



LOCAL MISSION PARTNERS *AND FOREIGN MISSION PROJECTS*

2016 Report presented by the
Missions Committee of St. Mark's UM Church

*Mission Statement: To share the love of Jesus with and
through the people of Talbot County and beyond.*

Dear St. Mark's Family,

St. Mark's exists to share the love of Jesus Christ with and through the people of Talbot County and beyond. Through the outreach and care of our Missions team, we are striving to fulfill the mission that has been set before us. St. Mark's continues to be committed to share its resources with those who are in need in our community and throughout the world.

We have been called to share the love of Jesus through compassion, grace and mercy in whatever forms God requires of us. God has blessed us in so many ways that we in turn want to bless others through our missions giving. As you look through this booklet, please pray for each mission partner and those that they serve. May we prayerfully continue to be a beacon of the light of Jesus right here in Talbot County and in the world.

**Blessings to you!
Pastor Missy**

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Organization's name: CASA of the Mid-Shore
Organization's address: 1 S. Washington Street
Email address: rd@casamidshore.org
Phone number: 410-822-2866 **Fax number:** 410-820-6620
Lead staff name & title: Robin Davenport, Executive Director

Mission statement: We advocate for the best interest of children who are under the protection of the Circuit Courts of Talbot, Dorchester, Queen Anne's, and Kent Counties due to abuse, neglect or abandonment. We recruit, screen, train, and closely supervise Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers as they make assessments and recommendations to the courts about what is in the best interest of each child.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 - June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: CASA staff supports and guides volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) as they provide many different advocacy services to children who are under court protection due to maltreatment. Each CASA volunteer is appointed by a judge to act as an Officer of the Court, to advocate for the best interest of one child or a sibling group, and to provide written reports to the judge at all court hearings. CASA volunteers interview social workers, therapists, teachers, the child's relatives and care givers, research records pertaining to the child, and, most importantly, get to know their appointed child. Their in-depth knowledge enables them to make assessments and recommendations to agency partners and to judges about what is best for each child. Our staff provides supervision, guidance, on-going training, court accompaniment, and other assistance to all CASA volunteers. Our main office is in Easton. We have office space in the Dorchester Circuit Courthouse and a satellite office for our work in Queen Anne's and Kent Counties. In FY 2015 CASAs advocated for 86 children, meeting with them in their foster placements or wherever each child feels comfortable. Some children meet with their CASA volunteer for lunch, for help with homework, at the library, in their school, at the park, to play a game at our office, or some other activity that the child enjoys. Due to the time CASAs spend with their appointed children, children often state that their CASAs are the adults who know them best.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time?

In 2015 we are proud to have once again succeeded in serving 100% of the children who need us. Our program has been integral in creating positive change for maltreated children for over 25 years, and we currently serve children in Talbot, Dorchester, Queen Anne's, and Kent Counties. The judges and magistrates in each county emphasize that CASA's input is of incalculable value in helping them to understand the individual circumstances of vulnerable children so that they are able to make decisions that are in each child's best interest. In 2015, our CASA volunteers provided hundreds of written recommendations to the Talbot, Dorchester, Queen Anne's, and Kent Circuit Courts, 95% of which were accepted and made part of the Courts' orders. QA County's Judge Ross says that CASA volunteers are his heroes, and Talbot County's Judge Stephen Kehoe recently referred to CASA volunteers as "sparks of hope for children".

Describe any special needs at this time: Due to a continued decrease in available federal and state grants, local funding is of paramount importance in assisting us to serve as many children as possible who are under the court's protection due to abuse, neglect or abandonment. We strive to have no children on a waiting list.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): The funds go toward our program of recruitment, screening, training, and supervising the CASA volunteers as they fulfill their court-ordered advocacy for children.

Organization's name: Channel Marker, Inc.
Organization's address: 8626 Brooks Drive, Ste. 304, Easton MD 21601
Email address: debby@channelmarker.org
Phone number: 410-822-4619 **Fax:** 410-822-0984
Lead staff name & title: Debbye Jackson, Executive Director

Mission statement: The mission of Channel Marker, Inc. is to promote mental health by providing prevention programs, rehabilitation and community services to individuals and their families.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 to June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: Psychiatric Rehabilitation (mental health support) services for adults in Talbot, Caroline & Dorchester counties. Channel Marker operates day centers as well as residential homes in Easton, Denton and Cambridge. Psychiatric Rehabilitation services are also provided to children in Dorchester, Caroline and Talbot counties. The Primary Project, a privately funded program, offers early detection and mental health prevention services to children in grades K-3 in Talbot County.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time?

In April 2015, Channel Marker went through a survey process for national accreditation through CARF (Commission for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities). We were thrilled to receive the full three year accreditation as a result of this rigorous peer review process. This was the culmination of much dedicated effort on the part of our board of directors, staff and clients.

We continue to further develop our Health Home service to our clients. This whole person system of care is working to reduce avoidable hospital usage, increase self-management of chronic illnesses and improve health outcomes for our clients. We are also developing some great community partnerships with Primary Care providers and the discharge staff at the local acute care hospitals. The Channel Marker Group Practice continues to grow with the addition of another therapist (one of our long term staff members who has received her clinical licensure).

Lastly we are very excited to announce that Channel Marker will be embarking on a capital campaign to renovate a recently purchased facility in Easton which will become our new client wellness center, replacing our Port Street facility which we have outgrown and our administrative offices on Brooks Drive.

Describe any special needs at this time: We continue to work on obtaining funding to assist us in further developing our Health Home service. Our vision for this service is much greater than the reimbursement structure pays for. We continue to find that many of our clients struggle with mobility and balance issues due to obesity and medication symptoms. This is providing us with the challenge of adding special vans to our fleet which will allow our clients to be able to get in and out of them more easily. This past year we were able to add one new type of van to our fleet to accommodate those needs. Each year we will need to come up with additional funding for our client's transport needs. We are expanding many services to our clients for which we are very excited; however, this always comes with the need to secure additional resources and funding.

ADVOCACY is critical to our service growth.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): The funding we receive from St. Mark's has always gone directly to our clients to support holiday activities for them. Many are alone, and we always try to have activities and meals during the holidays in case they have no one else to share the holidays. These are very difficult times, and we try hard to make the holidays special for those with mental illness. Your support in so many ways means a great deal to our organization and our clients. Additionally recently St. Mark's made Fellowship Hall available to us to have a memorial service for a staff person who passed away on Christmas Eve. This service allowed us to honor her and give our clients the opportunity to say goodbye in a very meaningful way.

Organization's name: Character Counts Mid Shore, Inc. (CCMS)
Organization's address: 108 Maryland Avenue, Suite 103, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: charactercountsmidshore@gmail.com
Phone number: 410-819-0386 **Fax number:** none
Lead staff name & title: Susan Luby, Executive Director

Mission statement: Embracing character development in all aspects of our lives.

Organization's fiscal year dates: January – December 2016

Describe the organization's programs & locations: Winners Walk Tall; Laws of Life Essay Contest; Character Counts in the Workplace; Sports trainings – Take 5 and Pursue Victory with Honor; Parenting with Character; character support for all people in Caroline, Dorchester and Talbot counties. CCMS also awards 3 Citizenship scholarships to graduating seniors.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time? Our Winners Walk Tall Program is reaching over 8,200 students throughout Talbot, Caroline and Dorchester Counties. While the Six Pillars of Character – trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship – are our main focus; CCMS also provides social and emotional learning which include strategies for adapting in new situations, self-awareness, self-control and how to form a good relationship. Character Coaches are positive role models who boost young people's motivation by modeling a guide to achieving success with a clear set of values.

Describe any special needs at this time: Identifying volunteers to serve as Character Coaches is our main concern as each year the schools' enrollment grows. These days, with most families, the children are often left alone with no one to guide them and the internet and video games; when not monitored, can have negative impacts on their behavior and decision-making. As a village, we must share the responsibility. CCMS would love to welcome YOU as a new Character Coach to help provide the necessary ingredients that all children need to grow into a responsible and respectful citizen.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): The generous donation provided by St. Mark's will be used for general support as our program expenses increase each year. Thank you for your continued confidence!

Organization's name: Chesapeake Center
Organization's address: 713 Dover Street, P.O. Box 1906 Easton, MD 21601
Email address: dharrison@chesapeakecenter.org
Phone number: 410-822-4122 Fax: 410-822-4184
Lead staff name & title: Donna L. Harrison, President & CEO

Mission statement: Chesapeake Center, Inc. will assist adults with disabilities to reach their potential for independence by pursuing opportunities in housing, employment, natural supports, friendship & community activities.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 – June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: Chesapeake Bay Industries, Inc. (CBI) is a vocational training program for adults with developmental disabilities. When the Center began in 1967, providing work skills training was the original intent. Though funded under the Chesapeake Center, Inc. CBI began in 1967. Located at 713 Dover Road in Easton, MD, CBI is the nation's sole supplier of commodities bought by federal agencies through Source America, formerly NISH. The sewing section produces several sizes of wiping clothes used by the Navy on nuclear submarines. In addition, CBI does extensive manufacturing jobs for private business including Dixon Valve, Orion, Potomac Fund Management, Celeste, & Konsyl. Normally 125 individuals with severe disabilities receive vocational training. Work study students are placed here Sept.-June from Talbot, Dorchester, Caroline & Queen Anne counties. CBI receives no state or federal funding & was philosophically designed to be self-sustaining.

Formed in 1974, Chesapeake Developmental Unit, Inc. (CDU) is a pre-vocational training program for adults with developmental disabilities. Employees practice skills they acquire on supervised work settings such as food service, cleaning & recycling program, and small assembly jobs. For others, the focus is activities of daily living and leisure skills. Location: 713 Dover Road, Easton, MD. 21601.

Chesapeake Group Homes, Inc. (CGH) formed in 1980, is a community living opportunity for adults with developmental disabilities. As of 2014 nine group homes for 4-6 adults, and four supervised apartments also known as "alternate living units" (ALU), and respite services are provided. The residences are designed to provide a safe environment in a setting with as few restrictions as possible. Staff turnover, overtime regulations, reduced funding and increased cost of goods greatly challenge this agency's operating efficiency. Replacement costs for vehicles, furniture, linens, & other household items are not included in the State's reimbursement structure. The agency is constantly seeking donations to keep the homes clean, comfortable, and well presented. We currently support 41 adults and have 2 vacancies. All homes are located in Easton.

In 1994, Chesapeake Center, Inc. initiated 2 new programs. The Individual Support Services (ISS) program currently provides minimal supervision (9-hours/week) to 9 adults in their own apartments & 21 adults who live with family. This program is growing because of consumer need and minimal funding required from the State. This State money allows CCI to provide paid staff supervision to assist the residents with food shopping/preparation, transportation, medical appointments, case management & financial support. The agency helps these individuals get established by seeking donations of usable goods & cash to purchase furnishings, pay bills and stock necessities.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time:

May 2015 48th anniversary with Open House, Recognized 5 CNA's at Mid Shore Advisory Council Luncheon.
 July 2015 – Chesapeake Bay Industries, Inc awarded Quality Work Environment Award by Source America in Florida.

On October 17, 2015 6th annual event at Bayleigh Chase Auditorium for Community Awareness - sold out crowd.

As always we are most grateful for donations of food and usable items from St. Mark's Church.

Describe any special needs at this time: All of the wheelchair ramps at 7 houses are made of salt treated wood and beginning to deteriorate. Some were built in the 80's. We would like to gradually replace these with durable, non-skid aluminum or steel ramps.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): The funds provided in 2015 assisted the Center in replacing furniture in 4 of our 11 residences. This was an unexpected expense because of pest infestation.

Organization's name: Critchlow Adkins Children's Centers
(founded as Easton Day Care Center)

Organization's address: 7 S. Park Street, Easton, MD 21601

Email address: kgeorge@cacckids.org Website: www.cacckids.org

Phone number: (410)822-8061 Fax number: (410)822-9299

Lead staff name & title: Kristine George, Executive Director

Mission statement: To provide access to quality childcare in a nurturing, diverse, safe and enriching environment. June 30th

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1st – June 30th

Describe the organization's programs & locations: CACC has grown to include five sites in Talbot County. The Pre School Site located in Easton provides a full day two-year-old program, an all year preschool program for children 3-4 years old and a state certified Pre-K program. The School Age Site is located in the Easton Elementary School and provides a pre-K wrap program as well as before and after school care for PreK-5th grade. The St. Michaels Site is located in the St. Michael's Elementary School and offers a full day two-year-old program, preschool programs, pre-K wrap and before and after school care for PreK-6th grade. The Cordova School Site is located in the Chapel District Elementary School and offers a preschool program, pre-K wrap and before and after school care for PreK-5th grade. The White Marsh Site is located in the White Marsh Elementary School and offers before and after school care for K_5th grade. All five sites offer full day summer programs as well. Full day care during most school closings is also available. We also offer before care at The Country School.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time: CACC has had a profound impact on the very fabric of our community, having educated and enriched the lives of more than 9,000 children from varying socio-economic backgrounds. Since 1970, more than \$2 million in tuition scholarships has been provided to 3,000+ families. Through grants and charitable contributions, CACC provides approximately \$125,000 in tuition assistance each year. Over 40 percent of our families receive assistance of up to 35 from our tuition assistance program, which is based on household income and number of family members.

Describe any special needs at this time: CACC's tuition assistance program continues to be a priority. Over the last decade the need for tuition assistance has grown more than 50 percent from \$80,000 to approximately \$125,000 annually. Sixty percent of our families receive some type of financial aid either from the state's Purchase of Care program, from CACC or a combination of both. During our 42 years of operation, CACC has provided more than \$2 million in assistance to over 3,000 families. Local community support continues to be a critical piece to the success of our mission.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): Funds provided by St. Mark's UMC are directly allocated to our *Help a Child Grow* program for tuition assistance. Supporting our tuition assistance program helps deserving families gain access to a quality child care during the most formative years of a child's education. St. Mark's support is a stellar example of how the local community has helped CACC continue its mission for over 40 years.

Organization's name: The Dixon House
Organization's address: 108 N. Higgins Street, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: ledixonhs@goeaston.net
Phone number: 410-822-6661 **Fax number:** 410-822-3460
Lead staff name & title: Linda Elben, Executive Director

Mission statement: The mission of The Dixon House, a non-profit independent and assisted living facility, is to provide high quality and affordable residential care to seniors in an enriching, home-like environment.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1—June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: As an independent and assisted living facility, residents receive assistance with activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing and medication administration from qualified nursing staff on a daily basis. In addition to home-cooked meals served three times a day, each resident is provided laundry and housekeeping services. The Activity Department coordinates a wide variety of activities including daily exercise, art and gardening projects, a wide variety of games, musical performances, scheduled outings and intergenerational activities to enrich the lives of our residents.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time? Since the early 1900's and with support from the community, The Dixon House continues its long tradition of providing high quality care at affordable prices. The 100+ old grand Victorian House provides a warm, home-like environment for 19 seniors ranging in age from 84 to 106. The Dixon House is one of the oldest non-profit organizations in Talbot County.

Describe any special needs at this time: The current security system is sorely outdated, a hodge-podge of equipment lacking integration and creating serious gaps in the security of the residence. An upgraded security system will provide better monitors and cameras on corridors and in common areas where residents gather. In addition, state-of-the-art equipment would allow for wireless, remote monitoring of all major facility systems and improved connections to necessary local emergency fire, police and ambulance.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): A previous generous donation by St. Mark's Mission provided The Dixon House funds to assist in making both safety and cosmetic repairs to our front porch and two smaller porches. Our residents continue to gather here to enjoy the change of seasons – migrating birds, the changing color of the leaves, and the arrival of fall's cool, crisp air. Our porches are part of the experience that helps them make memories during their time at The Dixon House.

Organization's name: East-End Neighborhood Association (EENA)
Organization's address: P.O Box 175, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: minarick@verizon.net
Phone number: 410-822-0636
Lead staff name & title: Marie Bradley, Treasurer; Joseph Minarick, President

Mission statement: To improve the quality of life for those who live, work, own property, do business or worship in Easton's East-End Neighborhood.

Organization's fiscal year dates: January 1 - December 31

Describe the organization's programs & locations: EENA meets bi-monthly at Asbury United Methodist Church on Higgins Street and maintains a Post Office Box and a website (<http://eena-eastonmd.weebly.com>) to facilitate neighborhood communications. Present programs and services include:

1. Tracking and advocating for housing code enforcement and zoning changes to improve livability for all residents. Advocacy for rental housing inspection program.
2. Working with Easton Police Department to reduce neighborhood crime. Ombudsman to the town for neighbors who are uncomfortable reporting issues of concern in person.
3. Community garden project.
4. Sponsoring the annual Clean-Up Day every spring.
5. Support for the Hill Project exploring the history of the African-American community in Easton's East End. Financial support for the Hill archeological exploration.
6. Surveys concerning East End infrastructure: sidewalks, trees, streetlights, etc.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time?

1. Our longevity. EENA was formed over 25 years ago and has continuously operated since then.
2. Our work with the Easton Police Department to reduce neighborhood crime. Advocacy for individuals unwilling to approach the police directly concerning neighborhood crime.
3. Recognition by the Easton Town Council, the Mayor and Easton Planning Department as the East-End Neighborhood's voice.
4. East-End Community Garden. The garden is a permanent green space within the East-End Neighborhood. Plots allow residents to grow produce for the table and provide the chance for children to learn gardening from their parents.

Describe any special needs at this time. We continue to work to attract new members to our organization, including members of the African-American and Hispanic communities, who have been difficult to reach. The fence and compost bins in the community garden need repair and the fence needs painting. To expedite this work, the fence will be professionally painted. This effort is planned around the time of our spring cleanup in April.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): St. Mark's funds have been and will be used to continue the upkeep of the Community Garden and help defray the costs of office supplies and mailing expenses necessary in our efforts to stay connected with our community through flyers, our website and mailings.

Organization's name: For All Seasons
Organization's address: 300 Talbot Street, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: blangrell@forallseasonsinc.org
Phone number: 410-822-1018 **Fax number:** 410-820-5884
Lead staff name & title: Beth Ann Langrell, MS, Executive Director

Mission statement: The mission of FAS is to provide the highest level of comprehensive and integrated therapy, advocacy, and psychiatric care in a safe environment where individuals, families and groups who have entrusted us with their care can be empowered and nurtured on their journey to wellness.

FAS continues to be committed to offering:

Crisis Intervention to provide 24-hour response, assistance and support to individuals, groups and communities.

Therapy to enable clients to function at their optimum.

Advocacy to serve as a representative for individuals, groups and the community to enhance their well-being.

Education to impact social problems by expanding knowledge.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 – June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: FAS is a non-profit licensed outpatient mental health clinic and rape crisis center. Our agency staff is trained to work with victims of trauma, including sexual assault and abuse; and we operate a 24-hour hotline (English & Spanish) and advocacy response to local Emergency Departments. We have five offices that are located in each of the five counties, Talbot, Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne and Dorchester.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time: The Behavioral Health and Rape Crisis Center at For All Seasons provides a full continuum of mental health treatment services to all residents of the Mid-Shore regardless of their ability to pay. FAS maintains a 24-hour hotline and emergency advocacy response in both English and Spanish to child and adult victims of sexual abuse and assault. Over the past year, our entire team has completed/or is in the process of completing an 80 hour Trauma Certification program. We have more than doubled our services in Caroline County to assist with the mental health crisis as a result of the Caroline County Mental Health Clinic downsizing their patient load. Over the past two years we have more than doubled our staff size – an true sign that needs of the mid-shore community continue to rise. One of our greatest hires is a full time Spanish interpreter. With this new position we are able expand our services to the Spanish speaking community by allowing other staff to engage in case management and outreach.

Describe any special needs at this time: As the only agency who provides advocacy, mental health therapy and psychiatric care to English and Spanish speaking clients regardless of their ability to pay, funds are especially needed to keep up with an ever growing community need. Many clients are without insurance or are underinsured but walk through our doors seeking therapy for sexual assault, domestic violence, trauma history, attachment disorders, mental health and psychiatric needs...the list goes on. This past year our agency provided 35-40 sessions a week or 1,820 sessions per year, (up from 25 sessions a week or 1,300 sessions a year) to uninsured Spanish speaking clients alone. Additional funds from St. Marks United Methodist Church would allow us to help meet this ever growing community need.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): The funds provided in the past have been used to support mental health treatment for the underinsured and uninsured residents of the Mid-Shore, and as referenced above, will continue to be used for that population.

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Organization's name: Habitat for Humanity Choptank
Organization's address: P.O. Box 2366, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: development@habitchoptank.org
Phone number: 410-476-3204 **Fax number:** 410-476-3709
Lead staff name & title: Emily Lynn, Development Officer

Mission statement: Habitat Choptank works in partnership with God and all people to transform communities and the lives of qualifying families in Dorchester and Talbot counties by building safe, decent and affordable homes.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 - June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: Habitat for Humanity Choptank is a faith-based housing ministry in Talbot & Dorchester counties. Each Habitat home is the result of a community effort made possible by hundreds of contributors, volunteers and the future homeowner. Through this shared effort, Habitat is able to construct simple, decent affordable homes that are sold at cost with affordable interest mortgages to qualifying low-income families. In order to purchase a home, each family completes 300-400 hours of sweat equity helping to build their future home and other Habitat homes, saves \$4,500 for costs at settlement, completes Habitat's home owner education workshop series, and pays off any outstanding collectible debt. During fiscal year 2015, 3 homes were transferred to home buyers during the year: the new construction Dorchester County Ecumenical Build home plus 2 rehab houses in Cambridge. The 2 duplex homes at 233 Port Street, Easton were substantially completed and a rehab at 443 Oakley Street in Cambridge got underway. 7 qualifying home buyers, selected from among 202 candidates, were served through mentoring, financial counseling, home owner education seminars, and sweat equity hours. Plus, with Habitat Choptank's tithes to Habitat International, 3 families were served through global building. 10 properties were acquired for future development: 6 lots and 4 single family homes for rehab. 9 weatherization projects were completed with income-qualifying home owners through our pilot repair program.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time? In its 23 years of operation, Habitat Choptank has completed 68 homes. June 30, 2015 marked the close of our 25 in 5 initiative, an ambitious five year plan to expand organizational capacity to build houses that are sold to income-qualifying home buyers. The initial goal of completing 25 homes over a five year period was broadened along the way to serve more than 25 families through both energy efficient new home construction and housing repairs. 17 homes were sold and 14 weatherization projects completed – in partnership with income-qualifying home owners totaling 31 housing solutions.

Describe any special needs at this time: Addressing the pressing need for affordable housing in this community requires more resources: More partner families, more land for future home sites, more funding and more volunteers. With regard to volunteers, while additional help in construction is always welcomed, there are many other opportunities such as committees, in the office, and working at the ReStore through which concerned community members can help further the mission of Habitat Choptank.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): New funds will be used to continue to assist with the costs of our home ownership program in Easton. Previous gifts supported the costs of our affordable home ownership program and provided general operating support. Habitat Choptank is thankful for support from the St. Mark's family in the form of prayers, financial investment, ReStore donations, meals for visiting work groups, and volunteer time and labor.

Organization's name: Mental Health Association in Talbot County
Organization's address: 611B Dutchman's Lane
Email address: jdavis@mhamdes.org; www.mhamdes.org
Phone number: 410-822-0444 **Fax number:** 410-820-7283
Lead staff name and title: Jacqueline M. Davis, Executive Director

Mission statement: The Mental Health Association (MHATC) is to promote mental wellness and behavioral health with Education and Advocacy.

Organization's fiscal year dates: January 1 - December 31

Describe the organization's programs & locations: MHATC offers many educational programs in response to community needs. Currently, we provide programs in a variety of locations around Talbot County. *Mental Health First Aid* is our flagship 8-hour training program that teaches participants the signs and symptoms of the most common mental health problems, where and when to get help, and what type of help has shown to be effective. Similar to CPR training, this course teaches members of the public how to take action to help reduce harm and/or injury for someone in mental distress. There are now 5 modules of this program in which we are certified: Adult, Young Adult (ages 18 – 24), Youth (ages 12-17), Veterans and the Elderly. *Kids on the Block* is a puppeteer group that teaches a "Bullying and School Safety" course to elementary school children. This program creates awareness of what constitutes bullying, encourages empathy for the targets of bullies, and helps develop problem-solving strategies while promoting safety in their school. The *Early Learning Series*, provided to Talbot County pre-K and kindergarten students, teaches young children ages 3 – 5 how to problem solve, manage anger, and show kindness to others through songs and role play. The *Veterans Program* provides emergency financial assistance to veterans in need who are waiting for their veteran benefits to be in place. We also sponsor an annual Veterans Appreciation Day that provides a free lunch to local veterans and a resource fair where veterans can receive information and support from a variety of federal, state and local organizations. Our *Healthy New Moms* is a public education campaign to alert pregnant and new mothers of the warning signs of anxiety and depression they may experience after the birth of their child and offer them support and resources to seek help.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time. We are proud of our continued efforts in the area of mental health education. In 2015, we hosted 12 Mental Health First Aid trainings with an average attendance of 20 participants, the puppeteers performed over 70 Kids on the Block bullying shows for children, and Miss Judy visited ten area children's centers and schools to help the children learn about compassion and perseverance. We also provided workforce development trainings for area professionals and families and hosted the "Linking Mental Health to Academic Success Conference" for teachers, mental health providers and families.

Describe any special needs at this time: MHATC requests funds to help us cover program and marketing expenses for our Mental Health First Aid program, in particular, the new module "Elder Mental Health First Aid".

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.) Funds received from St. Mark's will help with program expenses for our Mental Health First Aid training course. Previous funds were used for program and marketing expenses for our *Kids on the Block* puppeteer program and the *Early Learning Series*. We appreciate St. Mark's interest in our programs and the outreach the church does in our community. Thank you for your past support for mental health.

Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence by Jeanne Yeager, Executive Director

Organization's name: Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence
Organization's address: 8626 Brooks Drive, Suite 102, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: jyeager@mscfv.org
Phone number: 410-690-3222 **Fax number:** 410-690-3271
Lead staff name & title: Jeanne Yeager, Executive Director

Mission statement: As the central point of access for assistance on domestic violence within the counties of Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot on Maryland's Eastern Shore, the mission of Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence is to create healthy opportunities through intervention and prevention by providing shelter, counseling, services, and advocacy for victims and abusers; and by changing society's attitudes and systems which permit and promote such violence against women, men and families.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1- June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: The Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence (MSCFV) provides the following services: 24-hour hotline, temporary shelter, legal advocacy and accompaniment to court, legal representation in protective orders and divorce cases, counseling and advocacy, Mental Health Counseling, Abuser Intervention Program, Transitional Program for women and children leaving their abusers, crisis intervention to area hospitals and law enforcement agencies, Bilingual Program and translation services to Spanish-speaking victims, Law Enforcement Program which assists 23 police departments in responding to domestic violence cases, professional training and community education programs. MSCFV's Administrative Office is located in Talbot County. Services are provided in Talbot/Dorchester counties through MSCFV's Administrative Office in Easton, Kent and Queen Anne's county services are provided through MSCFV's Outreach Office in Chestertown. Caroline County clients are served through MSCFV's office in Caroline County.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization/programs at this time? MSCFV is the only organization addressing the needs of victims of family violence in the five mid-shore counties. Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, MSCFV served 417 victims of family violence and their 640 children. Caroline, Queen Anne, and Talbot counties each represent about one-fifth of clients. About a year ago, MSCFV changed its service model to emphasize an intentional approach to walking with clients as they transition from family violence victims to self-sufficient survivors. One expected outcome from this change is an increase in the amount of time clients spend with the agency. As a result, most victims participate in MSCFV services for only one month. Fifteen percent receives services for two months and 26% does so for three months or more. The proportion of clients with only one month of services has decreased by ten percentage points. In addition, the percentage receiving services for three or more months has increased by 12 percentage points.

Describe any special needs at this time: A donated vehicle to transport clients and their children.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): MSCFV will continue to use the funds to purchase food for clients, provide transportation for clients (i.e. bus fares, taxi fares), purchase medicine, assist with rental payments and for any other specific client needs.

Organization's name: Neighborhood Service Center, Inc. (NSC)
Organization's address: 126 Port Street, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: mneal@nsctalbotmd.org
Phone number: (410) 822-5015 **Fax number:** (410) 822-1369
Lead staff name & title: Marilyn M. Neal, Executive Director

Mission statement: The Neighborhood Service Center's mission is "to improve the quality of life both socially and economically for low-income residents in Talbot County".

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 - June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: Our Agency's programs include: Eviction Prevention, Maryland Energy Assistance, Rental Allowance, Electrical Universal Program, Holiday Food Baskets, Utility Disconnect Prevention, Emergency Food Assistance, First Month's Rent and donations of clothing, household items and furniture. All of these services are provided at the 126 Port Street location. The Ridgeway House Transitional Shelter is located at 120 North Aurora Street and provides a 90-day stay while the homeless are Case Managed to find jobs and permanent living arrangements. An extended stay at the Shelter can be granted if it is needed in order for the customer to move to self-sufficiency. The Shelter houses six (6) adults (3 female and 3 male). The Dorothy W. Black Youth Center, located on the second floor at 126 Port Street, provides an After School and Summer Program to 16 elementary to middle school students of low-income families.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time? On November 21, 2015, we moved in the newly renovated first floor. Renovations were inspired by wanting our customers to have a place to seek help and not feel worse by their surroundings. On the first day that we served our customers (clients) the goal was accomplished when a customer stated "this waiting room is beautiful and I am not ashamed to come here and ask for help; it makes me feel like a regular person."

Describe any special needs at this time: For the second consecutive year the Neighborhood Service Center received a substantial cut in funding. The funding cut this year comes from the Emergency Solutions Grant in the amount of \$26,000. This amount equals about 433 households which we will be unable to provide subsidies for eviction prevention and utility disconnects.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): St. Mark's Mission funds are used for the Neighborhood Service Center's Emergency Service Program. These services include utility disconnect prevention, which include water bills, electric and heating of any kind and hotel placement, where customers are placed in a hotel when shelter is filled to capacity or we have a situation involving children. Last year, we also incorporated birth certificates and MD Identification Cards, for those who cannot obtain employment without it. Your Church allowed our programs to reach families whom may have over income (by less than \$10.00) and did not meet income government funded programs and/or the grant would not allow NSC to fulfill the required need.

Over the past years, St. Mark's Mission has proven to be a staple community partner in the Neighborhood Service Center's success.

Organization's name: St. Mark's Ministry to Aged, Inc. (aka St. Mark's Village)
Organization's address: 212 Bay Street, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: wendysyoung@hotmail.com
Phone number: (410) 822-1315 **Fax number:** (410) 822-8422
Lead staff name & title: Wendy Young-Dyott, Administrator

Mission statement: St. Mark's Village strives to provide quality housing, at an independent level, for those persons who are 62 years of age, or disabled, regardless of age.

Organization's fiscal year dates: January 1 st - December 31 st.

Describe the organization's programs & locations: All programs/activities are offered at the Social Center, located at 212 Bay Street, Easton, MD 21601.

Programs: Housing with Rental Assistance; utility allowance; transportation via bus within the town of Easton; social activities 3 days per week; Food Link; Food Pantry; assistance with MEAP applications; holiday food baskets;

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time: St. Mark's Village continues to be an affordable, well-maintained, residential program. We currently have a 3 year waiting list. The programs that are provided allow the residents to live economically, without concerns of maintenance both inside and outside their apartment. The activities provide not only social opportunities, but enrichment opportunities as well. The bus, that runs three days a week, affords residents the freedom they desire to go shopping, take care of their banking needs and keep important medical appointments. We continue to interface with multiple agencies/organizations within our community, bringing a variety of opportunities to our residents that otherwise would not be available. We continue to rehab our kitchens, replacing kitchen cabinets, vinyl flooring, light fixtures, appliances, etc. This is being done as the apartments are vacated. This project has been a welcome refurbishment for our incoming residents. We currently have completed 43 kitchens. Recently the roof to the Social Center was replaced and we are planning to repave all four of our parking lots this spring. Nothing overly exciting, but it all ties into beautification and attractive curb appeal©

We are entering into our 38th year of service.

Describe any special needs at this time: Due to budget restrictions, the cost of providing social programs to our residents is challenging. While we want to encourage all residents to attend, often the cost to attend can be prohibitive for their budget. We are always looking for creative ways to offer a variety of social events on a limited budget.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): The funds that SMUMC has provided are in an interest bearing, savings account designated for the bus replacement. The Board of Directors continues to review the current condition of the bus and the proposed need for a new one.

Organization's name: Talbot Community Connections, Inc.
Organization's address: P.O. Box 2615, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: rsull@atlanticbb.net
Phone number: 410-226-0028 **Fax number:** none
Lead staff name & title: Ruth Sullivan, President of the Board

Mission statement: Raise and distribute funds to answer unmet needs that are fundamental to the safety, security, health and well-being of Talbot County's vulnerable children and adults.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 - June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: All funds are raised in support of programs of the Talbot County Department of Social Services (TCDSS), and are approved by the TCC board and distributed through the department's offices in Easton. Some funds are specifically designated to support the Talbot County Children's Advocacy Center (TCCAC). The Child Advocacy Center is a collaborative effort of several Talbot County agencies with the Talbot County Department of Social Services being the lead agency.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time? In 2011, the Talbot Community Connections board created a strategic plan which has identified four areas of focus with specific action items for each area. Each board member selected one of the areas to support in the coming year – Programs/Education, Marketing/Visibility, Resources, and Finances. Over the past 5 years, we have focused on our strategic plan. In 2016, we will begin to formulate a new 3 year strategic plan. At our TCCAC, the multidisciplinary team sees 60-75 children of suspected sexual abuse a year in a safe environment. We are solely supported by local community support and grants through the Talbot Community Connections. Our children tell their story once to trained interviewers on tape for our multi-disciplinary team to coordinate their care locally. We continue to be able to provide a child-friendly, nationally certified program in our community that has been nationally re-certified for another 5 years. We have documented assistance to over 1000 children and their families in this community. We have completed branding for the TCCAC, as well as our TCC nonprofit organization, We have new logos as well as updated websites: www.talbotcac.org and www.talbotcommunityconnections.org web sites, thus reducing annual costs by using a new internet host and a local designer. These sites will also allow for mailed donations to our nonprofit organization and allow us a venue for community awareness and education. We continued to offer annual educational events in the spring. TCC has named this ongoing annual event the Nancy Wilson Professional Education Series, to honor one of our founding TCC board members. TCC also continues to review its dedicated board membership to best represent our community. We recently added Jennifer Wright and Rev. Darlene Dixon to our board.

Describe any special needs at this time: To maintain national certification, we are constantly updating practice guidelines. This year the TCCAC will acquire new software costing over \$3,000, which will provide files with privacy but allow data to be trended nationally, plus helping the team to identify current issues and try to proactively introduce strategies to reduce incidents.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): We are proud that our administrative costs remain below 10% and that most of the funds donated to Talbot Community Connections are used to meet the needs of low-income citizens in our county and are distributed by TCDSS. This fiscal year, we awarded \$4,500 specifically to the TCCAC. We will use these funds to pay for a part of the TCCAC software conversion. TCC could not do these things without the help of the St. Mark's community!

Organization's name: Talbot Hospice Foundation, Inc.
Organization's address: 586 Cynwood Drive Easton, MD 21601
Email address: kcox@talbothospice.org
Phone number: 410-822-6681 **Fax number:** 410-822-5376
Lead staff name & title: Kate Cox, Director of Development

Mission Statement: Talbot Hospice offers hope, compassionate support and services to all members of the community facing end-of-life issues. We provide patient/family care, community education and advocacy while respecting both curative and palliative treatment choices.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 - June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: Talbot Hospice provides hospice services in homes, nursing homes, assisted living facilities and in our Guest Wing residence on Cynwood Drive. TH also provides a pre-hospice program called Pathways for individuals who have a progressing, life-limiting illness but might still be seeking treatment or may not be ready for, or do not desire, traditional hospice care. Our Bereavement Programs are for anyone in the community who has suffered a loss regardless of whether or not their loved one was a Talbot Hospice patient. Our Chaplain is available to provide spirituality support to anyone in our programs who requests it. Our dedicated, specially-trained Volunteers help deliver direct services to our patients and families as well as provide indirect support in many roles throughout Talbot Hospice such as gardening, cooking and baking, administrative support and music therapy to name a few.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization/programs at this time? In October, 2015, we celebrated the opening of our newly expanded facility which includes six additional patient rooms, dedicated space for our bereavement programs and office space for our expanded clinical staff. The new patient beds include smart-technology and connect with the nurse call system for patients' utmost comfort and safety monitoring more than 30 individual data items including patient position, bed exiting and weight. Our bereavement programs are growing exponentially to include new groups for those suffering from a loss due to suicide or drug abuse and a special Saturday morning children's story hour. In March we will host Angelo Volandes, M.D., author of *The Conversation* and physician and faculty member, Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Volandes's presentation will kick off a community-wide educational initiative to encourage and assist as many residents as possible in understanding their choices at the end of life and in completing their advance directives paperwork. This event, which is open to the public free of charge, is Talbot Hospice's gift to the community for 35 years of support.

Describe any special needs at this time: With the doubling of our facility comes the increased need for additional staff and specially trained volunteers who help with hands-on patient care. Medicare and private insurance does not cover most of the expenses associated with our Hospice House which has been the pride of our community for 17 years. The salaries of Certified Nursing Assistants who staff our House 24/7 are paid for by donations as is all of their training. Donations also pay for a portion of the room and board fee for approximately 60 of our patients who are on a sliding scale or pay nothing at all. Hospice services are provided regardless of financial status, and no one is ever turned away due to inability to pay.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.). Although we now receive Medicare or private insurance reimbursement for a portion of our services, these funds do not fully cover the breadth of services we provide above and beyond basic hospice requirements. Talbot Hospice continues to rely on community partnerships to provide the excellent care and services to patients and families that Dr. and Mrs. Guthrie envisioned 35 years ago. St. Mark's support has had a significant impact on our ability to provide increasing levels of service and variety of programs over the years.

Organization's name: Talbot County Department of Social Services
Organization's address: P.O. Box 1479, 301 Bay Street, Unit 5, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: april.sharp@maryland.gov
Phone number: 410-770-4848 **Fax number:** 410-820-7117
Lead staff name & title: April A. Sharp, Director

Mission statement: We will assist people in economic need, protect children and vulnerable adults, and promote the safety and well-being of the citizens of Talbot County.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 through June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations: There are over 32 programs that make up the services available at Talbot County Department of Social Services. The Family Investment program provides both emergency assistance and temporary cash assistance to families with children as well as assisting customers to achieve financial independence through employment. Customers in the Child Support Enforcement program receive help with establishing and enforcing child support payments, locating absent parents, and establishing paternity. The Social Services programs include continuum of child welfare and adult services programs that assist and protect families and individuals.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time: The Department of Social Services' role as the safety net for those in economic need, and vulnerable to abuse and neglect has never been as important as it has this year. An increase in requests for assistance continues to challenge us to respond to the need as never before. Community partners and citizens are encouraged to view our programs and services on our website at www.dhr.state.md.us/talbot.htm. The department continues to be accredited by the National Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services. The Talbot County Children's Advocacy Center continues to be a member in good standing with the National Children's Alliance. TCDSS continues its work on the regional approach with the 5 Mid-Shore counties on the "Ready by 21" initiative and the Thrive@25 implementation grant. These initiatives will help to improve the services to better prepare our youth aging out of Foster Care for success. Our agency's rollout of Adult Services Policy and Practice initiative family centered and community based plan continues with "Breakfast Bites Learning Series" to key stakeholders in the aging and vulnerable adult community. A new initiative the agency has pursued is a child abuse prevention program entitled "Empower Me". A team of TCDSS staff and community partners have been trained in this program and are available to provide information and/or training to others in the community. Our partnerships with many community agencies continue to help support our programs and services, along with local initiatives.

Describe any special needs at this time: Changes in the economy are increasing the number of requests for environment emergencies. Applications for Food Stamps and Medical Assistance continue to increase.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): Funds provided to Talbot County Department of Social Services have been used and will be used in the future to provide families with emergency assistance. This includes but is not limited to: Buying groceries and clothing, paying utility bills, car repairs to allow transportation to work, medications, rental assistance, school supplies, and medical needs.

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Organization's name: Talbot County Health Department
Organization's address: 100 S. Hanson Street, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: fredia.wadley@maryland.gov
Phone number: 410-819-5606 **Fax number:** 410-819-4701
Lead staff name and title: Fredia Wadley, MD, Health Officer

Mission statement: To improve the health of Talbot County citizens through assessment, prevention, education, regulation, assurance of necessary services, and social and political advocacy.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 – June 30

Describe the organization's programs and locations: The Talbot County Health Department is the local agency for the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. We provide multiple services through various funding sources including county and state funding grants. Services include but are not limited to: Addictions/Substance Abuse Prevention; Senior Services (evaluations and case management); Cancer Prevention/Screening/Education programs; Communicable Disease including: immunization, surveillance, TB identification and treatment; Developmental Disabilities resource coordination/case management; Family Planning referral (contract with Planned Parenthood of Maryland); Center for Children and Families (Family Literacy Initiative, Adult Education, GED, Early Head Start); Maryland Children's Health Program; Maternal/Child Health (Healthy Start); Healthy Families; Environmental Health (food control, well/septic, etc.); School Health; and Tobacco Cessation.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization/ programs at this time?

The greatest strength of the health department is our case management programs for seniors, individuals with developmental disabilities, and women and children. Our case managers work with individuals in their homes and in the community linking individuals to needed and desired services with the aim of building independence and capabilities.

The Donations Account continues to benefit Talbot County citizens in need of assistance. It is used for emergencies and other needs when no other resources are available.

Describe any special needs at this time: Talbot County is unique in that there is a great deal of wealth in our community; however, we have a greater number of people living in poverty or at the poverty line. We depend on the contributions from our community partners to fill the gaps in our services that our current grants, county, and state funding are unable to support.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.):

The generous donation received from St. Mark's Church is used solely for direct services to citizens of Talbot County. Residents who meet the financial eligibility, may request financial assistance for utility assistances; with purchase of items for basic daily living – hot water heater, oil for heat; assistance towards purchase of wheelchair, dentures, eyeglasses, elevated toilet seats with rails; installation fee for Emergency Response System (Lifeline); and "safety net" funding when other resources are not available.

Organization's name: Talbot Interfaith Shelter, Inc.
Organization's address: 107 Goldsborough Street, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: julielowe@atlanticbb.net
Phone number: 410-310-2316
Lead staff name and title: Julie Lowe, Executive Director

Mission statement: The Talbot Interfaith Shelter is a voluntary interfaith-based service organization in Talbot County, Maryland. It is dedicated both to providing safe, temporary shelter to men, women, and children who lack adequate housing, and to raising awareness of the issues of homelessness in our community. Its vision is that no one in Talbot County will ever have to spend a night on the streets, in a car or in the woods because he or she cannot find housing.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 - June 30

Describe the organization's program and location: The Talbot Interfaith Shelter (TIS) is an evening and overnight shelter located at 107 Goldsborough Street serving individuals and families from Talbot County and surrounding areas. 365 days a year, TIS staff plus volunteers from local, faith-based congregations and other community groups supervise the shelter from 4:30 PM to 10:00 AM and provide dinner daily for the guests. Breakfast and lunch foods are made available for the guests to prepare themselves. In inclement weather, efforts are made to keep the shelter open for additional hours.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time? On November 30, 2015, we celebrated our first year of 365 day operations at Easton's Promise! The shelter there has been at or near capacity since it opened in 2014. We have expanded our capacity to 6 adults and 6 children. We have, with the help of our committed and compassionate volunteers, been able to keep the shelter open during the daytime hours this winter when the weather has been inclement. We are partnering with For All Seasons for mental health support services, and we work closely with other service organizations in the area (especially the Housing Commission of Talbot, the Neighborhood Service Center, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and the Talbot County Dept. of Social Services). Community support has been robust and encouraging.

Describe any special needs at this time: TIS will need even more support from our partner congregations and the community at large as we move forward in our year-round facility. The challenges of rural homelessness are different than in urban areas, and TIS intends to create and maintain a model that can be used in rural communities around the country. At Easton's Promise, TIS is able to provide more case management, education, guidance and support to our homeless neighbors, and to offer these services year-round.

Explain how the funds our church has provided your organization have been and will be used: The generous gifts given by St. Mark's UMC Mission Committee have been, and will continue to be, used to support families in apartments leased through the Housing Commission of Talbot. The funds provide support for subsidized rent and case management for those families. TIS now has 3 apartments in this program, and one family is about to 'graduate' and put the lease in their own name, even as another family will move from the shelter at Easton's Promise into another TIS supported apartment.

We are so very grateful to St. Mark's for all the support we continue to receive, and have received since our inception in 2008. Without St. Mark's and other houses of worship welcoming our neediest neighbors with compassion and hospitality, TIS would not have been able to become the reality it is today. And because of the continuing support of volunteers' time, talents and treasures at Easton's Promise, TIS is successfully helping families and individuals move from homelessness into independence. The ripple effect of that throughout the community is amazing and incredible! We are so blessed to have St. Mark's as a partner in the battle against poverty and hopelessness.

Organization's name: Talbot Mentors Inc.
Organization's address: 108 Maryland Avenue, Suite 102, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: natalie@talbotmentors.org
Phone number: 410-770-5999 **Fax number:** 410-770-5991
Lead staff name & title: Natalie Costanzo, Executive Director

Vision statement: Talbot Mentors' vision is that mentoring will make a significant contribution to building a Talbot County community where all young people have the opportunity to lead fulfilling and rewarding lives, including access to a variety of educational and employment options.

Mission statement: The mission of Talbot Mentors is to work to ensure that all young people in Talbot County have the opportunity to mature into engaged and productive members of their communities. Through consistent support, guidance, coaching and role modeling, our volunteer mentors will strive to instill values and standards, and help these young people prepare for success in their personal and professional lives.

Talbot Mentors will achieve this mission by fostering partnerships to support and expand the power of one-on-one mentoring. We will also actively engage in other programs designed to help these young people achieve their full potential.

Organization's fiscal year dates: January 1- December 31

Describe the organization's programs & locations: Talbot Mentors provides Talbot County youth with the consistent, long-standing (12 months or more) caring involvement of an adult friend. Each student is matched one-on-one with a volunteer mentor (a mentorship). Participants meet one to two hours a week during the high risk, out of school hours. Talbot Mentors' core services for facilitating these intergenerational relationships include volunteer screening, mentor training, matching procedures, and ongoing support and supervision to the matches. We are located in Easton on Maryland Avenue. In addition we offer an After School Program on Thursdays, College Scholarships, Summer Camp Scholarships and group activities/experiences for mentees, mentors and their families.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time? Talbot Mentors will celebrate a milestone of 19 years of service in 2016. Currently, we support 65 one-on-one mentorships, an increase of 20 matches since the beginning of 2015! In addition we had one of our mentees accepted into the University of Maryland in 2015 to study Business, who we provided a scholarship for.

Describe any special needs at this time: Talbot Mentors' goal for 2016 is to make it to 100 matches while sustaining our 65 existing matches. Over 400 youth in Talbot County have been identified as needing a mentor. We currently serve 65. Talbot Mentors continues to face the on-going challenges of locating the "The 2 M's": Recruiting mentors and raising money to sustain a high-quality mentoring program. We would like for every student who wants a mentor to have a mentor.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): Past contributions from SMUC have funded camp scholarships, mentor training sessions, and background checks which are required for all of our staff and volunteers. With the last year's funds, Talbot Mentors was able to send 25 kids to Summer Camps, an increase of 10 kids from 2014. Contributions in 2016 will again be used to provide camp scholarships, background checks for volunteers, and mentor training sessions.

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Organization's name: Talbot Partnership for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention
Organization's address: 8 Goldsborough Street, Suite 203, Easton, MD 21601
Email address: info@talbotpartnership.org
Phone number: 410-819-8067 **Fax number:** 410-819-8153
Lead staff name & title: Jayne Fitzgerald, Executive Director

Mission statement: Talbot Partnership, through its coalition, encourages the community to recognize the problems and implement solutions related to alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuses by implementing policies, promoting early intervention programs and building a community culture free from substance abuse.

Organization's fiscal year dates: July 1 - June 30

Describe the organization's programs & locations:

All activities are throughout Talbot County.

- Public awareness campaigns about the extent and harm of substance abuse.
- Promotion of healthy and fun activities for the community.
- Community education opportunities.
- Working with schools, government and other organizations for substance abuse awareness..
- Advocacy for policies and laws regarding substance abuse in the community.

Support for early intervention and treatment programs.

Take a moment to brag. What are you most proud of in your organization at this time?

Talbot Partnership has a long history of activities and programs in Talbot County of building strong community norms through education, community programs, community outreach, making it hard for youth to get alcohol and other drugs, and working with the community to encourage healthy choices. Talbot Partnership works to counter the growing influences from television, ads, movies, and the internet that promote and encourage behaviors that lead to substance abuse and related second-hand effects including crashes, sexual assaults, poor school and workplace performance and crime. Talbot Partnership continues to address the pressing needs of our community regarding the on-going battle of substance abuse; our partnerships are stronger than ever and we are looking outside the box for prevention methods. We are working on a phone app for youth to access for support and another for those who serve alcohol to access quick guides in checking ID and avoiding over serving. We are also working on a "Seal of Approval" program for establishments that have passed compliance checks and other criteria that thwart alcohol abuse.

Describe any special needs at this time: Talbot Partnership is seeking volunteer support to implement the programming and outreach needs beyond what staff can provide. Additionally, we are more heavily dependent on donations for operational and programming costs.

Explain how the funds our Church has provided your organization have been and will be used (general operating, specific projects, etc.): Funds from St. Mark's have and will be used for general operating expenses, which include support for all of the programs and initiatives listed.

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CURRENT UNITED METHODIST GLOBAL MISSION PROGRAMS
of the
MISSIONS COMMITTEE OF ST. MARK'S U. M. CHURCH

African Missions

1. **Paul Webster (\$2,500)**: Paul Webster, our Covenant Relationship Missionary since 2006, is serving in Zambia developing and over seeing the agricultural center he established there.
2. **Mujila Falls Agriculture Center (\$5,500)** This center, operated in Zambia by our covenant relationship missionary Paul Webster, produces many crops such as corn, vegetables & fruits. They also raise cows, goats, sheep, chickens, etc.; to teach the people there how to feed themselves as well as to have enough to sell some of what they produce.
3. **Africa University, Zimbabwe (\$500)**: Supports the UMC's effort to provide a first class university in Africa. A portion of our apportionment goes toward our Annual Conference's commitment, plus we are increasing our donation from the \$350 previously given for many years to \$500. (Can be found on the internet)
4. **African Aviation Assistance (\$500)**: Previously supported the Quiggs Aviation Program, who provided aviation safety training in Africa. The Quiggs have moved to another missions field; while we are continuing support for aviation in Africa (Can be found under Advance #14260A on the internet)
5. **Mulungwishi Seminary Scholarship (\$2,500)**: This supports paying for a pastor to go to seminary and for his wife and children to receive an education while at Mulungwishi. David & Lorene Person are still involved with this station. There is a dire need for seminary-trained pastors in the Congo, for there are about 2,000 ordained pastors for over 1.1 M Methodists! (Can be found on the internet.)
6. **Kenny Wood's Lifetime Wells for Ghana (\$3,500)** We have supported this project for several years now, where Mr. Wood from Denton, MD has now drilled 1020 wells in Ghana and 386 in Tanzania for a total of 1406 as of March 2016.
7. **African Leadership Resources (\$250)** Dr. Jefferson Labala,, a United Methodist pastor, writes resources for ministers in Liberia, Sierra Leone & Nigeria. He resides in Easton.

Other Global Missions:

8. **Six Special Sundays (400)**: This is an effort to educate the church membership on these special Sundays (Human Relations Day - \$50, One Great Hour of Sharing - \$100, Native American Ministries Sunday- \$50, Peace With Justice Sunday - \$50, World Communion Sunday - \$100, & United Methodist Student Day - \$50) and to make a nominal donation to them
9. **Pen Del Conference's Partners in Mission (\$300)**: Central Congo Partnership - \$100, BOOM - \$100, & African University - \$100.

Other UMC Missions As Requested:

- Volunteers in Mission - when a member of St. Mark's Church participates in one of its programs.
- UMCOR responses to storms around the U.S. and the world
- St. Mark's missions fund pays \$8700 of our church's annual apportionment

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
100 Peachblossom Road
Easton, MD 21601
Phone: 410/822-0001
Fax: 410/822-0002
Email: churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org
Website: www.stmarkseaston.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Della Andrew, Chair
Audrey Brown
Nancy Harrison
Gladys Makovsky
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Sheila Scott
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Joanna Thomas

