

Revised: November 11, 2021



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GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER PRODUCTIVITY BENEFITS FROM TCF GRANT

Productivity at the Good Shepherd Center (GSC) in Madisonville improved dramatically thanks to a grant from the Tellico Community Foundation (TCF). The grant was used to purchase six laptop computers, scanners and food pantry management software.

Recently, TCF made an \$8,000 grant, its largest cash grant in the foundation's short history, to the GSC. The newly purchased technology has transformed the organization.

"Most all of our tedious, manual-intensive processes have been effectively streamlined," says Tina Smith, GSC Executive Director. "Before we had our laptops, we were tracking and trying to manage the center by producing reams of paper records."

Donations of food, clothing, money, client/volunteer information and other items are now recorded electronically. In an operation which distributes more than 30,000 pounds of food monthly, the laptops have enhanced the intake monitoring of donated food and its distribution to Good Shepherd Center clients.

More than the 1,700 monthly clients depend on GSC for all types of sustenance including over 400 children. They are now quickly identified and serviced using the new software program. Volunteer scheduling has been simplified and made easier to coordinate.

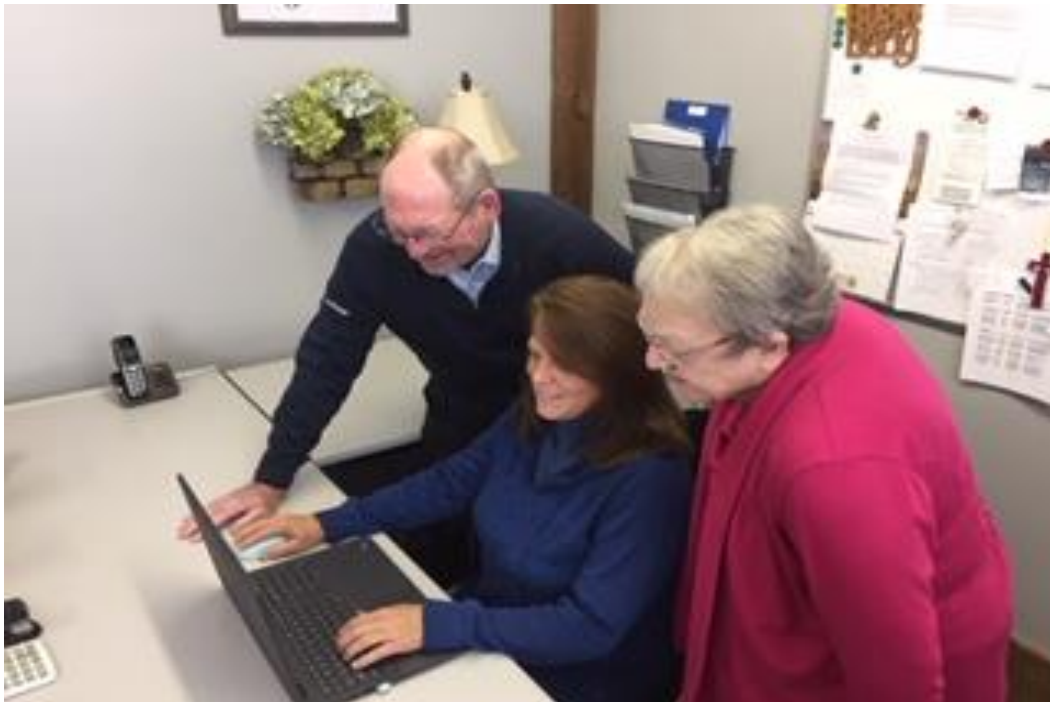
“The TCF Board recognized an acute situation at the Good Shepherd Center and saw how a grant from the foundation could have an immediate impact on the organization and Monroe County,” commented Joe Beyel, chair of the Tellico Community Foundation. “We were in a position to act, thanks to the recent sale of our land parcel in front of the Food Lion. We’re delighted to help GSC address this critical need.”

Margaret Cummings, chair of the Good Shepherd Center Board of Directors noted, “This TCF grant has totally changed our business operations. The true benefactors are the people we serve in Monroe County. We are now able to do a better job, quicker, more efficiently and effectively in getting them what they need.”

Donations to TCF can be made online at www.etf.org/Tellico or by contacting Jill Murphy of the East Tennessee Foundation at jmurphy@etf.org or at 865-524-1223.

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Photo and Caption:



Joe Beyel, chair of the Tellico Community Foundation watches as Tina Smith, executive director of the Good Shepherd Center demonstrates on one of the six laptops donated by TCF how the center’s business operations have improved. Margaret Cummings, chair of the Good Shepherd Center Board of Director is on the right.