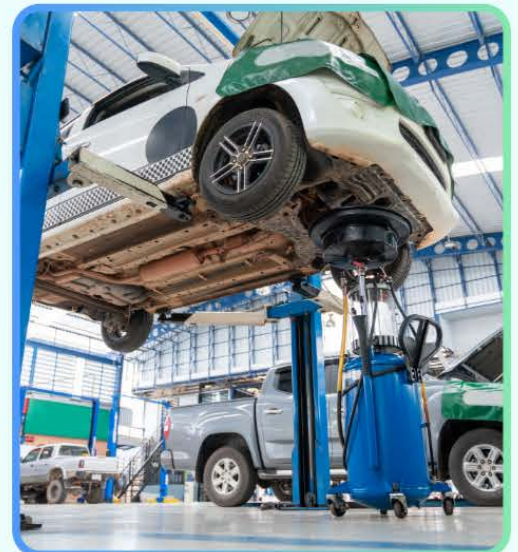
Emergency needs met

28

Families graduated from the program

A Family's Turning Point

A single mother of four faced losing everything when her car suddenly needed major repairs. Without transportation, she could not work or provide for her family. Through a generous donor, Grace Cares was able to cover the repairs, provide new tires, and make a car payment. What started as a crisis became a moment of hope and stability for the entire family.



Story of Grace at Work

In a small blue home lives a grandmother with three special needs grandchildren. The children's mother passed away two years ago, leaving her children to her mother. The father is nowhere to be found. This grandmother has a rare genetic condition, that skipped the mother, but was passed down to all three grandchildren. In speaking with the grandmother she shared, "They are going to need shoes again. Their feet are growing so fast." A need that she simply cannot provide with her small social security check and disability check. The twin boys grow so quickly that in just the month since the social worker last saw them, they seem to have grown three whole inches. Grandma thanks us every single Sunday when food arrives. **She is so grateful for all that Ministries of Grace and Meals by Grace provides.**



Volunteer Impact

Meals by Grace welcomed **more than 19,000 volunteers** who served with compassion and consistency throughout the year. We served families week after week, and when our shelves reached critically low levels, this community rallied immediately to ensure no family went without food. The faithfulness of our volunteers and the generosity of our donors made it possible to provide not just groceries, but dignity and relationship to every family who walked through our doors.

Our volunteers are the backbone of this ministry, making it possible to distribute food to thousands of families and deliver meals directly to homes. Your hands and hearts keep this mission alive!

If you're looking for a way to make a tangible difference in 2026, we'd love to have you join us.



The Impact and Heart of our Volunteers

Meet Kenny.

Kenny has been a dedicated volunteer with Meals by Grace for over five years. Each week, he drives more than an hour—simply because he loves serving others and building relationships.

“I love meeting the people who come and shop. I love hearing their stories,” Kenny shares. “I get so much joy from serving them.”

For Kenny, it’s not just about showing up—it’s about how he shows up.

“What I hope they get from me is someone who’s kind, present, and enjoying the moment right alongside them.”

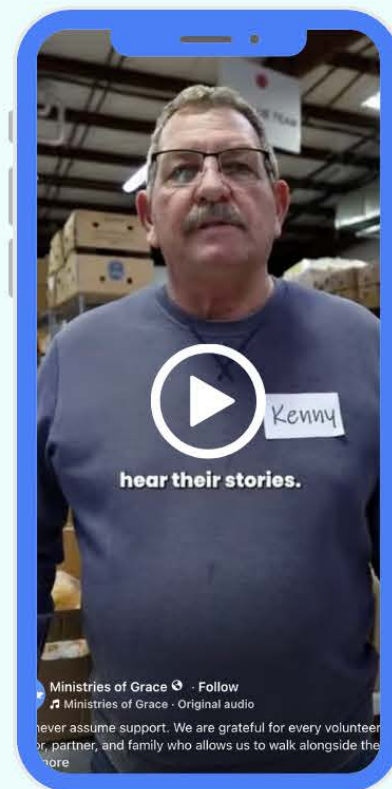
Watch Kenny’s full story and see why he keeps coming back week after week.

<https://bit.ly/4rV1r2D>



A single volunteer can change the lives of thousands of hungry people.

We’d love to have you serve with us! Scan the QR code or visit ministriesofgrace.com/volunteer



Updates and Announcements



Upcoming Fundraisers

The Table of Grace Gala, happening Thursday, September 10, 2026, at the Forsyth Conference Center, is our largest annual gathering in support of Ministries of Grace. It's a night of celebration and purpose as we walk alongside families facing hunger, poverty, and unemployment. Full event details can be found at ministriesofgrace.com/gala.

The Bridge

In 2024 we launched The Bridge, allowing people like you to become monthly impact investors. This program is a lifeline for families in need because we can offer them stable support over time. It's more than a donation—it's an investment to sustainable impact. If you haven't already, we'd love for you to join The Bridge and help ensure that families receive the resources they need to move forward. Visit ministriesofgrace.com/thebridge to learn more.



JC Chacon, Social Services at Grace Cares

JC Chacon serves on the front lines of care through Grace Cares, building relationships with families supported by Ministries of Grace. She meets people in their homes, listens to their stories, and helps identify the support they need most.

Through ongoing connection and practical care, JC walks with families as they move toward stability and long-term self-sufficiency. Learn more about JC:

<https://bit.ly/4bDKsx7>

Make a difference with us in 2026:

- ✔ Volunteer your time
- ✔ Give a one-time or monthly gift
- ✔ Share our mission with your community
- ✔ Coordinate with Graceworks to train or hire one of our clients

“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”

Hebrews 13 : 16



From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU for being part of this life changing, community-transforming work. Together, we are a force for good, bringing God's love to those who need it most in North Georgia.

**Ministries
of Grace** 

Feeding hungry families in North Georgia.

 ministriesofgrace.com

 404.426.4055

 3540 Keith Bridge Rd,
Cumming GA 30041